

COUNTY OF ALBANY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

ALBANY COUNTY EXECUTIVE



RFP # 2021-045

Assess the Feasibility and Implementation of the “Albany Connect Broadband Initiative”

**ALBANY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES
PURCHASING DIVISION
KAREN A. STORM, PURCHASING AGENT
112 STATE STREET, ROOM 1000
ALBANY, NY 12207**

**COUNTY OF ALBANY
DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES PURCHASING DIVISION
112 STATE STREET, ROOM 1000, ALBANY, NY 12207
TELEPHONE: 518-447-7140/ FAX: 518-447-5588**

TITLE: Assess the Feasibility and Implementation of the “Albany Connect Broadband Initiative”

RFP NUMBER: 2021-045

Receipt Confirmation Form

Please complete and return this confirmation form as soon as possible:

Karen A. Storm
Purchasing Agent
County of Albany
112 State Street, Room 1000
Albany, NY 12207

**IF YOU PLAN TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL, YOU MUST RETURN
THIS FORM TO ENSURE THAT YOU WILL RECEIVE ALL
FURTHER COMMUNICATION REGARDING THIS RFP.**

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Contact Person: _____

Title: _____

Phone Number: _____ Fax Number: _____ E-Mail: _____

If a Bidders/Proposers meeting has been arranged for this Bid/RFP, please indicate if you plan to attend:

☐ **Yes** / ☐ **No**

I authorize the County of Albany to send further correspondence that the County deems to be of an urgent nature by the following method (check):

Fax Number: _____ E-Mail _____

COUNTY OF ALBANY
DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES
PURCHASING DIVISION
112 STATE STREET, ROOM 1000
ALBANY, NY 12207

NON-PROPOSER RESPONSE

RFP #2021-045

Assess the Feasibility and Implementation of the “Albany Connect Broadband Initiative”

The Albany County Department of General Services, Purchasing Division, is interested in the reasons why bidders/proposers fail to submit bids/proposals. Please indicate your reason(s) by checking all appropriate item(s) below and returning this form to the above address.

- ☐ Could not meet Scope of Services.
- ☐ Items or materials requested not manufactured by us or not available to our company.
- ☐ Insurance requirements too restricting.
- ☐ Bond requirements too restricting.
- ☐ Scope of Services not clearly understood or applicable (too vague, too rigid, etc.).
- ☐ Project not suited to firm.
- ☐ Quantities too small.
- ☐ Insufficient time allowed for preparation of bid/proposal.
- ☐ Other reasons; please state and define: _____

Vendor Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Vendor Address: _____

Vendor Telephone: _____

NOTICE TO PROPOSERS -- ALBANY COUNTY
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS #2021-045

Sealed Proposals to Assess the Feasibility and Implementation of the “Albany Connect Broadband Initiative” as requested by the Albany County Executive will be received by the Albany County Purchasing Agent, Room 1000, 112 State Street, Albany, New York 12207 until 4:30 PM, local time on Friday, October 29, 2021.

Request for Proposal (RFP) documents may be obtained at the office of the Albany County Purchasing Agent, as noted above. RFP documents may be available for download from the Empire State Bid System website at <http://www.empirestatebidsystem.com>, **starting** by close of business (4:30 p.m.) on October 14, 2021

Karen A. Storm
Purchasing Agent

Dated: October 5, 2021
Albany, New York

PUBLISH ONE DAY – OCTOBER 14, 2021 -- THE EVANGELIST
PUBLISH ONE DAY – OCTOBER 14, 2021 -- THE TIMES UNION

COUNTY OF ALBANY
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
TO ASSESS THE FEASIBILITY & IMPLEMENTATION OF THE “ALBANY CONNECT”
BROADBAND INITIATIVE
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE
RFP #2021-045

RFP DISTRIBUTION- *IMPORTANT NOTICE*

The County of Albany officially distributes RFP documents through the Purchasing Division Office or through the Empire State Bid System website at <http://www.empirestatebidsystem.com>. Copies of RFP documents obtained from any other source are not considered official documents. Only those vendors who obtain proposal documents from either the Purchasing Division Office or the Empire State Bid System are guaranteed to receive addendum information, if such information is issued.

If you have obtained this document from a source other than the Albany County Purchasing Division or the Empire State Bid System, it is strongly recommended that you obtain an official copy.

SECTION 1: PURPOSE

1.1 Access to high speed broadband internet is a necessity for the County’s economy and quality of life as has been made even more apparent by the COVID-19 pandemic. High speed broadband internet is a prerequisite to educating our children; growing our economy; and providing a quality of life which attracts and retains citizens. Broadband access has become a basic need of every citizen in the county regardless of access, availability and affordability. The intent of the County’s efforts relative to broadband is to:

- a. Increase access to high speed broadband internet for all residents of Albany County; and
- b. Increase competition within the residential and commercial broadband industry.

1.2 The County of Albany, New York (the “County”) is considering the acquisition of the Albany FreeNet wi-fi network in the City of Albany, NY from FirstLight Fiber Inc. and is seeking Proposal Statements from qualified communications and technology firms interested in providing an analysis of this as one element in the creation of the “Connect Albany” broadband network to address the gaps in broadband service that exist in the County. This would include the identification/quantifications of broadband service availability, accessibility, affordability and related service gaps in Albany County’s urban, rural and suburban sectors. This Study will provide guidance for the planning and development of a broadband strategy within Albany County and for the formation of “Connect Albany”.

1.3 This study will provide the starting point for the development of the countywide “Connect Albany” program and shall include identifying elements of a countywide network, creating a conceptual design of such a network, and estimated capital costs.

1.4 The selected Consultant will provide the information necessary to guide further decision making regarding Connect Albany and will also include recommendations on potential business models.

1.5 The consultant is expected to provide Albany County specific analysis and information pertinent towards the understanding of broadband service availability and service needs throughout the County.

1.6 Proposers interested in providing broadband internet analysis services are invited to respond to this request.

1.7 It is the County's intent to select the Proposer that provides the best solution for the County's needs.

1.8 This RFP is not intended and shall not be construed to commit the County to pay any costs incurred in connection with any proposal or to procure or contract with any firm.

1.9 The County will only contract with firms that do not discriminate against employees or applicants for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, citizenship status or any other status protected by New York State and Federal laws.

SECTION 2: RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS

2.1 Five (5) copies, and (1) electronic copy on CD or flash drive, of the Proposal and other required documents must be submitted, sealed in an opaque envelope clearly marked with the name and number of the Proposal and the name and address of the Proposer. Proposals must be received no later than **4:30 P.M. on Friday, October 29, 2021**, at the following address:

Karen A. Storm
Albany County Purchasing Agent
112 State Street, **Room 1000**
Albany, New York 12207

2.2 The Proposal submitted by the individual Proposer(s) is the document upon which Albany County will make its initial judgment regarding the Proposer's qualifications, understanding of the County's scope and objectives, methodology, and ability to complete services under the contract.

2.3 Those submitting Proposals do so entirely at their expense. There is no express or implied obligation by Albany County to reimburse any firm or individual for any costs incurred in preparing or submitting Proposals, preparing or submitting additional information requested by the County, or for participating in any selection interviews.

2.4 Submission of any Proposal indicates acceptance of the conditions contained in the RFP, unless clearly and specifically noted otherwise in the Proposal.

2.5 Albany County reserves the right to reject any and all Proposals, in whole or in part, submitted in response to its RFP.

2.6 Albany County reserves the right to waive any and all informalities and to disregard all non-conforming, non-responsive or conditional Proposals. The County reserves the right to award negotiated contracts to one or more proposers.

2.7 Albany County may, at any time by written notification to all Proposers, change any portion of the RFP described and detailed herein.

2.8 During the evaluation of Proposals, the County may require clarification of information or may invite Proposers to an oral presentation to amplify and or validate Proposal contents.

SECTION 3: QUALIFICATION OF PROPOSER

Provide a statement of Proposer qualifications including:

3.1 Provide the name, a brief history and description of your firm.

3.2 Identify your firm's professional staff members who will be involved in the County engagement and the experience each possesses and the location of the office from which each work.

3.3 Name and title of person(s) authorized to bind the Proposer, together with the main office address, and telephone number (including area code).

3.4 Detail your firm's experience with the planning and development of a broadband strategy.

3.5 Provide at least two (2) references from similar projects including name, addresses and telephone numbers. These shall include broadband planning/design experience in the last 5 years.

3.6 Provide any additional information that would distinguish your firm in its service to Albany County.

3.7 Proposer shall include a completed "Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire" (Attachment "C") with the Proposal.

3.8 In addition, Albany County may make such investigations it deems necessary to determine the ability of the Proposer to perform the work.

3.9 The Proposer shall furnish to the County, within five (5) days of a request, all such information and data for this purpose as may be requested.

3.10 The County reserves the right to reject any Proposal if the information submitted by, or investigation of, such Proposer fails to satisfy the County in its sole discretion that such Proposer is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the contract and to complete the work contemplated therein. Conditional Proposals will not be accepted.

SECTION 4: SCOPE OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES REQUIRED

The following is a description of the Services to be performed and completed by the successful Firm:

4.1 Project Initiation (*Tasks include, but are not limited to*)

- a. The consultant shall meet with the Steering Committee (County staff, potentially others) to discuss project scope.
- b. The consultant shall become familiar with all necessary documents, agreements and regulations relevant to the project.
- c. The consultant shall organize progress meetings with all involved parties (including the Steering Committee).
- d. The consultant shall perform all work necessary to meet the project timeline as outlined in the Project Schedule.
- e. The consultant must understand that in-person meetings with the Steering Committee (as often as monthly), in Albany may be required dependent on public health meeting recommendations.

4.2 Overall Project Expectations.

- a. Research all available public and private providers of broadband service in Albany County for availability of service throughout Albany County
- b. Research potential infrastructure which may be available but currently underutilized or unused for broadband service in Albany County
- c. Obtain information from existing providers of broadband service (public or private) as to plans for expansion of service including locations and timeframes
- d. Perform a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) analysis of Broadband service in Albany County
- e. Analyze the acquired data for determining levels of service throughout Albany County
- f. Assess the competitive, technological, legal, market changes, trends in the industry, price fluctuation, etc. which may impact the proposed project.
- g. Propose options for filling gaps in service Countywide and provide order of magnitude cost estimates for such activity
- h. Identify any and all sources of state, federal, and other broadband funding including but not limited to the NYS Broadband Office, Federal Communications Commission, Universal Services Corporation, US Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, and the US Department of Agriculture as well as any possible funding that may be available from the national RBOCs

- i. Reflect and incorporate any relevant aspects of the NYS Public Service Commission's Broadband Mapping Consumer Survey or similar FCC broadband studies, analyses, or submissions.
 - j. Conduct a public meeting for the solicitation of public comments.
- Product – Report #1

4.3 Public Sector and Private Sector Roles in Broadband in Connect Albany

- a. The consultant shall research existing public and private broadband systems as well as any joint public/private systems, analyzing such examples for positive and negative outcomes
- b. The consultant shall review the existing private sector providers within Albany County and determine whether any potential for public/private partnerships exist.
- c. The consultant shall prepare a report on the potential for a publicly owned broadband system within Albany County or the potential for public/private partnerships with the potential for providing increased service to Albany County residents.

Product – Report #2:

4.4 Assets, Location and Demand

- a. Inventory all assets related to broadband located in Albany County including wireless, satellite (low earth orbit, geosynchronous, 5G and other), active fiber, underutilized or unused fiber, conduit suitable for fiber use, towers, right of ways or utility poles as well as any other terrestrial or aerial technology platforms.
- b. Inventory all networks operating in Albany County, whether public or private, providing local individual service or other including networks operated by K-12 and higher educational institutions
- c. Provide all data on asset type and location in a GIS format compatible with Albany County Department of Economic Development, Conservation and Planning standards
- d. Determine broadband demand in sub-sectors of the County including rural, suburban and urban areas
- e. Identify potential partners (public and private) likely to have an interest in cooperative upgrading of systems within Albany County
- f. Hold a minimum of two public meetings to gain input on the Albany County Connect Broadband Project

Product – Report #3: Albany County Broadband assets, location, demand and partners.

4.5 Final Study Report

- a. The final report should aggregate the findings of all previous sections and reports.
- b. The final report should make formal recommendations for Albany County to proceed with to provide solutions to the broadband service gaps in the County. These recommendations could include, but are not limited to, public/private partnerships, a publicly owned system, incentivizing private sector expansion or seeking funding from

the Federal Government and the New York State Broadband program. Substantiation for any recommendations must be included along with order of magnitude cost estimates and timeframes for implementation.

This Scope of Work has been prepared as a proposal guideline. It is the respondent's responsibility to add any other consultant services that the consultant feels would be necessary to complete the project.

SECTION 5: TERM OF CONTRACT

5.1 The contract period shall be one year, contract shall commence on the date of the fully executed contract.

5.2 The successful Proposer shall execute a contract with the County of Albany in substantial conformance with this RFP as prepared and approved by the County Attorney.

SECTION 6: COST PROPOSAL

6.1 Submit a lump sum cost proposal for the services described above in Section 4, Scope of Service.

6.2 Detail the fee structure for the Proposal. Provide hourly rates and reimbursable costs if not included in the lump sum.

6.3 Provide any other relevant information that will assist the County in evaluating your Proposal.

SECTION 7: PROPOSAL SUBMISSIONS

7.1 In order for the County to conduct a uniform review process of all proposals, proposals must be submitted in the format set forth below. Failure to follow this format may be cause for rejection of a proposal because adherence to this format is critical for the County's evaluation process:

- a. **SECTION I: Title Page** - The title page should reflect the Request for Proposal subject, name of the proposer, address, telephone number and contact person. Table of Contents - The Table of Contents must indicate the material included in the proposal by section and page number.
- b. **SECTION II: Qualification / Experience** - The Qualification / Experience section must address proposer's qualifications and experience to carry out the requested service, inclusive of, but not limited to: qualification to do business in NYS, number of years in business and length of experience. The project team should have a full-range of relevant industry expertise. Primary personnel in each of the noted disciplines must be identified by name and office location, with resumes included, and should demonstrate satisfactory experience in the past 10 years and depth in each of the required disciplines. This should also include identifying the firm's role within any project and the year(s)

in which the work took place. Resumes - Resumes of professional staff members who will be involved in the County engagement must be included in this section.

- c. **SECTION III:** References - The References section must include references from similar type projects.
- d. **SECTION IV:** Plan Implementation - The Plan Implementation Section must address the Scope of Services in terms of the proposer's plan to carry out the requested service.
- e. **SECTION V:** Cost Proposal Section - The Cost Proposal Section must include all costs associated with the proposer's plan to carry out the requested service. Any cost proposal forms furnished by the County must be included in this section.
- f. **SECTION VI:** Mandatory Documentation - The Mandatory Documentation Section must include: The Non-Collusive Bidding Certificate (Attachment "A"), Acknowledgment by Proposer (Attachment "B"), and Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire (Attachment "C"); Iranian Energy Divestment Certification (Attachment "D").

SECTION 8: PROPOSAL EVALUATION

8.1 Proposals will remain valid until the execution of a contract by Albany County, unless otherwise rejected consistent with this RFP.

8.2 Proposals received will be evaluated by a committee with representation from the Albany County Department of Economic Development, Conservation and Planning, the Office of the County Executive, and additional reviewers. Proposals shall be evaluated based upon the following:

<i>CRITERIA</i>	<i>WEIGHT</i>
Proposer's demonstrated technical capability to provide the services.	20%
Evaluation of the professional qualifications and experience to perform the proposed services.	20%
Evaluation of the proposer's fee submission.	40%
Evaluation of the proposer's projected approach and plans to meet the requirements of this RFP.	20%

8.3 Proposals will be examined and evaluated by the abovementioned departments with the advice of the Albany County Purchasing Agent to determine whether the requirements of this RFP are met and to make a recommendation to the Albany County Executive, the Albany County Contracts Administration Board or the County Legislature for a contract award.

8.4 A notice of contract award shall not be binding upon the County until the contract has been fully executed by both parties

SECTION 9: Not in use

SECTION 10: ALTERNATIVES

10.1 Proposer may include in its Proposal items not specified in this RFP, which it would consider pertinent. All such alternatives must be listed separately from the Proposal and the cost thereof must be separate and itemized.

SECTION 11: INDEMNIFICATION

11.1 The successful Proposer shall defend, indemnify and save harmless the County, its employees and agents, from and against all claims, damages, losses and expenses (including without limitations, reasonable attorneys' fees) arising out of, or in consequence of, any negligent or intentional act or omission of the successful Proposer, its employees or agents, to the extent of its or their responsibility for such claims, damages, losses and expenses.

SECTION 12: SPECIFICATION CLARIFICATION

12.1 All inquiries with respect to this Request for Proposals must be directed to the Albany County Purchasing Agent as follows:

Karen A. Storm
Albany County Purchasing Agent
112 State Street, **Room 1000**
Albany, NY 12207
Telephone: (518) 447-7140
Facsimile: (518) 447-5588
Email: Karen.storm@albanycountyny.gov

12.2 All questions about the meaning or intent of the specifications must be submitted to the aforementioned designated person in writing. Replies will be issued by Addenda mailed or delivered to all parties recorded as having received the proposal documents. Questions received less than four (4) days prior to the date of submission of Proposals will not be answered. The County will be bound only by responses given by formal written Addenda.

12.3 Other than the contact person identified in the Proposal, or their designee, prospective Proposers shall not approach County employees during the period of this RFP process about any matters related to this RFP or any proposals submitted pursuant thereto.

SECTION 13: MODIFICATION AND WITHDRAWAL OF PROPOSALS

13.1 Proposals may be modified or withdrawn at any time prior to the opening of Proposals by an appropriate document duly executed (in the manner that a Proposal must be executed) and delivered to the place where Proposals are to be submitted.

13.2 If within twenty-four (24) hours after the Proposals are opened, any Proposer files a duly signed written notice with the County and promptly thereafter demonstrates to the reasonable satisfaction of the County that there was a material and substantial mistake in the preparation of its Proposal, that Proposer may withdraw its Proposal and the Proposal Security will be returned. Thereafter, that Proposer will be disqualified from making a further or additional proposal on the work contemplated by this RFP.

13.3 Each proposal shall state that it is an irrevocable offer for a period of ninety (90) days from the Proposal opening date. After expiration of the irrevocable offer period, if no contract award has been made, a Proposal may be withdrawn if the Proposer does so in writing directed to the County Purchasing Agent; otherwise, Proposals remain in effect consistent with the terms of this RFP.

SECTION 14: PROPOSAL SECURITY

14.1 No proposal security is requested for this Proposal.

SECTION 15: INSURANCE AND SECURITY REQUIREMENTS

15.1 The successful Proposer will be required to procure and maintain at its own expense, the following insurance coverage:

- a. **Worker's Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance:** A policy or policies providing protection for Employees in the event of job related injuries.
- b. **Automobile Liability Insurance:** A policy or policies of insurance with the limits of not less than \$500,000 combined for each accident because of bodily injury sickness or disease, sustained by any person, caused by accident, and arising out of the ownership, maintenance or use of any automobile for damage because of injury to or destruction of property, including the loss of use thereof, caused by accident and arising out of the ownership, maintenance or use of any automobile.
- c. **General Liability Insurance:** A policy or policies or comprehensive all-risk insurance with limits of not less than:

Liability For:	Combined Single Limit
Property Damage	\$1,000,000
Bodily Injury	\$1,000,000
Personal Injury	\$1,000,000

- d. **Professional Liability Insurance:** A policy or policies with limits not less than \$1,000,000.

15.2 Each policy of insurance required shall be of form and content satisfactory to the Albany County Attorney:

Albany County shall be named as an additional insured on all liability policies. **Proposal number must appear on insurance certificate.**

- a. The policy shall not be changed or canceled until the expiration of thirty (30) days after written notice to Albany County. It shall be automatically renewed upon expiration and continued in force unless Albany County is given at least thirty (30) days written notice to the contrary.

15.3 No work shall be commenced under the contract until the successful Proposer has delivered to the County Purchasing Agent or his designee proof of issuance of all policies of insurance required by the Contract to be procured by the successful Proposer. If at any time, any of said policies shall expire or become unsatisfactory to the County, the successful Proposer shall promptly obtain a new policy and submit proof of insurance of the same to the County for approval. Upon failure of the successful Proposer to furnish, deliver and maintain such insurance as above provided, the contract may, at the election of the County, be forthwith declared suspended, discontinued or terminated. Failure of the successful Proposer to procure and maintain any required insurance, shall not relieve the successful Proposer from any liability under the contract, nor shall the insurance requirements be construed to conflict with the obligations of the successful Proposer concerning indemnification.

SECTION 16: REMEDY FOR BREACH

16.1 In the event of a breach by CONTRACTOR, CONTRACTOR shall pay to the COUNTY all direct and consequential damages caused by such breach, including, but not limited to, all sums expended by the COUNTY to procure a substitute contractor to satisfactorily complete the contract work, together with the COUNTY's own costs incurred in procuring a substitute contractor.

SECTION 17: CASH DISCOUNT

17.1 Cash discounts may be offered by a Proposer for prompt payment of bills, but such cash discounts will not be taken into consideration in determining the low Proposer.

17.2 For purposes of any applicable cash discount, the payment date shall be calculated from the receipt of invoice or final acceptance of the goods, whichever is later.

SECTION 18: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION LAW

18.1 Confidential, trade secret or proprietary materials as defined by the laws of the State of New York must be clearly marked and identified as such upon submission. Proposers intending to seek an exemption from disclosure of these materials under the Freedom of

Information Law (New York State Public Officers Law, Sections 84-90) must request the exemption in writing, at the time of the submission of the materials, setting forth the reason for the claimed exemption. In addition, the proposer must mark each page of its submission on which there appears any material claimed to be protected as confidential or proprietary with the following legend, in bold face, capital letters at the top of each page: “THE PROPOSER BELIEVES THAT THIS INFORMATION IS PROTECTED FROM DISCLOSURE UNDER THE NEW YORK STATE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION LAW”. Acceptance of the claimed materials does not constitute a determination on the exemption request, which determination will be made in accordance with statutory procedures.

SECTION 19: MACBRIDE PRINCIPLES

19.1 Contractor/Proposer hereby represents that said contractor/proposer is in compliance with the MacBride Principles of Fair Employment as set forth in Albany County Local Law No. [3] for 1993, in that said contractor/proposer either (a) has no business operations in Northern Ireland or (b) shall take lawful steps in good faith to conduct any business operations in Northern Ireland in accordance with the MacBride Principles, and shall permit independent monitoring of their compliance with such principles. In the event of a violation of this stipulation, the County reserves all rights to take remedial measures as authorized under section 4 of Local Law No. [3] in 1993, including, but not limited to, imposing sanctions, seeking compliance, recovering damages, declaring the contract/proposer in default and/or seeking debarment or suspension of the contractor/proposer.

19.2 In the case of a contract which must be let by competitive sealed bidding, whenever the lowest bidder has not agreed to stipulate to the conditions set forth in this section, and another bidder who has agreed to stipulate to such conditions has submitted a bid within five percent of the lowest bid for a contract to supply goods, services or construction of comparable quality, the contracting entity shall refer the contract to the County Legislature, which shall determine whether the lowest bidder is responsible. In making such determination, the County Legislature may consider, as a factor bearing on responsibility, whether the lowest bidder discriminates in employment in Northern Ireland.

19.3 As used in this section, the term “contract” shall not include contracts with government and non-profit organizations, contracts awarded pursuant to an emergency procurement procedure or contracts, resolutions, indentures, declarations of trust or other instruments of authorizing or relating to the authorization, issuance, award, sale or purchase or bonds, certificates of indebtedness, notes or other fiscal obligations of the County, provided that the policies of this section shall be considered when selecting managing underwriters in connection with such activities.

19.4 The provisions of this section shall not apply to contracts for which the County receive funds administered by the United States Department of Transportation, except to the extent Congress has directed that the Department of Transportation not withhold funds from states and localities that choose to implement selective purchasing policies based on agreement to comply with the MacBride Principles, or to the extent that such funds are not otherwise withheld by the Department of Transportation.

SECTION 20: Not in use

SECTION 21: AFFIRMATIVE ACTION REQUIREMENTS

21.1 It is the policy of the County of Albany that Minority Business Enterprises (MBE) and Woman Business Enterprises (WBE) are afforded the maximum opportunity to participate in the performance of contracts, in excess of \$100,000, let by the County and its several agencies and authorities. The County commits itself to a goal oriented Contract Compliance Program which assures that Minority Business Enterprises and Woman Business Enterprises are considered in awarding contracts for goods, services and construction. Furthermore, it is the policy of the County of Albany that contractors/proposers and subcontractors utilize minority and women labor to the greatest extent feasible.

21.2 In proposing on this contract, the Proposer acknowledges an understanding of this policy. The contractor/proposer shall carry out the policy by making every reasonable effort to award contracts and subcontracts to MBEs and WBEs and utilizing minority and women labor in the performance of this contract.

21.3 In an effort to assist Proposers with compliance attached you will find the following: Article SC19-Affirmative Action Plan and Department of Affirmative Action Compliance Forms.

SECTION 22: Not in use

SECTION 23: INTERPRETATION

23.1 In the event of any discrepancy, disagreement or ambiguity among the documents which comprise this RFP, and/or, the Agreement (between the County and the successful Proposer) and its incorporated documents, the documents shall be given preference in the following order to interpret and to resolve such discrepancy, disagreement or ambiguity: 1) the Agreement; 2) the RFP; 3) the Contractor's proposal.

SECTION 24: NON APPROPRIATIONS CLAUSE

24.1 Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, no default shall be deemed to occur in the event no funds or insufficient funds are appropriated and budgeted by or are otherwise unavailable to the County for payment under this Agreement. The County will immediately notify the Contractor of such occurrence and this Agreement shall terminate on the last day of the fiscal period for which appropriations were received without penalty or expense to the County of any kind whatsoever, except as to those portions herein agreed upon for which funds shall have been appropriated and budgeted.

SECTION 25: IRANIAN ENERGY SECTOR DIVESTMENT

25.1 Contractor/Proposer hereby represents that said Contractor/Proposer is in compliance with New York State General Municipal Law Section 103-g entitled “Iranian Energy Sector Divestment”, in that said Contractor/Proposer has not:

- a. Provided goods or services of \$20 Million or more in the energy sector of Iran including but not limited to the provision of oil or liquefied natural gas tankers or products used to construct or maintain pipelines used to transport oil or liquefied natural gas for the energy sector of Iran; or
- b. Acted as a financial institution and extended \$20 Million or more in credit to another person for forty-five days or more, if that person’s intent was to use the credit to provide goods or services in the energy sector in Iran.

25.2 Any Contractor/Proposer who has undertaken any of the above and is identified on a list created pursuant to Section 165-a (3)(b) of the New York State Finance Law as a person engaging in investment activities in Iran, shall not be deemed a responsible bidder pursuant to Section 103 of the New York State General Municipal Law.

25.3 Except as otherwise specifically provided herein, every Contractor/Proposer submitting a bid/proposal in response to this Request for Bids/Request for Proposals must certify and affirm the following under penalties of perjury:

- a. “By submission of this bid, each bidder and each person signing on behalf of any bidder certifies, and in the case of a joint bid, each party thereto certifies as to its own organization, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of its knowledge and belief, that each bidder is not on the list created pursuant to NYS Finance Law Section 165-a (3)(b).

Albany County will accept this statement electronically in accordance with the provisions of Section 103 of the General Municipal Law.

25.4 Except as otherwise specifically provided herein, any Bid/Proposal that is submitted without having complied with subdivision (a) above, shall not be considered for award. In any case where the Bidder/Proposer cannot make the certification as set forth in subdivision (a) above, the Bidder/Proposer shall so state and shall furnish with the bid a signed statement setting forth in detail the reasons therefor. The County reserves its rights, in accordance with General Municipal Law Section 103-g to award the Bid/Proposal to any Bidder/Proposer who cannot make the certification, on a case-by-case basis under the following circumstances:

- a. The investment activities in Iran were made before April 12, 2012, the investment activities in Iran have not been expanded or renewed after April 12, 2012, and the Bidder/Proposer has adopted, publicized and is implementing a formal plan to cease the investment activities in Iran and to refrain from engaging in any new investments in Iran; or

- b. The County of Albany has made a determination that the goods or services are necessary for the County to perform its functions and that, absent such an exemption, the County of Albany would be unable to obtain the goods or services for which the Bid/Proposal is offered. Such determination shall be made by the County in writing and shall be a public document.

SECTION 26: Not in use

SECTION 27: Not in use

SECTION 28: Not in use

COUNTY OF ALBANY

PROPOSAL FORM

PROPOSAL IDENTIFICATION:

Title: Assess the Feasibility and Implementation of the “Albany Connect Broadband Initiative”

RFP Number: 2021-045

THIS PROPOSAL IS SUBMITTED TO:

Karen A. Storm, Purchasing Agent
Albany County Department of General Services
Purchasing Division
112 State Street, Room 1000
Albany, NY 12207

1. The undersigned Proposer proposes and agrees, if this Proposal is accepted, to enter into a Contract with the owner in the form included in the Contract Documents to complete all Work as specified or indicated in the Contract Documents for the Contract Price and within the Contract Time indicated in this Proposal and in accordance with the Contract Documents.
2. Proposer accepts all of the terms and conditions of the Instructions to Proposers, including without limitation those dealing with the Disposition of Proposal Security. This Proposal may remain open for ninety (90) days after the day of Proposal opening. Proposer will sign the Contract and submit the Contract Security and other documents required by the Contract Documents within fifteen days after the date of County’s Notice of Award.
3. In submitting this Proposal, Proposer represents, as more fully set forth in this Contract, that:

- (a) Proposer has examined copies of all the Contract Documents and of the following addenda: (If none, so state)

Date

Number

(receipt of all of which is hereby acknowledges) and also copies of the Notice to Proposers and the Instructions to Proposers;

- (b) Proposer has examined the site and locality where the Work is to be performed, the legal requirements (federal, state and local laws, ordinances, rules and regulations) and the conditions affecting cost, progress or performance of the Work and has made such independent investigations as Proposer deems necessary;

- (c) This Proposal is genuine and not made in the interest of or on behalf of any undisclosed person, firm or corporation and is not submitted in conformity with any agreement or rules of any group, association, organization or corporation; Proposer has not directly or indirectly induced or solicited any other Proposer to submit a false or sham Proposal; PROPOSER has not solicited or induced any person, firm or a corporation to refrain from Proposing; and Proposer has not sought by collusion to obtain for himself any advantage over any other Proposer or over the owner.

- 4. Proposer will complete the Work for the following prices(s): (Attach Proposal)
- 5. Proposer agrees to commence the Work within the number of calendar days or by the specific date indicated in the Contract. Proposer agrees that the Work will be completed within the number of Calendar days or by the specific date indicated in the contract.
- 6. The following documents are attached to and made a condition of this Proposal:
 - (a) Non-Collusive Bidding Certificate (Attachment “A”)
 - (b) Acknowledgment by Bidder (Attachment “B”)
 - (c) Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire (Attachment “C”)
 - (d) Iranian Energy Divestment Certification (Attachment “D”)
- 7. Communication concerning this Proposal shall be addressed to:

Phone: _____
- 8. Terms used in this Proposal have the meanings assigned to them in the Contract and General Provisions.

COUNTY OF ALBANY

COST PROPOSAL FORM

PROPOSAL IDENTIFICATION:

Title: Assess the Feasibility and Implementation of the “Albany Connect Broadband Initiative”

RFP Number: 2021-045

Submit a cost proposal as described in Section 4 Scope of Services.

COMPANY:

ADDRESS:

CITY, STATE, ZIP:

TEL. NO.:

FAX NO.:

FEDERAL TAX ID NO.:

REPRESENTATIVE:

E-MAIL:

SIGNATURE AND TITLE

DATE

ATTACHMENT "A"
NON-COLLUSIVE BIDDING CERTIFICATE PURSUANT TO
SECTION 103-D OF THE NEW YORK STATE GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW

A. By submission of this bid, each bidder and each person signing on behalf of any bidder certifies, and in the case of a joint bid, each party thereto certifies as to its own organizations, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of knowledge and belief:

(1) The prices in this bid have been arrived at independently without collusion, consultation, communication, or agreement, for the purpose of restricting competition, as to any matter relating to such prices with any other bidder or with any competitor.

(2) Unless otherwise required by law, the prices which have been quoted in this bid have not knowingly been disclosed by the bidder and will not knowingly be disclosed by the bidder, directly or indirectly, prior to opening, to any bidder or to any competitor.

(3) No attempt has been made or will be made by the bidder to induce any other person, partnership or corporation to submit or not to submit a bid for the purpose of restricting competition.

A bid shall not be considered for award nor shall any award be made where (1), (2), and (3) above have not been complied with; provided, however, that in any case the bidder cannot make the foregoing certification, the bidder shall so state and shall furnish with the bid a signed statement which sets forth in detail the reasons thereof. Where (1), (2), and (3) above have not been complied with, the bid shall not be considered for any award nor shall any award be made unless the head of the Purchasing Unit to the political subdivision, public department, agency or official thereof to which the bid is made, or his designee, determines that such disclosure was not made for the purpose of restricting competition.

The fact that a bidder (a) has published price lists, rates, or tariffs covering items being procured, (b) has informed prospective customer of proposed or pending publication of new or revised price lists for such items, or (c) has sold the same items to other customers at the same prices being bid, does not constitute, without more, a disclosure within the meaning of paragraph "A" above.

B. Any bid hereafter made to any political subdivision of the state or any public department, agency or official thereof by a corporate bidder for work or services performed or to be performed or goods sold or to be sold, where competitive bidding is required by statute, rule, regulation, local law, and where such bid contains the certification referred to in paragraph "A" of this section, shall be deemed to have been authorized by the Board of Directors of the bidder, and such authorization shall be deemed to include the submission of the bid and the inclusion therein of the certificate as to non-collusion as the act and deed of the corporation

Signature

Title

Date

Company Name

ATTACHMENT "B"
ACKNOWLEDGMENT BY PROPOSER

If Individual or Individuals:

STATE OF _____)
COUNTY OF _____) **SS.:**

On this _____ day of _____, 20____, before me personally appeared _____ to me known and known to me to be the same person(s) described in and who executed the within instrument, and he (or they severally) acknowledged to me that he (or they) executed the same.

Notary Public, State of _____

Qualified in _____

Commission Expires _____

If Corporation:

STATE OF _____)
COUNTY OF _____) **SS.:**

On this _____ day of _____, 20____, before me personally appeared _____ to me known, who, being by me sworn, did say that he resides at (give address) _____; that he is the (give title) _____ of the (name of corporation) _____, the corporation described in and which executed the above instrument; that he knows the seal of the corporation, and that the seal affixed to the instrument is such corporate seal; that it was so affixed by order of the board of directors of the corporation, and that he signed his name thereto by like order.

Notary Public, State of _____

Qualified in _____

Commission Expires _____

If Partnership:

STATE OF _____)
COUNTY OF _____) **SS.:**

On the _____ day of _____, 20____, before me personally came _____, to me known to be the individual who executed the foregoing, and who, being duly sworn, did depose and say that he / she is a partner of the firm of _____ and that he / she has the authority to sign the same, and acknowledged that he / she executed the same as the act and deed of said partnership.

Notary Public, State of _____

Qualified in _____

Commission Expires _____

ATTACHMENT “C”

ALBANY COUNTY

VENDOR RESPONSIBILITY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. VENDOR IS: <input type="checkbox"/> PRIME CONTRACTOR			
2. VENDOR’S LEGAL BUSINESS NAME		3. IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS a) FEIN # b) DUNS #	
4. D/B/A – Doing Business As (if applicable) & COUNTY FIELD:		5. WEBSITE ADDRESS (if applicable)	
6. ADDRESS OF PRIMARY PLACE OF BUSINESS/EXECUTIVE OFFICE		7. TELEPHONE NUMBER	8. FAX NUMBER
9. ADDRESS OF PRIMARY PLACE OF BUSINESS/EXECUTIVE OFFICE <i>IN NEW YORK STATE, if different from above</i>		10. TELEPHONE NUMBER	11. FAX NUMBER
12. AUTHORIZED CONTACT FOR THIS QUESTIONNAIRE Name Title Telephone Number Fax Number e-mail			
13. LIST ALL OF THE VENDOR’S PRINCIPAL OWNERS.			
a) NAME	TITLE	b) NAME	TITLE
c) NAME	TITLE	d) NAME	TITLE
A DETAILED EXPLANATION IS REQUIRED FOR EACH QUESTION ANSWERED WITH A “YES,” AND MUST BE PROVIDED AS AN ATTACHMENT TO THE COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE. YOU MUST PROVIDE ADEQUATE DETAILS OR DOCUMENTS TO AID THE COUNTY IN MAKING A DETERMINATION OF VENDOR RESPONSIBILITY. PLEASE NUMBER EACH RESPONSE TO MATCH THE QUESTION NUMBER.			
14. DOES THE VENDOR USE, OR HAS IT USED IN THE PAST FIVE (5) YEARS, ANY OTHER BUSINESS NAME, FEIN, or D/B/A OTHER THAN THOSE LISTED IN ITEMS 2-4 ABOVE? List all other business name(s), Federal Employer Identification Number(s) or any D/B/A names and the dates that these names or numbers were/are in use. Explain the relationship to the vendor. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No 			
15. ARE THERE ANY INDIVIDUALS NOW SERVING IN A MANAGERIAL OR CONSULTING CAPACITY TO THE VENDOR, INCLUDING PRINCIPAL OWNERS AND OFFICERS, WHO NOW SERVE OR IN THE PAST ONE (1) YEARS HAVE SERVED AS: <div style="margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 80%;"> a) An elected or appointed public official or officer? <i>List each individual’s name, business title, the name of the organization and position elected or appointed to, and dates of service</i> </div> <div style="width: 15%; text-align: right;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No </div> </div> <div style="margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 80%;"> b) An officer of any political party organization in Albany County, whether paid or unpaid? <i>List each individual’s name, business title or consulting capacity and the official political position held with applicable service dates.</i> </div> <div style="width: 15%; text-align: right;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No </div> </div> </div> </div>			

16.	<p>WITHIN THE PAST (5) YEARS, HAS THE VENDOR, ANY INDIVIDUALS SERVING IN MANAGERIAL OR CONSULTING CAPACITY, PRINCIPAL OWNERS, OFFICERS, MAJOR STOCKHOLDER(S) (10% OR MORE OF THE VOTING SHARES FOR PUBLICLY TRADED COMPANIES, 25% OR MORE OF THE SHARES FOR ALL OTHER COMPANIES), AFFILIATE OR ANY PERSON INVOLVED IN THE BIDDING OR CONTRACTING PROCESS:</p> <p>a) 1. been suspended, debarred or terminated by a local, state or federal authority in connection with a contract or contracting process; <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>2. been disqualified for cause as a bidder on any permit, license, concession franchise or lease;</p> <p>3. entered into an agreement to a voluntary exclusion from bidding/contracting;</p> <p>4. had a bid rejected on an Albany County contract for failure to comply with the MacBride Fair Employment Principles;</p> <p>5. had a low bid rejected on a local, state or federal contract for failure to meet statutory affirmative action or M/WBE requirements on a previously held contract;</p> <p>6. had status as a Women's Business Enterprise, Minority Business Enterprise or Disadvantaged Business Enterprise, de-certified, revoked or forfeited;</p> <p>7. been subject to an administrative proceeding or civil action seeking specific performance or restitution in connection with any local, state or federal government contract;</p> <p>8. been denied an award of a local, state or federal government contract, had a contract suspended or had a contract terminated for non-responsibility; or</p> <p>9. had a local, state or federal government contract suspended or terminated for cause prior to the completion of the term of the contract.</p> <p>b) been indicted, convicted, received a judgment against them or a grant of immunity for any business-related conduct constituting a crime under local, state or federal law including but not limited to, fraud extortion, bribery, racketeering, price-fixing, bid collusion or any crime related to truthfulness and/or business conduct? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>c) been issued a citation, notice, violation order, or are pending an administrative hearing or proceeding or determination of violations of: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>1. federal, state or local health laws, rules or regulations.</p>
17.	<p>IN THE PAST THREE (3) YEARS, HAS THE VENDOR OR ITS AFFILIATES ¹ HAD ANY CLAIMS, JUDGMENTS, INJUNCTIONS, LIENS, FINES OR PENALTIES SECURED BY ANY GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Indicate if this is applicable to the submitting vendor or affiliate. State whether the situation(s) was a claim, judgment, injunction, lien or other with an explanation. Provide the name(s) and address(es) of the agency, the amount of the original obligation and outstanding balance. If any of these items are open, unsatisfied, indicate the status of each item as "open" or "unsatisfied."</p>
18.	<p>DURING THE PAST THREE (3) YEARS, HAS THE VENDOR FAILED TO: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>a) file returns or pay any applicable federal, state or city taxes? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><i>Identify the taxing jurisdiction, type of tax, liability year(s), and tax liability amount the vendor failed to file/pay and the current status of the liability.</i></p> <p>b) file returns or pay New York State unemployment insurance? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><i>Indicate the years the vendor failed to file/pay the insurance and the current status of the liability.</i></p> <p>c) Property Tax <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><i>Indicate the years the vendor failed to file.</i></p>
19.	<p>HAVE ANY BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDINGS BEEN INITIATED BY OR AGAINST THE VENDOR OR ITS AFFILIATES ¹ WITHIN THE PAST SEVEN (7) YEARS (WHETHER OR NOT CLOSED) OR IS ANY BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDING PENDING BY OR AGAINST THE VENDOR OR ITS AFFILIATES REGARDLESS OF THE DATE OF FILING? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Indicate if this is applicable to the submitting vendor or affiliate. If it is an affiliate, include the affiliate's name and FEIN. Provide the court name, address and docket number. Indicate if the proceedings have been initiated, remain pending or have been closed. If closed, provide the date closed.</p>
20.	<p>IS THE VENDOR CURRENTLY INSOLVENT, OR DOES VENDOR CURRENTLY HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT AN INVOLUNTARY BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDING MAY BE BROUGHT AGAINST IT? Provide financial information to support the vendor's current position, for example, Current Ration, Debt Ration, Age of Accounts Payable, Cash Flow and any documents that will provide the agency with an understanding of the vendor's situation. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>

21.	IN THE PAST FIVE (5) YEARS, HAS THE VENDOR OR ANY AFFILIATES ¹ :	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	a) defaulted or been terminated on, or had its surety called upon to complete, any contract (public or private) awarded;		
Indicate if this is applicable to the submitting vendor or affiliate. Detail the situation(s) that gave rise to the negative action, any corrective action taken by the vendor and the name of the contracting agency.			

¹ “Affiliate” meaning: (a) any entity in which the vendor owns more than 50% of the voting stock; (b) any individual, entity or group of principal owners or officers who own more than 50% of the voting stock of the vendor; or (c) any entity whose voting stock is more than 50% owned by the same individual, entity or group described in clause (b). In addition, if a vendor owns less than 50% of the voting stock of another entity, but directs or has the right to direct such entity’s daily operations, that entity will be an “affiliate” for purposes of this questionnaire.

**ALBANY COUNTY
VENDOR RESPONSIBILITY QUESTIONNAIRE**

FEIN #

State of:)
) ss:
County of:)

CERTIFICATION:

The undersigned: recognizes that this questionnaire is submitted for the express purpose of assisting the County of Albany in making a determination regarding an award of contract or approval of a subcontract; acknowledges that the County may in its discretion, by means which it may choose, verify the truth and accuracy of all statements made herein; acknowledges that intentional submission of false or misleading information may constitute a felony under Penal Law Section 210.40 or a misdemeanor under Penal Law Section 210.35 or Section 210.45, and may also be punishable by a fine and/or imprisonment of up to five years under 18 USC Section 1001 and may result in contract termination; and states that the information submitted in this questionnaire and any attached pages is true, accurate and complete.

The undersigned certifies that he/she:

- Has not altered the content of the questions in the questionnaire in any manner;
- Has read and understands all of the items contained in the questionnaire and any pages attached by the submitting vendor;
- Has supplied full and complete responses to each item therein to the best of his/her knowledge, information ad belief;
- Is knowledgeable about the submitting vendor's business and operations;
- Understands that Albany County will rely on the information supplied in the questionnaire when entering into a contract with the vendor;
- Is under duty to notify the Albany County Purchasing Division of any material changes to the vendor's responses.

Name of Business

Signature of Owner _____

Address

Printed Name of Signatory _____

City, State, Zip

Title

Sworn before me this ____ day of _____, 20__;

Notary Public

Printed Name

Signature

Date

Attachment "D"
Certification Pursuant to Section 103-g
Of the New York State
General Municipal Law

- A. By submission of this bid/proposal, each bidder/proposer and each person signing on behalf of any bidder/proposer certifies, and in the case of a joint bid, each party thereto certifies as to its own organization, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of its knowledge and belief that each bidder is not on the list created pursuant to paragraph (b) of subdivision 3 of Section 165-a of the New York State Finance Law.
- B. A Bid/Proposal shall not be considered for award, nor shall any award be made where the condition set forth in Paragraph A above has not been complied with; provided, however, that in any case the bidder/proposer cannot make the foregoing certification set forth in Paragraph A above, the bidder/proposer shall so state and shall furnish with the bid a signed statement which sets forth in detail the reasons therefor. Where Paragraph A above cannot be complied with, the Purchasing Unit to the political subdivision, public department, agency or official thereof to which the bid/proposal is made, or his designee, may award a bid/proposal, on a case by case business under the following circumstances:
1. The investment activities in Iran were made before April 12, 2012, the investment activities in Iran have not been expanded or renewed after April 12, 2012, and the Bidder/Proposer has adopted, publicized and is implementing a formal plan to cease the investment activities in Iran and to refrain from engaging in any new investments in Iran; or
 2. The political subdivision makes a determination that the goods or services are necessary for the political subdivision to perform its functions and that, absent such an exemption, the political subdivision would be unable to obtain the goods or services for which the contract is offered. Such determination shall be made in writing and shall be a public document.

Signature

Title

Date

Company Name

County of Albany
Article SC19- Affirmative Action Plan

STATEMENT OF POLICY

The following is taken from Resolution No. 26 adopted by the Albany County Legislature on June 10, 1996.

Resolved, By the Albany County Legislature that the Affirmative Action Plan so endorsed by the Albany County Executive and which is currently on file with the Clerk of the County Legislature, shall be the official plan of the County of Albany including the objectives, procedures and goals so stipulated.

It is the policy of the County of Albany that Minority Business Enterprises (MBE) and Woman Business Enterprises (WBE) are afforded the maximum opportunity to participate in the performance of contracts, in excess of \$100,000, let by the County and its several agencies and authorities. The County commits itself to a goal oriented Contract Compliance Program which assures that Minority Business Enterprises and Woman Business Enterprises are considered in awarding contracts for goods, services and construction. Furthermore, it is the policy of the County of Albany that contractors and subcontractors utilize minority and women labor to the greatest extent feasible.

In bidding on this contract, the contractor acknowledges an understanding of this policy. The contractor shall carry out the policy by making every reasonable effort to award contracts and subcontracts to MBEs and WBEs and utilizing minority and women labor in the performance of this contract.

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION CLAUSE 220-E - NYS Labor Law. Provisions in contracts prohibiting discrimination on account of race, creed, color or national origin in employment of citizens upon public works. Every contract for or on behalf of the state or a municipality for the construction, alteration or repair of any public building or public work or for the manufacture, sale or distribution of materials, equipment or supplies shall contain provisions by which the contractor with the state or municipality agrees: (a) That in the hiring of employees for the performance of work under this contract or any subcontract hereunder, no contractor, subcontractor, nor any person acting on behalf of such contractor or subcontractor, shall by reason of race, creed, color, disability, sex or national origin discriminate against any citizen of the state of New York who is qualified and available to perform the work to which the employment relates; (b) That no contractor, subcontractor, nor any person on his behalf shall, in any manner, discriminate against or intimidate any employee hired for the performance of work under this contract on account of race, creed, color, disability, sex or national origin; (c) That there may be deducted from the amount payable to the contractor by the state or municipality under this contract a penalty of fifty dollars for each person for each calendar day during which such person was discriminated against or intimidated in violation of the provisions of the contract; (d) That this contract may be cancelled or terminated by the state or municipality, and all moneys due or to become due hereunder may be forfeited, for a second or any subsequent violation of the terms or conditions of this section of the contract; and (e) The aforesaid provisions of this section covering every contract for or on behalf of the state or a municipality for the manufacture, sale or distribution of materials, equipment or supplies shall be limited to operations performed within the territorial limits of the state of New York.

ADMINISTRATION

The County's Division of Affirmative Action is charged with the responsibility of monitoring Affirmative Action in all contracts. All County procurements will be made with an understanding that the complete participation of bona fide MBE and WBE shall be assured by balanced and equitable contract involvement.

The **subcontracting participation goals** for County public procurements are:

- to award 7% of the total dollar value of the contract to a certified MBE.
- to award 5% of the total dollar value of the contract to a certified WBE.

The **workforce goals** for County public procurements are as follows:

- 7% of the total workforce should be minorities.
- 5% of the total workforce should be women.

• CONTRACTOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Contractor's responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following. The Contractor **must:**

- 1) Submit to the Division of Affirmative Action a completed Schedule of MBE/WBE and Labor Performance or Request for Waiver within **fifteen (15) days** of receiving the Notice of Award.
- 2) Prior to being issued a Notice to Proceed, submit evidence of MBE/WBE contracts proposed to the Division of Affirmative Action.
- 3) Submit monthly utilization reports to the Division of Affirmative Action for review.
- 4) Immediately notify the Division of Affirmative Action of any changes during the project, especially if the change affects the Schedule of MBE/WBE and Labor Performance submitted for the project.
- 5) Make good faith efforts to replace an MBE/WBE subcontractor that is unable to perform successfully with another MBE/WBE.
- 6) Notify the Division of Affirmative Action of any suspected instances of companies fraudulently claiming MBE/WBE status.
- 7) If possible, provide any needed technical assistance to MBE/WBE firms under subcontract.
- 8) If possible, design payment schedules to minimize cash flow problems faced by MBEs/WBEs.
- 9) Maintain for three years such records as are necessary to determine compliance with MBE/WBE obligations and to submit regular reports to enable the Albany County MBE Officer to monitor this compliance.

• DEVELOPING A SCHEDULE OF MBE/WBE AND LABOR PERFORMANCE

The Schedule of MBE/WBE and Labor Performance must detail:

1. The contractor's name, address, phone number, federal identification number and the total dollar value of the contract.
2. Whether the contract is a joint venture.
3. The MBE and WBE goal for the contract.
4. A brief description of each proposed subcontractor, including the name, address, phone number, federal identification number and the total dollar amount of each subcontractor.
5. An estimate of the total number of hours to be worked on the project.

• COMPLIANCE

Each contractor must furnish monthly utilization reports while working on the project. The reports must detail the total number of hours worked, total minority /female labor hours and payments made to MBE and WBE firms.

- **WAIVER REQUEST FOR SUBCONTRACTING AND/OR LABOR PERFORMANCE**

Contractors which determine that the subcontracting and/or labor participation goals must cannot be achieved **must** request a waiver within **fifteen (15) days** of receiving the Notice of Award. The request must justify why the firm cannot accomplish the subcontracting and/or labor participation goals established for the project. The justification must detail actions taken to solicit MBE/WBE subcontractors, minority or female labor participation and the impediments encountered. Each waiver request will be evaluated individually. Submission of the request for waiver does **not** guarantee the requirements will be waived. Additional information or supporting documentation may be required to determine a contractor's good faith effort.

- **MBE/WBE RESPONSIBILITIES**

Each Minority Business Enterprise/Woman Business Enterprise shall:

1. Establish through certification that the company is a bona fide MBE/WBE. The Division of Affirmative Action reviews MBE/WBE eligibility status for contractors and subcontractors.
2. Exhibit an interest in bidding a particular project by attending pre-bid conferences and/or by responding timely to contract solicitations for bid quotations prior to bid date.
3. Be responsible for entering into all necessary contractual agreements.
4. Arrange for and supervise contract performance.
5. Secure equipment, materials and crew sufficient to complete their contract or subcontract.
6. Provide bonding, insurance and collateral as required for surety in contract performance.
7. Authorize payrolls, payments and reports as required for routine compliance.

The County will accept MBE/WBE Certifications made by other governmental agencies which are in compliance with our DBE policy.

SANCTIONS

SC-19.5.1

If **CONTRACTOR** cannot meet the WBE/MBE participation goals, he must document to the Albany County MBE Officer, that he has made all positive efforts to achieve it. Failure to meet the goals or to document that all positive efforts have been made to achieve it may result in the County invoking any legal or equitable remedy available to the County for breach of contract including withholding future payments under the **CONTRACT** involved; disqualification of the **CONTRACTOR** from future contracting opportunities for a period not to exceed two years; and cancellation of the contract and declaration of forfeiture of the **PERFORMANCE BOND**.

A decision by the Albany County MBE Officer to invoke the above sanctions shall be issued in writing by registered mail. The **CONTRACTOR** shall have ten (10) days from receipt of the decision to appeal the MBE Officer's decision to the Grievance committee of the Albany County Legislature. Both sides of the dispute shall have the opportunity to be heard at a meeting of the Grievance Committee to be held within ten (10) days of the receipt of an appeal, and the Committee shall send a final decision to both sides within ten (10) days by registered mail (or hand delivery in the case of the MBE Officer's copy).

STANDARDS

A **Minority Business Enterprise (MBE)** shall be any business enterprise which is at least fifty-one percent (51%) owned or in that case of a publicly-owned business, at least fifty-one percent (51%) of the common stock of which is owned, by a minority person(s), and such ownership interest is real, substantial and continuing. The minority ownership must have and exercise the authority to independently control the business decisions of the entity.

A **Woman Business Enterprise (WBE)** shall be any business enterprise which is at least fifty-one percent (51%) owned or in the case of a publicly-owned business, at least fifty-one percent (51%) of the common stock of which is owned, by a woman (women), and such ownership interest is real, substantial and continuing. The woman ownership must have and exercise the authority to independently control the business decisions of the

entity. WBEs shall not be considered as MBEs unless 51% of the assets of the company is held by a minority person(s).

A Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) mean a business enterprise controlled by one or more socially or economically disadvantaged individuals and whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more socially and economically disadvantaged individuals who own it. Such disadvantaged may arise from cultural, racial, chronic economic circumstances or background or other similar cause. Such persons include, but are not limited to citizens of the United States (or lawfully admitted permanent residents) and who are African Americans, Puerto Ricans, Hispanic Americans, Asian-Pacific Americans, American Indians, Eskimos, Aleuts, Asian Indians and Women.

Minority: A person who is a member of one or more of the following groups:

- A) Black (not of Hispanic origin) – a person having origins in any of the Black racial group of Africa.
- B) Hispanic -- a person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.
- C) Asian or Pacific Islander – a person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands. This area includes, for example, China, Japan, Korea, the Philippine Islands and Samoa.
- D) Native American or Alaskan Natives – a person having origins in any of the original peoples of North America, and who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.

Woman: A person who is of the feminine gender who are not otherwise classified as a minority.

For assistance or additional information, contact
County of Albany
Division of Affirmative Action
112 State Street, Room 670, Albany, NY 12207
Phone: (518) 447-7010
Fax: (518) 447-5586

County Of Albany
Criteria for Establishing Good Faith Effort

The following list of the good faith efforts criteria complies with NYS Executive Law, Article 15-A which should be considered for determining whether a contractor has documented good faith efforts:

1. Was a completed, acceptable utilization plan submitted in accordance with applicable requirements to meet goals for participation of certified minority and women-owned business enterprises established in the same contract?
2. Were advertisements placed in appropriate trade, general circulation and minority and women-oriented publications in a timely fashion?
3. Were written solicitations made in a timely fashion of certified minority and women-owned business enterprises listed in the directory of certified business?
4. Were timely responses to any such advertisements and solicitations provided by certified minority and women-owned business enterprises?
5. Did the contractor attend pre-bid, pre-award, or other meetings, if any, scheduled by the agency awarding the contract, with certified minority or women-owned business enterprises which the State or County agency determined were capable of performing the contract scope of work, for purposes of complying with goal requirements?
6. What efforts were undertaken by the contractor to reasonably structure the contract scope of work for purposes of subcontracting with certified minority and women-owned business enterprises?
7. How many minority and women-owned business enterprises in the directories of certified businesses could perform work required by the contract scope of work in your region?
8. What actions were taken to contact and assess the financial ability of certified minority and women-owned businesses enterprises to participation on the contract, and which enterprises are located outside of the region in which the contract scope of work was or will be performed?
9. Were relevant plans, specification or terms and conditions of the contract, necessary to prepare an informed response to a contractor solicitation, provided in a timely fashion to certified minority or women-owned business enterprises?
10. What subcontract terms and conditions were offered to certified minority and women-owned business enterprises, and how do those subcontract terms and conditions compare to those offered in the ordinary course of the contractor's business and to other subcontractors of the contractor?
11. Has the contractor made payments for work performed by certified minority and women-owned business enterprises in a timely fashion so as to facilitate continued performance by certified minority or women-owned business enterprises?
12. Has the contractor offered to make up any inability to comply with the minority and women-owned business enterprise goals established in a contract, in other contracts being performed or to be awarded to the contractor?

County of Albany
Department of Affirmative Action
Compliance Forms

COUNTY OF ALBANY
SCHEDULE OF MBE/WBE AND LABOR PERFORMANCE

The Division of Affirmative Action monitors subcontracting and labor participation for contracts let by agencies and authorities of Albany County. **The information requested below must be completed by the General Contractor and submitted within fifteen days of receipt of Notice of Award.** The figures represent the contractor's best estimate of workforce needs and minority/female representation of that workforce. Questions regarding completion of this form can be directed to the County of Albany, Division of Affirmative Action at 518-447-7010.

Contractor: _____ Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax Number: _____ Federal ID No.: _____

Project Name: _____ Project Cost: _____ Completion Date: _____

Contract Description: _____

Bidder is an approved ☐ MBE ☐ WBE If yes, specify agency: _____

Joint Venture

MBE/WBE participation is broken down into Joint Ventures with Bidder, Subcontracting Construction, Trucking or Services, and Materials or Supplies. Joint ventures between the Prime Bidder and MBE/WBE firms are shown below. Joint Ventures with Bidder (check one) :

☐ No MBE/WBE joint ventures with Bidder on this Contract. ☐ Bidder is joint venturing with the following firm(s)
 (attach a copy of joint venture agreements to this form)

Name: _____ Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Federal ID No: _____

MBE Share of Joint Venture: _____ % x Total Bid Amount = \$ _____

WBE Share of Joint Venture: _____ % x Total Bid Amount = \$ _____

Sub-contractor Performance

MBE Goal: 7% x Total Bid Amount = \$ _____

WBE Goal: 5% x Total Bid Amount = \$ _____

Please provide the information requested for **all** subcontractors participating on this project (include MBE/WBE/DBE firms).

Sub-contractor Name, Address, Phone	Amount of Sub-contract & Award Date	Description of Work (Trade)	Start Date _____ Completion Date	Contracted Payment Schedule
<input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> WBE				
<input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> WBE				
<input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> WBE				
<input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> WBE				
<input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> WBE				

I, _____, representative of _____ declare that the
(print) (firm)
information provided is true and represents accurately my firms efforts to comply with the Affirmative Action Policy. We shall continue to make every effort to ensure that M/W/DBE firms have the maximum opportunity to compete for, and perform contracts let by the County of Albany.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

SUBMIT MONTHLY**FORM C****County of Albany
Monthly Utilization Report**

This report must be completed by each firm working on the site and submitted to the General Contractor on a monthly basis. The General Contractor forwards the reports to the County of Albany, Division of Affirmative Action, 112 State Street, Room 670, Albany, NY 12207. Fax (518) 447-5586 For assistance call (518) 447-7010.

Contractor: _____ Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax Number: _____ Federal ID No.: _____

Project Name: _____ Project Cost: _____ Completion Date: _____

Reporting Period: _____ **Month** _____ **Year**

Trade	Number of Hours Worked by Minorities	Number of Hours Worked by Women	Number of Hours Worked by Non-Minorities	Total Hours Worked
Total(s)				

Information provided by (please print): _____ **Date:** _____
(See over for instructions)

M/W/DBE Payments

M/W/DBE Firm (s) Participating On The Project	Payments Made This Month	Payments Made To Date

INSTRUCTIONS

This form must be completed and submitted by the Contractor/Vendor by the **10th** of each month for the duration of the contract. The form must be accompanied by copies of checks (front and back) made payable to MBE/WBE subcontractor and suppliers.

This form is required pursuant to the contract specifications. Failure to submit will result in non-compliance.

County of Albany
Department of Human Resources
Division of Affirmative Action
112 State Street, Room 670, Albany, NY 12207
Phone: (518) 447-7010

NOTE: IF THERE IS NO ACTIVITY FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD, PLEASE NOTE ACCORDINGLY.

Waiver Request for Subcontracting and/or Labor Performance

If your firm has determined that it is not feasible to meet the subcontracting and/or labor performance goals specified in the contract, complete and return this form within fifteen days of the Notice of Award. The request must identify reasons why the firm cannot reach the labor and subcontractor goals applicable. The Division of Affirmative Action will evaluate each waiver individually. Please be advised that submission of this request does not guarantee waiver of the requirements. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

Contractor: _____ Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax Number: _____ Federal ID No.: _____

Contract Type/Number: _____ Project Cost: _____

☐ **Request Waiver of Minority/Woman Labor Participation Goal. Please explain:**

Actions taken to include minority/women labor _____

☐ **Request Waiver of Minority Subcontractor Participation Goal. Please explain:**

Actions taken to include MBE and/or WBE Subcontractor(s) _____

Name (please print)

Signature

Title