

SMALL PURCHASE TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR TANGIBLE GOODS AND SERVICES

These Terms and Conditions, specifically for procurements of tangible goods and/or services that will not exceed \$100,000, are an essential part of this Purchase Order ("Order" or "Contract"). Acceptance of this Order is acceptance of these Terms and Conditions, which shall supersede and replace any and all terms and conditions offered by Seller, without exception.

All legal notices to be given pursuant to this Contract shall be sufficient if given in writing, delivered in person, delivered by bonded delivery service, or sent by registered or certified mail, postage prepaid. Legal notice to Seller will be sent to the postal address identified as the location to which GCRTA shall make payment for goods/services rendered, unless Seller has provided, in writing, a different address to the GCRTA Contract Administrator. Legal notices to GCRTA shall be sent to: GCRTA, c/o: General Manager/CEO, 1240 W. 6th St., Cleveland, Ohio 44113. Notices sent by delivery service or commercial carrier shall be deemed effective and complete at the time of delivery.

1. Seller's Obligation. The general obligation of the Seller shall be to transfer and deliver the goods and services specified in accordance with the terms, conditions, and specifications of the solicitation.

2. Buyer's Obligation. The general obligation of the GCRTA be to accept conforming delivery and conforming goods and services and to pay in accordance with the terms, conditions and specifications of the Contract.

3. Quantity and Quality. Seller agrees to deliver goods and services of the kind and quality specified, and in the quantities specified. In the case of a requirements Contract, the solicitation specifies estimates of the GCRTA's needs for the Contract duration. It is agreed that such estimates are not to be considered firm requirements. Actual requirements may exceed or be less than these estimates.

4. Delivery. Seller shall tender delivery in the manner and at the place and time specified in the solicitation. All deliveries are to be F.O.B. destination, or as otherwise designated in the GCRTA solicitation documents. It is agreed that the bid prices include freight.

5. Inspection. The GCRTA reserves the right and shall be at liberty to inspect all materials and workmanship to determine whether they conform to the specifications provided. However, the GCRTA is under no duty to make such inspection. Whether or not GCRTA conducts an inspection, no such inspection shall relieve Seller of any obligation to furnish materials and workmanship strictly in accordance with the specifications. GCRTA will receive conforming deliveries for purposes of inspection. Acceptance of goods and services will not occur until after inspection or until a reasonable time for inspection has elapsed. The risk of loss shall remain with Seller until acceptance.

GCRTA may test deliveries before or after acceptance for conformance with the specifications. Such tests may be performed by independent laboratories. Where test results indicate non-conforming goods the delivery and the goods will be rejected and the cost of the test charged to Seller. Where acceptance has preceded testing, acceptance is deemed conditional and subject to revocation. GCRTA may reject goods and services and revoke its acceptance without testing.

6. Payment. GCRTA shall be entitled to any and all discounts stated on the face hereof. Payments will be made against approved invoices generally within thirty (30) days of receipt of invoice. Late payments will accrue no interest. Payment will only be made for goods and services accepted. For goods and services accepted, when acceptance is later revoked prior to payment, payment will be

withheld until defects in the nonconforming goods or services are cured and accepted. In the case of serial deliveries and serial invoicing, GCRTA reserves the right to deduct overpayments from current invoice amounts. Payment does not constitute acceptance, nor does it serve to waive a later revocation of acceptance.

All invoices submitted to GCRTA for payment shall include the Purchase Order number. Invoices shall be payable to: Accounts Payable, Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority, 1240 West 6th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44113-1331.

The GCRTA is exempt from all sales, excise and transportation taxes, except State of Ohio gasoline tax. The price or prices bid, whether a unit price, lump sum price, lot price or a trade discount from catalog list prices shall be exclusive of all such taxes and will be so construed.

7. Patents. Seller shall pay all royalties and license fees attributable to the use of goods, materials, equipment or processes used to perform its obligations hereunder and, if it cannot timely secure the right for GCRTA to use them, it shall provide GCRTA equivalent non-infringing replacements at no additional cost to GCRTA. Seller agrees to defend and hold harmless the GCRTA from and against all claims of infringement.

8. Warranties. Seller warrants that for a period of one (1) year (or for such longer period as prescribed by the specifications or commercially offered by the manufacturer or Seller) following first use of the goods and services delivered hereunder, the goods and services are free of defects in materials and workmanship and further warrants that such goods and services are suited for the particular purpose(s) intended and are of merchantable quality. Seller further warrants that it holds good and marketable title in the goods delivered, and that such goods are free of all liens, security interests or other encumbrances. Seller agrees that in the event the goods or services are not as warranted, it will promptly cure the defect at Seller's sole cost and expense. Seller further agrees to indemnify GCRTA for all costs and damages, both incidental and consequential, resulting from the delivery of goods and services that fail to meet the aforesaid warranties. It is agreed that the goods and services provided hereunder are regarded as consumer goods and services.

9. Assignment. The Seller shall not assign, transfer, convey, sublet or otherwise dispose of the Contract or its right, title or interest in or to the same or any part thereof without prior written consent of the GCRTA endorsed thereon or attached thereto, and any such attempt at assignment shall be void.

10. Compliance with Laws and Regulations. All materials and supplies furnished pursuant to the specifications shall be in compliance with the laws and regulations of the United States and State of Ohio. Seller shall, if requested by the GCRTA, supply certification and evidence of such compliance. The Contract shall be construed pursuant to the laws of the State of Ohio. This Contract may be supported in part by Federal assistance under grants made by the Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration, pursuant to the Urban Mass Transportation Administration Act of 1964 and amendments (49 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) and Surface Transportation Assistance Acts of 1982 and 1987. When so funded this Contract shall be subject to all rules and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto.

11. Debarment & Suspension. For any transaction of \$25,000 and above, Seller must disclose to GCRTA any debarment and/or suspension.

12. Prohibited Interest. No officer, member or employee of the GCRTA and no members of its governing body, and no other public office or employee of the governing body of the locality or

localities included within the GCRTA, during his or her tenure, shall have any interest, direct or indirect, in this solicitation, any Contract negotiated subsequently, or the proceeds thereof.

13. Termination. The GCRTA may, by written notice to the Seller, terminate the whole or any part of this Contract.

- a. Termination for Default.** GCRTA may terminate this Contract for default, if within ten (10) days after receiving notice from the GCRTA, Seller fails to make delivery of conforming goods or to perform the services as required within the time specified herein or any extension thereof; or if the Seller fails to perform any of the other provisions of this Contract, or so fails to make progress so as to endanger performance of this Contract in accordance with its terms. Thereafter, the GCRTA may have the work completed and the Seller shall be liable for any resulting cost to the GCRTA.
- b. Termination for Convenience.** GCRTA may terminate performance of work under this Contract in whole or in part for its convenience for any reason or for no reason at all without obligation to Seller other than for Seller's prior performance. GCRTA requires Seller to perform prior to the date GCRTA gives notice of such termination to Seller.

14. Socio-Economic Development. For purchases in excess of \$25,000, Seller agrees to comply with applicable federal and state laws/regulations that afford competitive opportunities for a Seller that qualifies as a disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE), minority owned firm, women's business enterprise, or small business.

15. Wage and Hour. All Sellers and sub-sellers must compute wages based on a standard workweek of 40 hours. Work in excess of 40 hours must be paid at a rate not less than one and one-half times the basic rate of pay. Compliance with 40 USC Sec. 3702, 29 CFR Part 5, and 40 USC Sec 3701(B)(3)(A)(iii) is required of all Sellers and sub-sellers.

16. Hazardous Materials. Where the goods or services procured involve the use or storage of hazardous materials on RTA premises in Cleveland, Seller agrees to meet the requirements of Cleveland Codified Ordinance Section 394. Seller shall:

- (a) Label the containers of hazardous or toxic substances that it delivers in accordance with the requirements of Federal and State 4.06 (A).
- (b) Provide labels and placards for use by GCRTA when deliveries are made in bulk and are to be stored by GCRTA in stationary containers pursuant to C.O.C. Section 394.06(B).
- (c) Provide the hazard warnings applicable to the delivered goods that are required C.O.C., Section 394.06(d).
- (d) Provide all material safety data sheets required C.O.C., Section 394.09

The delivery of the aforesaid information must accompany the delivery of the goods. Goods will not be inspected or accepted unless tendered in said manner.

17. Contract Amendments. This Contract may be amended in writing only by properly authorized written change order.

18. Governing Law/Venue. This Contract shall be governed by and interpreted pursuant to the laws of the United States, the State of Ohio, and the Courts of Cuyahoga County, as appropriate,

notwithstanding any provisions or such law relating to jurisdiction. Should any part or parts of this Contract be held unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, such determination shall not affect the remainder thereof and the balance shall remain in full force and effect.

19. Documents and Records (Paper and Electronic). Documents and records, including electronic records, created and maintained by the Seller under this Contract may be subject to the Ohio Public Records Act, Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43 *et seq.* The Seller shall maintain all documents and records related to this Contract, including electronic records, in accordance with GCRTA's records retention policy and schedule. Under that policy, contracts are retained for fifteen (15). Prior to destruction of any documents or records related to this Contract, the Seller shall comply with the provisions of GCRTA's records retention policy relating to destruction of records.

To the extent that the Seller becomes aware of actual or potential litigation related to this Contract, the Seller shall immediately notify the Authority's Deputy General Manager for Legal Affairs. The Seller shall preserve any and all records, including electronic records, created or maintained under this contract until advised by the GCRTA Legal Department, in writing, that they are no longer needed. Any court order issued under this paragraph shall supersede any previously or subsequently established destruction schedule for such records.

20. Right to Audit. Seller shall maintain books, records, documents, and other evidence directly pertinent to the performance of the Work under this Contract in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and practices consistently applied and Federal Acquisition Regulations, Parts 30 and 31, as applicable. GCRTA and its authorized representatives shall have the right to audit, to examine and to make copies of or extracts from all financial and related records (in whatever form they may be kept, whether written, electronic, or other) relating to or pertaining to this Contract kept by or under the control of the Seller, including, but not limited to those kept by the Seller, its employees, agents, assigns, successors and sub-sellers. Such records shall include, but not be limited to, accounting records, written policies and procedures; subcontract files; all paid vouchers including those for out-of-pocket expenses; other reimbursement supported by invoices; ledgers; cancelled checks; deposit slips; bank statements; journals; original estimates; estimating work sheets; contract amendments and change order files; back charge logs and supporting documentation; insurance documents; payroll documents; timesheets; memoranda; and correspondence. Seller shall, at all times during the term of this Contract and for a period of three years after the completion of this Contract, maintain such records, together with such supporting or underlying documents and materials. The Seller shall at any time requested by GCRTA, whether during or after completion of this Contract, and at Seller's own expense make such records available for inspection and audit (including copies and extracts of records as required) by GCRTA. Such records shall be made available to GCRTA during normal business hours at the Seller's office or place of business. In the event that no such location is available, then the financial records, together with the supporting or underlying documents and records, shall be made available for audit at a time and location that is convenient for GCRTA. Seller shall ensure GCRTA has these rights with Seller's employees, agents, assigns, successors, and sub-sellers, and the obligations of these rights shall be explicitly included in any subcontracts or agreements formed between the Seller and any sub-sellers to the extent that those subcontracts or agreements relate to fulfillment of the Seller's obligations to GCRTA. If the audit discovers substantive findings related to fraud, misrepresentation, or non-performance, GCRTA may recoup the costs of the audit work from the Seller. Any adjustments and/or payments that must be made as a result of any such audit or inspection of the Seller's invoices and/or records shall be made within a reasonable amount of time (not to exceed 90 days) from presentation of GCRTA's findings to Seller.

21. Reporting of Fraudulent/Improper Acts. If Seller suspects or has knowledge of unethical, improper and/or fraudulent acts by GCRTA personnel, including, but not limited to, conflicts of

interest, bribery, fraud, waste, abuse, extortion, and kickbacks, the Seller shall contact the GCRTA Executive Director of Internal Audit on the GCRTA Fraud Hotline (216-350-5130).

22. Indemnification. To the fullest extent permitted by law and to the full extent of Seller's intentional, reckless or negligent acts or omissions, the Seller shall, at its sole cost and expense, indemnify, defend, satisfy all judgments, and hold harmless GCRTA and its officials, agents, representatives, and employees from and against all claims, actions, judgments, costs, penalties, liabilities, damages, losses and expenses, including but not limited to attorney's fees and worker's compensation benefits, for Seller's intentional, reckless or negligent acts or omissions arising out of or resulting from the subject matter of this Agreement, or the acts or omissions of any person or contracted entity directly or indirectly employed or contracted by Seller.

In the event of negligence or intentional acts or omissions by more than one entity, responsibility for such negligence or intentional acts or omissions will be allocated in accordance with the proportionate share of such entity(ies)' negligence or intentional acts or omissions. Nothing herein shall be construed as making Seller liable for any claims, actions, judgments, costs, penalties, liabilities, damages or losses and expenses caused by the sole negligence and/or misconduct of GCRTA.

To the extent that any portion of this provision is found to be in violation of any applicable law, said portion(s) of this provision are stricken but all remaining portions of this provision shall remain in full force and effect.

23. Insurance. Seller shall obtain and maintain for the life of this contract the following minimum insurance coverage. Such insurance shall protect the Seller from claims which may arise out of or result from the Seller's operations under the Contract and for which the Seller may be legally liable, whether such operations be by the Seller or by a sub-seller or by anyone employed directly or indirectly by any of them, or by anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable.

It is to be understood that the GCRTA does not in any way represent that the insurance or the limits of insurance specified herein are sufficient or adequate to protect the Seller's interests or liabilities.

In the event the Seller neglects, refuses or fails to provide the insurance required under the contract documents, or as such insurance is cancelled for any reason, the GCRTA shall have right but not the duty to procure the same, and costs thereof shall be deducted from monies then due or thereafter to become due to the Seller.

GCRTA reserves the right to request a copy of all policies and endorsements prescribed herein.

- a. **Commercial General Liability (CGL) Insurance** in the amount of \$1,000,000 combined single limit each occurrence for bodily injury and/or property damage and with a \$1,000,000 annual aggregate. Policy to include:
 - Contractual liability coverage insuring the "hold harmless" provision.
 - GCRTA will accept any combination of primary CGL and Excess or Umbrella policies to meet the minimum coverage requirements above.
 - Products / Completed Operations liability insurance: This insurance must be maintained for a period of not less than 5 years from the date of final payment.
- b. **Business Automobile Liability (BAL) Insurance** in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 combined single limit each accident for bodily injury and/or property damage. Said policy shall apply to all owned, leased, hired and non-owned vehicles used in connection with the work.

- c. **Statutory Workers' Compensation Coverage** in compliance with all applicable state workers' compensation laws to cover all employees furnishing labor under the terms of this contract and under the control of the Seller. Employers' Liability coverage in the amount of \$1,000,000 per accident / \$1,000,000 per employee for disease will also be included, either under the Workers' Compensation policy or under the Commercial General Liability policy (Stop Gap) referenced under a. above. In Ohio, a copy of a certificate of premium payment from the Industrial commission and Bureau of Workers Compensation, or a copy of the Certificate of Employer's Right to Pay Compensation Directly.
- d. ***If the Contract involves the provision of any professional services to GCRTA (e.g., design, professional consulting/analysis or receipt of confidential or personally identifiable information (PII)): Professional Liability / Errors & Omissions Insurance*** in the amount of \$1 million per claim. The definition of wrongful acts must be applicable to the work performed hereunder.
- If the Contract involves receipt of personally identifiable information (PII) or other confidential information, Seller's professional liability insurance must include cyber risk coverage, including network and internet security liability coverage, privacy liability coverage, and media coverage.
- e. ***If the Contract could result in fumes, hazardous materials or other potential pollutant or if the Contract involves Construction which could cause ground or air pollution: Contractor's Pollution Liability Insurance*** for bodily injury and property damage coverage with a combined single limit for bodily injury and property damage of \$1,000,000.00. This insurance shall include coverage for, but not be limited to, sudden and accidental discharges, gradual discharges, clean-up of pollutants and disposal thereof, as well as mold, asbestos and/or lead in an abatement contract. The policy must be maintained for a period of 2 years from contract completion, or the Seller may satisfy this requirement with the purchase of a 2-year extended reporting period.

General Requirements: The Seller shall not commence work herein until it has obtained the required insurance and has received written approval of such insurance by the GCRTA. ***Seller shall furnish evidence of such insurance in the form of a certificate (Accord or similar form).***

24. Federally Funded Contracts. For special federal requirements related to procurements of tangible goods and/or services funded with federal grant dollars, see Special Federal Terms & Conditions.

END OF GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

SPECIAL FEDERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. Federal Funding Requirements & Required Provisions Deemed Inserted. Seller agrees to comply with applicable third-party procurement requirements of 49 USC Chapter 53, Public Transportation, and federal laws in effect now or subsequently enacted; with applicable USDOT third party procurement regulations at 49 CFR 18.36, and with other applicable federal regulations pertaining to third party procurements and later amendments thereto.

Seller agrees to follow the provisions of the most recent edition and revisions of FTA Circular 4220.1F, "Third Party Contracting Guidance," and any later revision thereto, except to the extent FTA determines otherwise in writing. The Seller agrees that it may not use FTA assistance to support its third-party procurements unless its compliance with federal laws and regulations is satisfactory. Although the FTA "Best Practices Procurement Manual" provides additional third-party contracting information, the Seller understands and agrees that the FTA "Best Practices Procurement Manual" may omit certain federal requirements applicable to specific third-party contracts.

Each and every clause required by federal or state statute or regulation to be inserted into this Contract is deemed to be inserted herein and this Contract shall be read and enforced as though it were included herein. If through mistake or otherwise any such provision is not inserted, or is not correctly inserted, then upon the application of either party the Agreement shall forthwith be amended to make such insertion or correction

2. Prevailing Wage. For contracts over two thousand & 00/100 dollars (\$2,000.00), Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 3141 et seq.), 49 U.S.C. 5333, and 29 C.F.R. Part 5 prevailing wage protections apply to laborers and mechanics. Award of any contract with GCRTA or subcontractor is conditioned upon acceptance and approval that any Contractor or subcontractor has met the DOL prevailing wage determination.

3. Anti-Kickback. Seller must comply with provisions of the Copeland "Anti-Kickback" Act (18 U.S.C. 874 and 40 U.S.C. 3145) and implementing regulations (29 C.F.R. Part 3). Sellers shall be prohibited from inducing, by any means, any person employed in the construction, completion, or repair of public work, to give up any part of the compensation to which he/she is otherwise entitled.

4. Recycled Products/Energy Conservation. Seller agrees to comply with the requirements of Section 6002 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6962), including but not limited to the regulatory provisions of 40 C.F.R. Part 247, and Executive Order 12873, as they apply to the subject matter of this Contract and where applicable purchases exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000). Seller further agrees to comply with applicable mandatory energy efficiency standards and policies of applicable state energy conservation plans issued pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 6321 et seq and 49 C.F.R. Part 622.

5. Environmental Indemnity. Seller agrees for itself, its officers, employees and agents that it will hold harmless, indemnify and defend GCRTA, its Board, Officers, and employees from and against all claims, demands, findings, judgments, orders, or actions arising out of or in any way connected with the Services provided to GCRTA under this Contract, including without limitation, all activities associated with the loading, transport, unloading and disposal of any and all substances under the purview of any law, rule, order or ordinance, promulgated for the protection of the environment such as and without limiting the foregoing, CERCLA, SARA, RCRA, TSCA, SDNA, Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Right to Know Laws, and the state equivalents of each of the foregoing. Seller further agrees that the defense guaranteed hereby shall be provided by a lawyer or firm or firms selected by GCRTA.

6. No Obligation by the Federal Government. Seller and GCRTA agree that, notwithstanding any concurrence by the Federal Government in or approval of the solicitation or award of the underlying Contract, absent the express written consent of the Federal Government, the Federal Government is not a party to this Contract and shall not be subject to any obligations or liabilities to the GCRTA, the Seller or any other party pertaining to any matter resulting from the underlying Contract. Seller further agrees to include this clause, without modification, in any subcontract issued hereunder.

7. Program Fraud and False or Fraudulent Statements or Related Acts. Seller agrees that:

- a. Civil Fraud.** The Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986, as amended, and 49 CFR 31, Program Fraud Civil Remedies, apply to the Seller's activities in connection with the Project. By executing the Contract, the Seller certifies or affirms the truthfulness and accuracy of each statement it has made, it makes, or it may make in connection with the Project. In addition to other penalties that may apply, the Seller also acknowledges that if it makes a false, fictitious, or fraudulent claim, statement, submission, certification, assurance, or representation to the federal government, the federal government reserves the right to impose on the Seller the penalties of 31 USC 3801 et seq., as implemented in 49 CFR 31, to the extent the federal government deems appropriate; and
- b. Criminal Fraud.** If the Seller makes a false, fictitious, or fraudulent claim, statement, submission, certification, assurance, or representation to the federal government or includes a false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation in any agreement with the federal government in connection with a project authorized under 49 USC Chapter 53 or any other federal law, the federal government reserves the right to impose on the Seller the penalties of 49 USC 5323(l), 18 USC 1001, or other applicable federal law to the extent the federal government deems appropriate.

8. Shipments. Should equipment, materials or commodities provided hereunder be transported by ocean vessel, Seller shall comply with the requirements of 46 U.S.C. 55305 and 46 C.F.R. Part 381 regarding the use of privately owned U.S. Flag commercial vessels and ensure all applicable subcontracts contain the same requirements. Should equipment, materials or commodities provided hereunder be transported by air carrier, Seller shall comply with 49 U.S.C. 40118 and implementing regulations, 41 C.F.R. Part 301-10.131, and 49 C.F.R. Part 47.4.

9. Motor Vehicle Safety. Pursuant to Federal Executive Order No. 13043, Seller is encouraged to adopt and promote on-the-job seat belt use for its employees and other personnel operating vehicles involved in the project. Seller further agrees to adopt and enforce workplace safety policies to decrease crashes caused by distracted drivers, including policies to ban text messaging while operating vehicles.

10. Covenant Against Contingent Fees and Gratuities. If the cost of this Contract, including all amendments and change orders, exceeds \$250,000, the Seller warrants that no person or selling agencies has been employed or retained to solicit or secure this Contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission or bonafide established commercial or selling agencies maintained by the Seller for the purpose of securing business. For breach or violation of this warranty, the Authority shall have the right to annul this Contract without liability or at its discretion, to deduct from the Contract price, or otherwise recover the full amount or such commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fees. Seller further warrants that it, its agent, and/or its sub-Seller, have not and will not accept a gratuity in relation to this agreement.

11. Non-Discrimination/Preference. Seller agrees that it will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, age or disability in accordance with the following Federal Statutes and regulations, and any other implementing regulations issued pursuant to the: Civil Rights Act as amended, Titles VI (42 U.S.C. 2000d) and VII (42 U.S.C. 2000e); Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6102); Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 as amended, (29 U.S.C. 623) and implementing regulations (45 C.F.R. Part 90 and 29 C.F.R. Part 1625); Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) and implementing regulations (29 C.F.R. Part 1630), Federal transit law (49 U.S.C. 5332); Executive Order 11246, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2000e note) and implementing regulations (41 C.F.R. Parts 60 et seq.). The Seller also agrees to include these requirements in each subcontract financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by the Federal Transit Administration.

Seller agrees that it must carry out applicable requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 in the award and administration of federally funded contracts. Failure by the Seller to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this Contract, which may result in the termination of this contract or such other remedy as GCRTA deem appropriate, including, but not limited to:

- a) Withholding monthly progress payments; and/or
- b) Assessing sanctions; and/or
- c) Liquidated damages; and/or
- d) Disqualifying Seller from future bidding, as non-responsible.

For capital projects funded, in whole or in part, with federal funds, Seller shall give a hiring preference, to the extent practicable, to veterans (as defined in section 2108 of title 5 of the United States Code) who have the requisite skills and abilities to perform the construction work required under the contract. This provision does not require the Seller to give preference to any veteran over any equally qualified applicant who is a member of any racial or ethnic minority, female, an individual with a disability, or former employee.

12. Social Security Act. The Seller shall be and remain an independent Seller with respect to all Services performed hereunder and agrees to and does hereby accept full and exclusive liability for the payment of any and all contributions or taxes for social security, unemployment insurance, or old age retirement benefits, pensions, or annuities now or hereafter imposed under any State or federal law which are measured by the wages, salaries or other remuneration paid to persons employed by the Seller for work performed under the terms of this contract and further agrees to obey all lawful rules and regulations and to meet all lawful requirements which are now or hereafter may be issued or promulgated under said respective laws by all duly authorized State or federal law officials, and said Seller agrees to indemnify and save harmless the GCRTA from any such contributions or taxes or liability therefore.

13. Resolution of Disputes, Breaches, or Other Litigation. Seller agrees that FTA has a vested interest in the settlement of any violation of federal law, regulation, or requirement, or any disagreement involving the Award, the accompanying Underlying Agreement, and any Amendments thereto including, but not limited to, a default, breach, major dispute, or litigation involving the Project, and FTA reserves the right to concur in any settlement or compromise. If a current or prospective legal matter that may affect the federal government emerges, the Seller shall promptly notify the FTA Chief Counsel and FTA Regional Counsel for Region V. The Seller shall include an equivalent provision in its sub-agreements at every tier, for any agreement that is a "covered transaction" according to 2 CFR 180.220 and 1200.220.

The types of legal matters that require notification include, but are not limited to, a major dispute, breach, default, litigation, or naming the federal government as a party to litigation or a legal disagreement in any forum for any reason.

14. Reporting of Fraud to the Federal Government. If this Contract is funded, in whole or in part, with federal dollars and Seller has knowledge of potential fraud, waste, or abuse occurring on a Project receiving assistance from FTA, Seller shall promptly notify the US DOT Inspector General, in addition to the FTA Chief Counsel or Regional Counsel for Region V. The notification provision applies if a person has or may have submitted a false claim under the False Claims Act, 31 USC 3729 et seq., or has or may have committed a criminal or civil violation of law pertaining to such matters as fraud, conflict of interest, bid rigging, misappropriation or embezzlement, bribery, gratuity, or similar misconduct involving federal assistance. This responsibility occurs whether the Project is subject to this Agreement or another agreement between GCRTA and FTA. It also applies to sub-sellers at any tier. Knowledge, as used in this paragraph, includes, but is not limited to, knowledge of a criminal or civil investigation by a federal, state, or local law enforcement or other investigative agency, a criminal indictment or civil complaint, or probable cause that could support a criminal indictment, or any other credible information in the possession of the Seller. In this paragraph, “promptly” means to refer information without delay and without change.