



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP NAME: TREE MAINTENANCE SERVICES

RFP NUMBER: 03-21-002

RFP DUE: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 @ 2:00 P.M. Central

Waubonsee Community College (Waubonsee) seeks sealed proposals from qualified Firms (also referred to as Contractor, Respondent, Company and Vendor) to provide tree maintenance services for all four college campuses as outlined in this Request for Proposal (RFP). The agreement will be for one year with the option to renew for two additional one-year periods. This RFP does not imply a guarantee of purchase.

The Contractor shall furnish all labor, tools, equipment, materials, and supervision necessary to perform pruning, removal of trees, stump grinding and application of plant health products. Included with this would be the clean-up and disposal and/or recycling of generated green waste along with other certified tree arborist services.

All correspondence or questions concerning this RFP should be addressed to purchasing@waubonsee.edu.

Submit your proposal in electronic format by email to purchasing@waubonsee.edu. Do not send or deliver a hard copy to the college.

Version: 1.0

Sugar Grove

Rt. 47 at Waubonsee Drive
Sugar Grove, IL 60554-9454
(630) 466-7900

Aurora Downtown

18 S. River St.
Aurora, IL 60506-4131
(630) 801-7900

Aurora Fox Valley

2060 Ogden Ave.
Aurora, IL 60504-7222
(630) 585-7900

Plano

100 Waubonsee Drive
Plano, IL 60545-2276
(630) 552-7900

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COLLEGE OVERVIEW

Waubonsee Community College (Waubonsee), located forty-five miles west of Chicago, Illinois, has served more than 300,000 students since its inception. As one of 48 public community colleges in the Illinois Community College System, Waubonsee is governed by a board of trustees composed of seven community members elected from the district at large and a student trustee selected by the student body. Waubonsee serves 22 municipalities, 12 public high school districts and nine private high schools in a five-county, 600-square-mile district. In order to proactively address student and community needs, Waubonsee has cultivated a learning-centered culture that values, and an infrastructure that advances, continuous quality improvement.

Main Campus

Waubonsee Community College Sugar Grove Campus, 45783 State Route 47, Sugar Grove, Illinois 60554

Extension Campuses

Waubonsee Community College Plano Campus, 100 Waubonsee Drive, Plano, Illinois 60545

Waubonsee Community College Aurora Downtown Campus, 18 South River St. Aurora, Illinois, 60506

Waubonsee Community College Fox Valley Campus, 2060 Ogden Ave, Aurora, Illinois 60504

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

RFP Schedule

- RFP Publication Date Wednesday, March 31, 2021
- Closed to Questions Friday, April 9, 2021 at 5 p.m.
- Responses Due Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.
- Recommendation of Award Wednesday, May 19, 2021

Information

1. Waubonsee Community College does not guarantee any dollar amount or how many times this contract may be utilized during the life of the contract.
2. The annual contract period will be June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2022, with two (2) additional twelve-month periods.
3. RFP documents are available for download from the college's purchasing webpage at <https://www.waubonsee.edu/local-businesses-employers-and-vendors/bidrfprfi-opportunities>.
4. Respondents may visit each campus to verify the plants and trees to be considered as part of this RFP. There is no preproposal meeting scheduled.
5. Respondents may not contact any college employee directly to discuss this RFP. All correspondence or questions concerning the RFP should be addressed to Purchasing@Waubonsee.edu.
6. All work performed as a result of this RFP is subject to the college's Standard Terms and Conditions

incorporated and made as part of this RFP. No work shall be performed prior to the issuance of a Waubonsee Community College purchase order with authorized signatures. All work must be approved in writing and in advance. Contractor(s) shall comply with all procedural instructions issued by the Campus Safety and Operations Department.

- a. Terms and Conditions may be downloaded from the college's website or requested by email to purchasing@waubonsee.edu.
7. Respondents are responsible for checking the college's purchasing webpage for updates to the RFP and will be required to acknowledge receipt of the addenda in their RFP response.
8. All questions regarding this RFP will be responded to by addendum. Addenda will be posted to the college's purchasing webpage.
9. All proposal prices must be good for a period of ninety (90) days from the date of opening.
10. A purchase order will be issued to the awarded Contractor. No work can begin prior to award of orders and the college has received certificates of insurance.
11. Invoices are paid monthly for work completed or as negotiated in the executed contract.
12. The college's payment terms are net 30 days.

Proposal Submission

1. **Submit your proposal in electronic format by email to purchasing@waubonsee.edu. Do not mail or deliver a hard copy.**
2. Proposals received after the date and time specified in this RFP will not be considered.
3. **RFP is not binding on Waubonsee.** This RFP is not a binding offer by Waubonsee and acceptance of the terms of this RFP by any Respondent shall not create a binding contract with Waubonsee Community College. Waubonsee reserves the right to negotiate the terms and conditions of any agreement that may result from this Request for Proposal process, including the terms set forth herein and in any proposal. Any future contract that may be awarded must comply with college procurement requirements.
4. **Proposals Shall Constitute An Offer.** A proposal submitted in response to this RFP shall constitute an offer of the Respondent. The signature of a person who is legally authorized to execute contractual obligations on behalf of the Respondent shall indicate acknowledgment of this condition. A submission in response to this RFP acknowledges acceptance by the Respondent of all terms and conditions as set forth herein, unless the response specifically indicates otherwise. A Respondent shall identify clearly and thoroughly any variations between its proposal and the RFP in the cover letter. Failure to do so shall be deemed a waiver of any rights to subsequently modify the terms of any contract that may result from this RFP, except as outlined or specified in the RFP.
5. All proposals must be signed by a duly authorized representative of the firm; all unsigned proposals will be rejected.
6. Proposals may be withdrawn by written request from Respondent prior to the date and time established for the opening.

Evaluation Process

1. The college reserves the right to:
 - a. Select the proposal most responsive to the college's needs.
 - b. Award the contract to the firm who will best serve the interests of the college at the college's sole discretion.
 - c. Require a firm to submit any evidence of its qualifications as the college may deem necessary and to consider any evidence available such as financial, technical and other capabilities, including performance experience with past and present users.
 - d. Request additional information or clarifications and to allow corrections of errors and omissions.
 - e. Waive minor irregularities or variations to specifications in the process.
 - f. Conduct any investigation of the qualifications of any firm that it deems appropriate.
2. A selection committee consisting of the staff from the college will review all proposals. The following criteria and their identified weight will be used by Waubensee Community College to evaluate the responses.
 - a. Technical Evaluation:**
 - i. Expressed understanding of proposal objectives (5%)
 - ii. Qualifications, professional affiliations and certifications including the quantity of certified staff (20%)
 - iii. Experience in tree consulting, care, pruning and removal in public spaces (25%)
 - iv. Completeness, thoroughness and detail of response as reflected by the proposal discussion and coverage of all elements of work listed (10%)
 - v. Consistency of the proposed plant healthcare treatments (i.e. Pruning, Fertilization etc.) that meet Waubensee's present and future needs (10%)
 - vi. Ability to respond to a campus emergency in a timely manner and quick response to campus requests relative to location (20%)
 - vii. Assessment of Work Quality, Performance and Working Relationships with Current and Recent Clients (10%)
3. The college may invite one or more finalists to have key personnel who would be engaged in the provision of the services make presentation(s) and/or discuss the proposal. The college will not be liable for expenses incurred in attending this interview.
4. At the college's discretion, the college may invite one or more finalists for a second interview. The college will not be liable for expenses incurred in attending this interview.
5. The college will conduct contract negotiations with the firm whose proposal is deemed most responsive to the college's needs. Until the college acts formally to approve a contract, and until such contract is signed by both parties, the college is legally obligated in no respect. By this Request for Qualifications, the college has not committed itself to undertake the work set forth.

Award

1. The college reserves the right to award this project to one vendor or split the award based on

the best interests of the college.

2. The college reserves the right to reject or accept any or all responses, to extend the due date, to waive technicalities in the documents or repost prior to award of the Contract.
3. Awarded Respondent will be notified after award of orders.

Business Enterprise Program

1. Waubonsee Community College encourages the participation of qualified businesses owned by minorities, females and persons with disabilities in contracts the college awards. This policy shall be furthered by complying with the Business Enterprise for Minorities, Females and Persons with Disabilities Act, 30 ILCS 575/0.01 et seq. and by cooperating with the Illinois Business Enterprise Council.
2. Waubonsee's BEP Participation and Utilization Plan provides additional information and forms to be provided to the college as part of the response to this RFP.

Confidentiality & Proposal Ownership

1. All proposals to the RFP will become the property of Waubonsee Community College and will not be returned.
2. All materials received or created by the college are considered **public records** and subject to disclosure to third parties in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). These records include but are not limited to bid or proposal submittals, agreement documents, contract work product, or other information submitted by a vendor to the college.
3. If the Respondent requests that the college withhold their trade secrets, commercial information or financial information from disclosure to a third party in response to a FOIA request, the Respondent must include in its submittal:
 - a. A written notification specifically identifying such information.
 - b. A statement stating that disclosure of such information will cause competitive harm to the Respondent.
4. Any content not so marked by the Respondent at the time of submittal will be presumed to be open to public inspection.

SCOPE OF WORK

Summary

The purpose of this maintenance contract is to provide Waubonsee Community College's four campuses with the best possible tree maintenance. The selected firm will work closely with the Lead Groundskeeper and/or other staff to ensure the most appropriate care and maintenance of the college's trees.

The Contractor shall furnish all labor, tools, equipment, materials and supervision necessary to perform pruning, removal of trees, stump grinding and application of plant health products. Included with this would be the clean-up and disposal and/or recycling of generated green waste along with other certified tree arborist services.

General

1. Waubonsee seeks submissions from qualified Firms (also referred to as Contractor, Respondent, Company and Vendor) to perform scheduled and emergency tree maintenance for all campus locations.
2. The college had an average annual expenditure for tree maintenance of \$80,000. This estimate however should not be construed to be a minimum or maximum dollar amount spend for the current or future fiscal years.
3. Waubonsee Community College does not guarantee the dollar amount or how many times this contract may be utilized during the life of the contract.
4. The contract dates will be May 19, 2021 through May 18, 2022 with two optional (2) additional twelve-month periods.
5. Purchase order(s) will be issued to the awarded respondent for each scheduled job. No work can begin prior to award of orders and the college has received certificates of insurance.
6. The Contractor shall provide management, supervision, labor, materials, equipment and supplies, and shall be responsible for the efficient, effective, economical services on an as needed, as called basis.
 - a. No additional surcharges for tools and equipment required to perform services will be accepted. Waubonsee Community College reserves the right to independently purchase and/or provide any and all parts, material, supplies, or equipment required to complete any service or repair work.
 - b. Waubonsee will not pay for any trip charges and/or service charges.
 - c. All invoices must include detailed billing.
7. Rapid response is required for emergency situations. All emergency services must be approved by the Building and Grounds Manager or designated representative prior to any work commencing. Emergency tree care response must be prompt and must commence within typically twenty-four (24) hours of request by the college.
8. Tree spurs are authorized to be used only on tree removal and in some emergency situations.
9. Contractor shall provide estimates for work when requested. If Waubonsee deems such quote to be unreasonable, Waubonsee reserves the right to request quotes from other Contractors for such service.
 - a. All work, repairs, service and installations must have a scope of work. The scope of work must be itemized in the quote to Waubonsee.
10. Contractor shall be required to furnish all supervision, labor, equipment and materials necessary to accomplish the work in accordance with the above stated standards. The Contractor shall comply with and perform all tree maintenance services in accordance with all applicable federal,

state and local laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, codes and manufacturer's instructions and shall obtain any licenses or permits required.

- a. Contractor must meet the requirements of the American National Standards, Z133-1-2006, entitled "Safety Requirements for Arboricultural Operation".
 - b. Structural pruning, crown raising, and crown cleaning must be in accordance with the standards set forth by the International Society of Arboriculture Pruning Standards (Best Management Practices), the ANSI A300.
11. Contractor shall make all effort to reduce to a minimum any inconvenience to the students, faculty or staff at Waubensee properties.
 12. Adequate personnel and equipment shall be provided to permit the timely completion of each project.
 13. It is the Contractor's responsibility to examine the site and field verify conditions under which the work is to be done. No allowance will be made for extra expense on the account of error.
 14. Awarded Contractor shall deliver MSDS sheets.
 15. **Appropriate Communications:** When performing any work on campus, the contractor must not volunteer any recommendations, opinions, feedback or other comments to anyone regarding their work. Should anyone ask about their work they should refer them to the Campus Safety and Operations Department. The purpose is to avoid anyone from providing information that is incorrect, is at an inappropriate time or conflicts with the College's normal operating procedures.
 - a. All personnel must be able to read, write, speak and understand English to sufficiently perform the duties of the position.
 - b. The physical, verbal or sexual harassment of any college student, faculty, staff, client or visitor is strictly prohibited. Violation of this policy will be cause for immediate removal of this employee and possible legal repercussions.
 16. Contractor shall comply with and perform all services in accordance with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, codes and manufacturer's instructions.

Covid19 Guidelines

1. All Contractors must comply with the appropriate PPE as described in the College's Covid19 Protocols below. Please note these protocols may change as warranted by the college.
2. Before heading to Waubensee Community College, we ask you to do a self-assessment.
 - a. Measure your body temperature for signs of a fever (100.4° or higher)
 - b. Self-monitor for other symptoms of the virus
 - i. Cough
 - ii. Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - iii. Fatigue
 - iv. Muscle or body aches
 - v. Headache
 - vi. New loss of taste or smell

- vii. Sore throat
 - viii. Congestion or runny nose
 - ix. Nausea or vomiting, etc.
3. If you have a fever or any other symptoms, please stay home and do NOT come to campus.
 4. Everyone visiting our campus must wear a mask in all common areas, including classrooms, service departments, hallways, and restrooms. Even if you are not exhibiting symptoms, you could still be sick, and a mask helps prevent you from infecting others. It also protects you in case you touch your nose or mouth.
 5. If you cannot wear a mask for a medical reason, please let the Chief Plant Operator know. Your medical privacy will be maintained, but more details and documentation may be requested.
 6. If you need a mask, you can pick up a free one at the Campus Operations Building upon signing in for the day.

Working on Campus

1. Contractor's access to, or use of college facilities is strictly limited to the areas needed to perform maintenance or repairs only.
2. Contractor's personnel must work safely and adhere to all industry standards for safe work practices.
3. The Contractor will take all deliberate steps to ensure that their employees and any member of the Waubonsee Community College Community are protected from any chemicals (fumes, spills, or use as specified by manufacturer) used in the performance of any contractual duties and responsibilities.
4. Contractor's personnel are required to sign-in and out at the Campus Safety and Operations building during normal business hours (Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.).
 - a. Contractor will receive a badge and key, if applicable. When signing out keys or access cards is required, the Contractor accepts sole responsibility should they be lost or stolen while in their possession. Any cost associated with replacement and/or re-keying is the responsibility of the contractor and will be deducted from the next invoice as indicated under "Damages".
 - b. Contractors will not access/enter any buildings without utilizing the college issued contractor's badge and will not enter by use of another person's access badge.
 - c. Contractors must sign out and return badges and keys at the end of end of each work day to the Campus Safety and Operations (OPS) building.
5. During non-business hours, the Contractor shall report in and out to the Campus Police Department located in Dickson Center, on the south side of campus at the beginning and end of each work day.
6. Contractor shall commence and end all services on the same workday unless approved by Waubonsee in advance.
7. Uniforms & IDs: When on College property to perform assigned duties, vehicles and personnel must be identifiable. The Contractor and all its employees shall be in uniform with visible

company identification at all times.

8. Contractor's Vehicles: All Contractor vehicles must be clearly identified with company name, phone number and or logo and with any applicable state license numbers.
9. Contractor employees must present themselves with professionalism and be courteous at all times. Contractor employees must observe all College policies.

Storage

1. Contractor shall provide their own locked and secured storage facility or, if available, store all tools and materials in a single well-ventilated space approved by the Campus Safety and Operations Supervisor-in-Charge. Such storage will be at the Contractor's own risk. Used rags, waste, and empty containers shall be removed from the site each night. Storage space shall be maintained and tidy at all times. Contractor shall be responsible for lost or stolen material from these storage locations. The college will not be responsible for the Contractor's property.

Work Coordination

1. The Contractor's supervisor (or working supervisor) must be available via a cell phone that has voicemail and should be on at all times. All cell phone calls must be answered.
2. Contractor and its employees must be cognizant of other Contractors performing work, and must confer with the Campus Safety and Operations Supervisor in charge for any logistical or coordination questions which might arise involving other Contractors.

Cleaning and Waste Disposal

1. Contractor shall be responsible for all cleaning required for work under the Contractor's jurisdiction as well as for keeping all work areas, passageways, ramps, stairs and all other areas of the premises free of accumulation of surplus materials, rubbish, debris and scrap which may be caused by the Contractor's operations.
2. Remove rubbish, debris and scrap promptly upon its accumulation and in no event later than the end of each work day. Waste materials, including hazardous materials removed from the site shall be managed by the contractor and disposed of in accordance with all applicable laws, regulations, codes, rules, and standards.
3. No burning of rubbish or debris will be allowed at the site. Rubbish, debris and scrap shall not be thrown through any window or other opening, or dropped from any great height; it shall be conducted to the ground, to waiting truck(s) or removable container(s) by means of approved chutes or other means of controlled conveyance.
4. Spillages of oil, grease or other liquids which could cause a slippery or otherwise hazardous situation or stain a finished surface shall be cleaned up immediately.
5. If rubbish and debris is not removed, or if surfaces are not cleaned as specified above, ECC reserves the right to have said work done by others and the related cost(s) will be deducted

from monies due the Contractor.

Damage to Public and/or Private Property

1. Extreme care shall be taken by Contractor to safeguard all existing facilities, site amenities, utilities, irrigation systems, windows, and vehicles on or around the job site. Damage done to public and/or private property by the Contractor, shall be the responsibility of the Contractor and shall be repaired and/or replaced by Contractor at no additional cost to the College.
2. The Contractor shall use all means to protect existing objects, structures and vegetation. In the event of damage, the Contractor shall immediately make all repairs, replacements and dressings to damaged materials, to the approval of the College, at no additional cost to the College.

Insurance and Indemnity Requirements

1. **SAFETY:** The Contractor, its agents, employees, material men and its Subcontractors will perform all work on the project in a safe and responsible manner, and in compliance with all Federal, State and local safety requirements and standards.
2. **INDEMNIFICATION:** The work performed by the Contractor shall be at the risk of the Contractor exclusively. To the extent permitted by law, Contractor shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless Owner, affiliated companies of Owner, their partners, joint venturers, representatives, members, designees, officers, directors, shareholders, employees, agents, successors, and assigns ("Indemnified Parties"), from and against any and all claims for bodily injury, death or damage to property, demands, damages, actions, causes of action, suits, losses, judgments, obligations and any liabilities, costs and expenses (including but not limited to investigative and repair costs, attorney's fees and costs, and consultants' fees and costs) which arise in whole or in part or are in any way connected with the Work performed, Materials furnished, or Services provided under this Agreement by Sub-Contractor or its agents.
3. **INSURANCE:** The insurance required shall be written for the duration of the Contract in amounts not less than the following minimum limits or as required by law whichever is greater. The Insurer must give the college at least 30 days prior written notice of cancellation and termination of the firm's coverage thereunder. All subcontractors the firm hires must comply with the same requirements.
 - a. Comprehensive General Liability including Contractor's protective liability, Contractual liability, Completed Operations and Products liability. The latter shall be written for a period of one year from the date of acceptance by the Owner, to be renewed annually as long as the contract is in force. Minimum limits shall be as follows:
 - i. Not less than \$1 million dollars Each Occurrence, \$2 million Products/Completed Operations aggregate, \$1 million Personal and Advertising Injury limits, and \$2 million General Aggregate subject to a per project aggregate.
 - ii. **Firm shall provide Waubensee Community College with a Certificate of Insurance and endorsement naming Waubensee Community College District No. 516, its officers, agents, employees and assigns as Additional Insured**

thereunder on a primary and noncontributory basis.

- b. Workman's Compensation as required by all applicable laws including employer's liability in the amount of \$500,000.00 or as otherwise limited by law.
 - c. Comprehensive Business Automobile Liability including non-ownership and hired car coverage as well as owned vehicles. Minimum limits shall be as follows:
 - i. Written in the amount of not less than \$2 million each accident and covering any auto.
4. **PROPERTY INSURANCE:** It is agreed that the Contractor shall purchase and maintain property insurance for its material left at the job site. Contractor waives all rights of subrogation against Owner for loss of, or damage to, Contractor's work, tools, machinery, equipment, materials or supplies.

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS AND FORMAT

**Information and forms to be returned with proposal*

Format

1. Contractors shall provide a straight-forward, concise description of your firm's capability to satisfy the requirements of this RFP and perform the work described in this RFP. Prepare your responses to this RFP in the format and sequence specified below. Respond specifically to each item in the order as provided. Failure to comply may result in the college rejecting your proposal as non-responsive.
2. Provide all documents in one merged pdf document if possible.

Authorization*

1. Submittal response must include a signed Authorization Form and all forms noted with an * including the Fee Schedule, Certifications, Conflict of Interest Disclosure and Non-Collusion Form, State of Illinois Business Enterprise for Minorities, Females, And Persons with Disabilities Act Information, and the BEP Participation and Utilization Plan.

Firm Information*

1. Provide a brief description of your firm, including but not limited to the following:
 - a. Company name with address and telephone. Name of the principal(s) of the firm.
 - b. Name, telephone number, and email address of a representative of the firm authorized to discuss the proposal.
 - c. Addresses of all offices of the firm. Identify the office which will fulfill this agreement.
 - d. Statement of whether there are any ongoing, pending, or potential legal actions against the firm.
2. Describe the organization, date founded and ownership of your firm and regulatory bodies your firm reports to. Has the firm experienced a significant change in organizational structure, ownership or management during the past three years and, if so, please describe.
3. Identify any work to be subcontracted and provide the subcontractor's company name, contact information, deliverables to be produced and tasked to be performed.
 - a. Waubonsee Community College reserves the right to reject any subcontractor.
4. Include Waubonsee's State of Illinois Business Enterprise Program Participation and Utilization Forms as provided in this RFP.
 - a. If a subcontractor or supplier is needed to fulfill contract requirements, please consider using a small or disadvantaged business. The State's policy is to promote small businesses, including those owned by Veterans, businesses owned and controlled by minorities, females, and persons with disabilities, and sheltered workshops for the severely disabled. We encourage the use of these companies on State contracts and in your commercial activities. See

<https://www2.illinois.gov/cms/business/sell2/bep/pages/default.aspx> for more information regarding these programs.

Experience*

1. Describe your firm and its capabilities.
 - a. The Contractor shall have a minimum of five (5) years of experience in providing tree maintenance services comparable to the requirements of this request for proposal. Experience with customers in higher education and/or state government is preferred.
2. Number of employees and length of service for the following:
 - a. Certified Arborists
 - b. Tree Crew Leader
 - c. General Tree Care Worker
 - d. Grounds Person
 - e. Plant Healthcare Specialist
3. Number of years in business under current name and any past corporate names or affiliations.
4. Number of Employees
5. Own Equipment
6. Professional Organizations
7. Key management and key personnel that would be assigned to this project. Indicate which principals and associates from your firm would be involved in providing services to the college. Provide appropriate background information for each such person and identify his or her responsibilities.
8. Must be able to provide copies of licenses and certificates upon request.
9. Provide a minimum of three (3) education client references for similar services performed, preferably services performed for community colleges.

Tree Inventory Software*

1. Does your company provide a tree inventory software? If yes, please provide information your firm's software program and requirements.

RFP Authorization Form*

All Respondents are required to complete and sign this form.

I HEREBY AUTHORIZE THIS PROPOSAL, ACKNOWLEDGING THAT I UNDERSTAND AND AGREE TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS RFP. I WARRANT THAT ALL INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THE SUBMITTED PROPOSAL IS TRUE AND ACCURATE. I FURTHER WARRANT THAT FAILURE TO HAVE READ ALL THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SOLICITATION SHALL NOT BE CAUSE TO ALTER ANY RESULTING CONTRACT OR REQUEST ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION.

Name of Company

Address

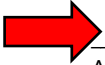
City

State

Zip Code

Telephone Number

Fax Number



Authorized Signatory

Date

Print Name

Title

Email Address

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ADDENDA

Addenda # _____

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
03-21-002 Tree Maintenance Services
April 13, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

Fee Schedule*

Respondent's Company Name:

Type	Number on Permanent Employment	Hourly Rate
ISA Certified Arborists		\$
ISA Certified Utility Arborists		\$
ISA Certified Tree Workers		\$
Tree Inventory Data Collection Specialist		\$
Technical Support for Inventory Software		\$

Size	Service	Service	Service
DBH	Tree Removal	Tree Pruning	Stump Removal/Site Restoration
0"-6"	\$	\$	\$
7"-12"	\$	\$	\$
13"-18"	\$	\$	\$
19"-24"	\$	\$	\$
25"-30"	\$	\$	\$
31"-36"	\$	\$	\$
37" OR >	\$	\$	\$

Tree Inventory Software	
Initial Fees	\$
Reoccurring Fees	\$

Emergency Response Which Includes - Crew Lead, (2) workers, (1) Chip Truck/Aerial Rig, Chipper	\$ _____/hr
--	-------------

Quote for Multiple Years. Cost percentage increase for additional year 2 and year 3
Optional Yr. 2: _____% Optional Yr. 3: _____%

Include on a separate page any other costs or fees that have not been addressed above.

Certifications*

All Respondents are required to complete and sign this form. Completed form must be returned with RFP no later than the advertised deadline. Failure to return this completed form may result in disqualification.

Respondents are cautioned to carefully read these certifications prior to signing below. Signing this page shall constitute a warranty by the undersigned that all of the statements, certifications and information set forth within these certifications are true, complete and correct as of the date signed. The undersigned is notified that if the college learns that any of the following certifications were falsely made, any contract entered into with the undersigned shall be subject to termination.

- 1. Prevailing Wage Act - NOT APPLICABLE TO THIS CONTRACT
- 2. Human Rights Act. To the extent required by law, Contractor shall abide by the Illinois Human Rights Act, 775 ILCS 10/0.01 et seq.
- 3. Drug Free Workplace. To the extent required by law, Contractor shall abide with the requirements of the Drug Free Workplace Act 30 ILCS 580.1 et seq.
- 4. Sexual Harassment Policy. Contractor represents by the signing of this agreement that it has a written sexual harassment policy that is in accordance with 775 ILCS 5/2-105 (A) (4).
- 5. Non-debarment. By executing this agreement Contractor certifies that it has not been debarred from public contracts in the State of Illinois for violating either 33E-3 or 33E-4 of the Public Contracts Act, 720 ILCS 5/33E-1 et seq.
- 6. Fair Employment Practice: Company is in compliance with all State and Federal laws regarding Fair Employment Practice as well as all rules and regulations.
- 7. Our company has an Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action Program which complies with Executive Order 11246, the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
- 8. Our company certifies that it is eligible for bidding on public contracts and is not in violation of either paragraph 33E-3 or 33-E-4 of Public Act 86-150, 720ICLS 5 with regards to bid rigging/bid rotating.
- 9. When required by law, the bidder and all bidder's subcontractors must participate in applicable apprenticeship and training programs approved by and registered with the United States Department of Labor's Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training as required by Illinois Public Act 093-0642.

Authorized Signatory: _____ **Date:** _____

Conflict of Interest Disclosure and Non-Collusion Form*

All Respondents are required to complete and sign this form. Completed form must be returned with Proposal no later than the advertised deadline Failure to return this completed form may result in disqualification.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure

Waubonsee Community College is requiring that any and all relationships with the college, its administrators, trustees, committee member, or any other employee of the college be disclosed in writing as a part of any proposal submitted. Contact in regards to this Proposal with any employee of Waubonsee Community College during the pre-award period, except as noted in the solicitation, is strictly forbidden and is considered sufficient grounds for dismissal from the RFP process.

Define the relationship with any Waubonsee Community College administrator, trustee, committee members, or their immediate family member, with which your company or any of its owners, officers, trustees, employees does business with, or for which there is an opportunity to influence a related college decision.

Respondent certifies that there is no known conflict of interest with any Waubonsee administrator, trustee, committee member or employee of the college.

Non-Collusion Statement

The undersigned affirms that he/she is duly authorized to execute this contract and that this company, corporation, firm, partnership or individual has not prepared this Proposal in collusion with any other Company, and that the contents of this Proposal as to prices, terms or conditions of said RFP have not been communicated by the undersigned, nor by any employee or agent to any other person engaged in this type of business prior to the official opening of this Proposal.

The undersigned further affirms that this Proposal was prepared independently for this project and that it contains no fees or amounts other than for legitimate execution of this work as specified and that it includes no understandings or agreements in restraint of trade.

Firm Name: _____

By: _____
(Authorized Signatory)

_____ Title

State of Illinois Business Enterprise for Minorities, Females, And Persons with Disabilities Act Information*

Vendor shall provide the college with the following information on the status of its own company. Mark as not applicable if your firm does not meet any of these criteria.

Providing this information does not eliminate the requirement to complete Waubonsee's BEP Participation and Utilization Plan as part of your response to this RFP.

Certifying Organization

- DCMS (Department of Central Management Services) Business Enterprise Program
- CMBDC (Chicago Minority Business Development Council)
- IDOT (Illinois Department of Transportation)
- WBDC (Women's Business Development Center)
- Other (Please Specify) _____
- Not Applicable

Identified Certified Business Status (___ MBE ___ WBE ___ DBE ___ VOB)

Minority-owned (MBE), Woman-owned (WBE), Disadvantage-owned (DBE), or Veteran Owned Business (VOB)

- African American
- Alaskan Native/Native American
- Asian American
- Disabled
- Female
- Hispanic American
- Veteran
- Not Applicable

Small Business

- HUBZone small business
- Service-disabled veteran-owned small business
- Small Business
- Small disadvantaged business
- Veteran-owned small business
- Women-owned small business
- Not Applicable

For more information on obtaining certification, please visit:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/cms/business/sell2/bep/pages/default.aspx>

Waubonsee BEP Utilization and Participation Plan*

Waubonsee BEP Utilization and Participation Plan begins on the next page and is to be completed and returned as part of your response to this RFP.

WAUBONSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

APPENDIX B - BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PROGRAM MINORITIES, FEMALES, PERSONS WITH DISABILITY PARTICIPATION AND UTILIZATION PLAN

The Business Enterprise Program Act for Minorities, Females and Persons with Disabilities (BEP) establishes a goal for contracting with businesses that have been certified as owned and controlled by persons who are minorities (MBE), female (FBE, also referred to as WBE), or persons with disabilities (DBE) (collectively, BEP certified vendor(s)). 30 ILCS 575.

Contract Goal to be Achieved by Vendor: This solicitation includes a specific **BEP** participation goal of 20% of the total dollar amount awarded to MBEs and FBEs, based on the availability of BEP certified vendors to perform or provide the anticipated services and/or supplies required by this solicitation. At least 50% of that total dollar amount should be awarded to WBEs.

The BEP participation goal is applicable to all bids or offers. In addition to the other award criteria established for this solicitation, Waubonsee Community College (College) will award this contract to a Vendor that meets the goal or demonstrates good faith efforts to meet the goal. This goal is also applicable to change orders and allowances within the scope of work provided by the BEP certified vendor. If Vendor is a BEP certified vendor, the entire goal is met and no subcontracting with a BEP certified vendor is required; however, **Vendor must submit a Utilization Plan indicating that the goal will be met by self-performance.**

Following are guidelines for Vendor's completion of the Utilization Plan. **Please read the guidelines carefully.** A format for the Utilization Plan is included in this section. Vendor should include any additional information that will add clarity to Vendor's proposed utilization of certified BEP vendors to meet the targeted goal. The Utilization Plan must demonstrate that Vendor has either: (1) met the entire contract goal; or (2) made good faith efforts towards meeting the entire goal. Any submission of good faith efforts by Vendor shall be considered as a request for a full or partial waiver. At the time of bid or offer, Vendor, or Vendor's proposed Subcontractor, must be certified with CMS as a BEP certified vendor.

Failure to complete a Utilization Plan or provide good faith effort documentation shall render the bid or offer non-responsive or not responsible, and subject to rejection and/or disqualification in the College's sole discretion.

1. If applicable where there is more than one prime vendor, the Utilization Plan should include an executed Joint Venture Agreement specifying the terms and conditions of the relationship between the parties and their relationship and responsibilities to the contract. The Joint Venture Agreement must clearly evidence that the BEP certified vendor will be responsible for a clearly defined portion of the work and that its responsibilities, risks, profits and contributions of capital, and personnel are proportionate to its ownership percentage. It must include specific details related to the parties' contributions of capital, personnel, and equipment and share of the costs of insurance and other items; the scopes to be performed by the BEP certified vendor under its supervision; and the commitment of management, supervisory personnel, and operative personnel employed by the BEP certified vendor to be dedicated to the performance of the contract. Established Joint Venture Agreements will only be credited toward BEP goal achievements for specific work performed by the BEP certified vendor. Each party to the Joint Venture Agreement must execute the bid or offer prior to submission of the bid or offer to the College.
2. An agreement between a vendor and a BEP certified vendor in which a BEP certified vendor promises not to provide subcontracting or pricing quotations to other vendors is prohibited. The College may request additional information to demonstrate compliance. Vendor agrees to cooperate promptly with the College in submitting to interviews, allowing entry to places of business, providing further documentation, and to soliciting the cooperation of a proposed BEP certified vendor. Failure to cooperate by Vendor and BEP certified vendor may

render the bidder or offeror non-responsive or not responsible. **The contract will not be finally awarded to Vendor unless Vendor's BEP Utilization Plan is approved by the College.**

3. **BEP Certified Vendor Locator References:** Vendors may consult CMS' BEP Vendor Directory at www2.sell2.illinois.gov/cms/business, as well as the directories of other certifying agencies, but firms **must be certified with CMS as BEP certified vendors at the time of bid or offer.**
4. **Vendor Assurance:** Vendor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sexual orientation or sex in the performance of this contract. Failure by Vendor 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 the College deems appropriate. This assurance must be included in each subcontract that Vendor signs with a subcontractor or supplier.
5. **Calculating BEP Certified Vendor Participation:** The Utilization Plan documents work anticipated to be performed, or goods/equipment provided by all BEP certified vendors and paid for upon satisfactory completion/delivery. Only the value of payments made for the work actually performed by BEP certified vendors is counted toward the contract goal. Applicable guidelines for counting payments attributable to contract goals are summarized below:
 - 5.1. The value of the work actually performed or goods/equipment provided by the BEP certified vendor shall be counted towards the goal. The entire amount of that portion of the contract that is performed by the BEP certified vendor, including supplies purchased or equipment leased by the BEP certified vendor shall be counted, except supplies purchased and equipment rented from the Prime Vendor submitting this bid or offer.
 - 5.2. A vendor shall count the portion of the total dollar value of the BEP contract equal to the distinct, clearly defined portion of the work of the contract that the BEP certified vendor performs toward the goal. A vendor shall also count the dollar value of work subcontracted to other BEP certified vendor. Work performed by the non-BEP certified party shall not be counted toward the goal. Work that a BEP certified vendor subcontracts to a non-BEP certified vendor will not count towards the goal.
 - 5.3. A Vendor shall count toward the goal 100% of its expenditures for materials and supplies required under the contract and obtained from a BEP certified vendor manufacturer, regular dealer, or supplier. A Vendor shall count toward the goal the following expenditures to BEP certified vendors that are not manufacturers, regular dealers, or suppliers:
 - 5.3.1. The fees or commissions charged for providing a bona fide service, such as professional, technical, consultant or managerial services and assistance in the procurement of essential personnel, facilities, equipment, materials or supplies required for performance of the contract, provided that the fee or commission is determined by the College to be reasonable and not excessive as compared with fees customarily allowed for similar services.
 - 5.3.2. The fees charged for delivery of materials and supplies required by the contract (but not the cost of the materials and supplies themselves) when the hauler, trucker, or delivery service is not also the manufacturer or a supplier of the materials and supplies being procured, provided that the fee is determined by the College to be reasonable and not excessive as compared with fees customarily allowed for similar services. The BEP certified vendor's trucking firm must be responsible for the management and supervision of the entire trucking operation for which it is responsible on the contract, and must itself own and operate at least one fully licensed, insured and operational truck used on the contract.
 - 5.3.3. The fees or commissions charged for providing any bonds or insurance specifically required for

the performance of the contract, provided that the fee or commission is determined by the College to be reasonable and not excessive as compared with fees customarily allowed for similar services.

- 5.4. BEP certified vendors who are performing on contract as second tier subcontractors may be counted in meeting the established BEP goal for this contract as long as the Prime Vendor can provide documentation indicating the utilization of these vendors.
- 5.5. A Vendor shall count towards the goal only expenditures to firms that perform a commercially useful function in the work of the contract.
 - 5.5.1. A firm is considered to perform a commercially useful function when it is responsible for execution of a distinct element of the work of a contract and carries out its responsibilities by actually performing, managing, and supervising the work involved. The BEP certified vendor must also be responsible, with respect to materials or supplies used on the contract, for negotiating price, determining quality and quantity, ordering the materials or supplies, and installing the materials (where applicable) and paying for the material or supplies. To determine whether a firm is performing a commercially useful function, the College shall evaluate the amount of work subcontracted, whether the amount the firm is to be paid under the contract is commensurate with the work it is actually performing and the credit claimed for its performance of the work, industry practices, and other relevant factors.
 - 5.5.2. A BEP certified vendor does not perform a commercially useful function if its role is limited to that of an extra participant in a transaction or contract through which funds are passed through in order to obtain BEP certified vendor participation. In determining whether a BEP certified vendor is such an extra participant, the College shall examine similar transactions, particularly those in which BEP certified vendors do not participate, and industry practices.
- 5.6. A Vendor shall not count towards the goal expenditures that are not direct, necessary and related to the work of the contract. Only the amount of services or goods that are directly attributable to the performance of the contract shall be counted. Ineligible expenditures include general office overhead or other Vendor support activities.
6. **Good Faith Effort Procedures:** Vendor must submit a Utilization Plans, subcontract documents, and/or Letters of Intent that meet or exceed the published goal. If Vendor cannot meet the stated goal, Vendor must document and explain within the Utilization Plan the good faith efforts it undertook to meet the goal. Utilization Plans are due at the time of, and must be enclosed and sealed with the bid or offer submission. Copies of subcontract documents and/or Letters of Intent shall be de upon request.
7. **Contract Compliance:** Compliance with this section is an essential part of the contract. The following administrative procedures and remedies govern Vendor's compliance with the contractual obligations established by the Utilization Plan. **After approval of the Plan and award of the contract, the Utilization Plan becomes part of the contract.** If Vendor did not succeed in obtaining BEP certified vendor participation to achieve the goal and the Utilization Plan was approved and contract awarded based upon a determination of good faith, the total dollar value of BEP certified vendor work calculated in the approved Utilization Plan as a percentage of the awarded contract value shall become the contract goal.
 - 7.1. The Utilization Plan may not be amended after contract execution without the College's prior written approval.
 - 7.2. **Vendor may not make changes to its contractual BEP certified vendor commitments or substitute BEP**

certified vendors without the prior written approval of the College. Unauthorized changes or substitutions, including performing the work designated for a BEP certified vendor with Vendor's own forces, shall be a violation of the utilization plan and a breach of the contract, and shall be cause to terminate the contract, and/or seek other contract remedies or sanctions.

- 7.3.** If it becomes necessary to substitute a BEP certified vendor or otherwise change the Utilization Plan, Vendor must notify the College in writing of the request to substitute a BEP certified vendor or otherwise change the Utilization Plan. The request must state specific reasons for the substitution or change. The College will approve or deny a request for substitution or other change in the Utilization Plan within five business days of receipt of the request.
- 7.4.** Where Vendor has established the basis for the substitution to the College's satisfaction, it must make good faith efforts to meet the contract goal by substituting a BEP certified vendor. Documentation of a replacement BEP certified vendor, or of good faith efforts to replace the BEP certified vendor, must meet the requirements of the initial Utilization Plan. If the goal cannot be reached and good faith efforts have been made, Vendor may substitute with a non- BEP certified vendor or Vendor may perform the work.
- 7.5.** If a Vendor plans to hire a subcontractor for any scope of work that was not previously disclosed in the Utilization Plan, Vendor must obtain the approval of the College to modify the Utilization Plan and must make good faith efforts to ensure that BEP certified vendors have a fair opportunity to submit a bid or offer on the new scope of work.
- 7.6.** A new BEP certified vendor agreement must be executed and submitted to the College within five business days of Vendor's receipt of the College's approval for the substitution or other change.
- 7.7.** Vendor shall maintain a record of all relevant data with respect to the utilization of BEP certified vendors, including but without limitation, payroll records, invoices, canceled checks and books of account for a period of at least three years after the completion of the contract. Full access to these records shall be granted by Vendor upon 48 hours written demand by the College to any duly authorized representative thereof, or to any municipal, state or federal authorities. The College shall have the right to obtain from Vendor any additional data reasonably related or necessary to verify any representations by Vendor. After the performance of the final item of work or delivery of material by the BEP certified vendor and final payment to the BEP certified vendor by Vendor, but not later than 30 calendar days after such payment, Vendor shall submit a statement confirming the final payment and the total payments made to the BEP certified vendor under the contract.
- 7.8.** The College will periodically review Vendor's compliance with these provisions and the terms of its contract. Without limitation, Vendor's failure to comply with these provisions or its contractual commitments as contained in the Utilization Plan, failure to cooperate in providing information regarding its compliance with these provisions or its Utilization Plan, or provision of false or misleading information or statements concerning compliance, certification status or eligibility of the BEP certified vendor, good faith efforts or any other material fact or representation shall constitute a material breach of this contract and entitle the College to declare a default, terminate the contract, or exercise those remedies provided for in the contract or at law or in equity.
- 7.9.** The College reserves the right to withhold payment to Vendor to enforce these provisions and Vendor's contractual commitments. Final payment shall not be made pursuant to the contract until Vendor submits sufficient documentation demonstrating compliance with its Utilization Plan.

APPENDIX B - UTILIZATION PLAN PART 1: COMMITMENT AND SIGNATURE

_____ (Vendor) submits the following Utilization Plan as part of our bid or offer in accordance with the requirements of the BEP Program Status and Participation section of the solicitation for Waubonsee Community College's _____ (Project Name).

We understand that all subcontractors must be certified with the CMS BEP Program at the time of submission of all bids and offers. **We understand that compliance with this section is an essential part of this contract and that the Utilization Plan will become a part of the contract, if awarded.**

Vendor submits the following statement:

- Vendor is a BEP certified firm and plans to fully meet the goal through self-performance.
- Vendor has identified BEP certified subcontractor(s) to fully meet the established goal and submits the attached executed Letter(s) of Intent; or
- Vendor has made good faith efforts towards meeting the entire goal, or a portion of the goal, and hereby requests a waiver (complete Demonstration of Good Faith Efforts checklist below).

Vendor's person responsible for compliance with this BEP goal (*please print clearly*):

Name: _____ Title: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Note: Letters of Intent template may be found on the State of Illinois website, <https://www2.illinois.gov/cpo/general/Documents/Letter%20of%20Intent%20Template%20v.14.1.pdf#search=letter%20of%20i%20ntent>

APPENDIX B - UTILIZATION PLAN PART II: PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

Instructions: The Prime Vendor is required to submit a separate, signed and **fully completed Participation Agreement** from each Business Enterprise Program (BEP) minority-owned, woman-owned or disadvantaged certified vendor. **Once signed and submitted with the bid/offer, this Participation Agreement, along with the other Parts of this Utilization Plan, will become a mandated part of the contract, if awarded.** The Prime Vendor shall not prohibit or otherwise limit the BEP/VSB certified vendor(s) from providing subcontractor quotes to other potential bidders/offerors.

Project Name: _____ **Project/Solicitation Number:** _____

Name of Prime Vendor: _____

Address: _____

City, State and Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Vendor's Contact responsible for compliance with this Participation Agreement: _____

Name of BEP Certified Vendor: _____

Type of Certified Vendor: MBE WBE DBE

Address: _____

City, State and Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

BEP Vendor's Contact responsible for compliance with this Participation Agreement:

Type of Agreement: Services Supplies Both Services and Supplies

(a) Proposed % of Contract to be performed by the BEP/VSB Certified Vendor _____%
NOTE: The Prime Vendor must indicate the percentage of the estimated contract award that will be subcontracted to the certified BEP/VSB Vendor.

(b) Anticipated start date of the Certified BEP Vendor: _____.

(c) This participation agreement shall have a term of _____ to _____, with a total period of _____ years and _____ months, including renewals, change orders or extensions to the underlying contract.

APPENDIX B: DEMONSTRATION OF GOOD FAITH EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE GOAL AND REQUEST FOR WAIVER

If the BEP participation goal was not achieved, Vendor must provide document evidence of good faith efforts to achieve the goal.

Below is a checklist of actions that will be used to evaluate a Vendor's Demonstration of Good Faith Efforts and Request for Waiver. **Please check the actions which you completed.** If any other efforts were made to obtain BEP participation in addition to the items listed below, attach a detailed description of such efforts. The College reserves the right to review and audit the results of the Vendor's efforts as described below.

- Utilize the Sell2Illinois website: www2.illinois.gov/cms/business to identify BEP certified vendors within the respective commodity/service codes denoted above and at a minimum email all listed vendors and solicit quotes from all vendors who express an interest via follow-up emails or telephone calls.
- Solicit through all reasonable and available means (e.g., attendance at a vendor conference, advertising and/or written notices) the interest of BEP certified vendors that have the capability to perform the work of the contract. Vendor must solicit this interest within sufficient time to allow the BEP certified vendors to respond to the solicitation. Vendor must determine with certainty if the BEP certified vendors are interested by taking appropriate steps to follow up initial solicitations and encourage them to submit a bid or proposal. Vendor must provide interested BEP certified vendors with adequate information about the plans, specifications, and requirements of the contract in a timely manner to assist them in responding promptly to the solicitation.
- Select portions of the work to be performed by BEP certified vendors in order to increase the likelihood that the goal will be achieved. This includes, where appropriate, breaking out contract work items into economically feasible units to facilitate BEP certified vendor participation, even when Vendor might otherwise prefer to perform these work items with its own forces.
- Make a portion of the work available to BEP certified vendors and selecting those portions of the work or material needs consistent with their availability, so as to facilitate BEP certified vendor participation.
- Negotiate in good faith with interested BEP certified vendors. Evidence of such negotiation must include the names, addresses, email addresses, and telephone numbers of BEP certified vendors that were considered; and an explanation as to why an agreement(s) could not be reached.
- Thoroughly investigate the capabilities of BEP certified vendors and not reject them as unqualified without documented reasons. The BEP certified vendor's memberships in specific groups, organizations, or associations and political or social affiliations are not legitimate causes for the rejection or non-solicitation of bids and proposals in Vendor's efforts to meet the goal.
- Make efforts to assist interested BEP certified vendors in obtaining lines of credit or insurance as required by the College.
- Make efforts to assist interested BEP certified vendors in obtaining necessary equipment, supplies, materials, or related assistance or services.

