Belford Area Drainage

050.01

A. Solicitation Response and Contract Requirements and Commitment

Respondent understands and agrees that the following provisions shall be requirements of this solicitation and the resulting contract, if awarded, and by submitting its Response, Respondent commits to comply with these requirements. In the absence of a waiver granted by the SBO, failure of a Prime Contractor to commit in its response, through a fully-documented and signed SBO-promulgated Subcontractor/Supplier Utilization Plan form, to satisfying the S/M/WBE subcontracting goal shall render its response NON-RESPONSIVE.

Waiver Request - A Respondent may request, for good cause, a full or partial Waiver of a **specified subcontracting goal** included in this solicitation by submitting the *Respondent Subcontracting Waiver Request form (available at http://www.sanantonio.gov/SBO/Forms.aspx)* with its solicitation response. The Respondent's Waiver request must fully document subcontractor unavailability despite the Respondent's good faith efforts to comply with the goal. Such documentation shall include all good faith efforts made by Respondent including, but not limited to, which subcontractors were contacted (with phone numbers, e-mail addresses and mailing addresses, as applicable) and the method of contact. **Late Waiver requests will not be considered.**

Exception Request - A Respondent may, for good cause, request an Exception to the application of the SBEDA Program if the Respondent submits the *Exception to SBEDA Program Requirements Request form (available at http://www.sanantonio.gov/SBO/Forms.aspx)* with its solicitation response. The Respondent's Exception request must fully document why: (1) the value of the contract is below the $50,000 threshold for application of the SBEDA Program; or (2) no commercially-useful subcontracting opportunities exist within the contract scope of work; or (3) the type of contract is outside of the scope of the SBEDA Ordinance. **Late Exception Requests will not be considered.**

B. SBEDA Program

The CITY has adopted a Small Business Economic Development Advocacy Ordinance (Ordinance No. 2010-06-17-0531 and as amended, also referred to as "SBEDA" or "the SBEDA Program"), which is posted on the City's Economic Development (EDD) website page and is also available in hard copy form upon request to the CITY. The SBEDA Ordinance Compliance Provisions contained in this section of the Agreement are governed by the terms of this Ordinance, as well as by the terms of the SBEDA Ordinance Policy & Procedure Manual established by the CITY pursuant to this Ordinance, and any subsequent amendments to this referenced SBEDA Ordinance and SBEDA Policy & Procedure Manual that are effective as of the date of the execution of this Agreement. Unless defined in a contrary manner herein, terms used in this section of the Agreement shall be subject to the same expanded definitions and meanings as given those terms in the SBEDA Ordinance and as further interpreted in the SBEDA Policy & Procedure Manual.

C. Definitions

Affirmative Procurement Initiatives (API) – Refers to various Small Business Enterprise, Minority Business Enterprise, and/or Women Business Enterprise ("S/M/WBE") Program tools and Solicitation Incentives that are used to encourage greater Prime and subcontract participation by S/M/WBE firms, including bonding assistance, evaluation preferences, subcontracting goals and joint venture incentives. (For full descriptions of these and other S/M/WBE program tools, see Section III. D. of Attachment A to the SBEDA Ordinance.)

Centralized Vendor Registration System (CVR) – a mandatory electronic system wherein the City requires all prospective Respondents and Subcontractors that are ready, willing and able to sell goods or services to the City to register. The CVR system assigns a unique identifier to each registrant that is then required for the purpose of submitting solicitation responses and invoices, and for receiving payments from the City. The CVR-assigned identifiers are also used by the Goal Setting Committee for measuring relative availability and tracking utilization of SBE and M/WBE firms by Industry or commodity codes, and for establishing Annual Aspirational Goals and Contract-by-Contract Subcontracting Goals.

Certification or "Certified" – the process by which the Small Business Office (SBO) staff determines a firm to be a bona-fide small, minority-, women-owned, or emerging small business enterprise. Emerging Small Business Enterprises (ESBEs) are automatically eligible for Certification as SBEs. Any firm may apply for multiple Certifications that cover each and every status category (e.g., SBE, ESBE, MBE, or WBE) for which it is able to satisfy eligibility standards. The SBO staff may contract these services to a regional Certification agency or other entity. For purposes of Certification, the City accepts any firm that is certified by local government entities and other organizations identified herein that have adopted Certification standards and procedures similar to those followed by the SBO, provided the prospective firm satisfies the eligibility requirements set forth in this Ordinance in Section III.E.6 of Attachment A.

Commercially Useful Function – an S/M/WBE firm performs a Commercially Useful Function when it is responsible for execution of a distinct element of the work of the contract and is carrying out its responsibilities by actually performing, staffing, managing and supervising the work involved. To perform a Commercially Useful Function, the S/M/WBE firm must also be responsible, with respect to materials and supplies used on the contract, for negotiating price, determining quantity and quality, ordering the material, and installing (where applicable) and paying for the material itself. To determine whether an S/M/WBE firm is performing a Commercially Useful Function, an evaluation must be performed of the amount of work subcontracted, normal industry practices, whether the amount the S/M/WBE firm is to be paid under the contract is commensurate with the work it is actually performing and the S/M/WBE credit claimed for its performance of the work, and other relevant factors. Specifically, an S/M/WBE firm does not perform a Commercially Useful Function if its role is limited to that of an extra participant in a transaction, contract or project through which funds are passed in order to obtain the appearance of meaningful and useful S/M/WBE participation, when in similar transactions in which S/M/WBE firms do not participate, there is no such role performed. The use of S/M/WBE firms by CONTRACTOR to perform such "pass-through" or "conduit" functions that are not commercially useful shall be viewed by the CITY as fraudulent if

CONTRACTOR attempts to obtain credit for such S/M/WBE participation towards the satisfaction of S/M/WBE participation goals or other API participation requirements. As such, under such circumstances where a commercially useful function is not actually performed by the S/M/WBE firm, the CONTRACTOR shall not be given credit for the participation of its S/M/WBE subcontractor or joint venture partner towards attainment of S/M/WBE utilization goals, and the CONTRACTOR and S/M/WBE firm may be subject to sanctions and penalties in accordance with the SBEDA Ordinance.

Good Faith Efforts – documentation of the CONTRACTOR's or Respondent's intent to comply with S/M/WBE Program Goals and procedures including, but not limited to, the following: (1) documentation within a solicitation response reflecting the Respondent's commitment to comply with SBE or M/WBE Program Goals as established by the GSC for a particular contract; or (2) documentation of efforts made toward achieving the SBE or M/WBE Program Goals (e.g., timely advertisements in appropriate trade publications and publications of wide general circulation; timely posting of SBE or M/WBE subcontract opportunities on the City of San Antonio website; solicitations of bids/proposals/qualification statements from all qualified SBE or M/WBE firms listed in the Small Business Office's directory of certified SBE or M/WBE firms; correspondence from qualified SBE or M/WBE firms documenting their unavailability to perform SBE or M/WBE contracts; documentation of efforts to subdivide work into smaller quantities for subcontracting purposes to enhance opportunities for SBE or M/WBE firms; documentation of a Prime Contractor's posting of a bond covering the work of SBE or M/WBE Subcontractors; documentation of efforts to assist SBE or M/WBE firms with obtaining financing, bonding or insurance required by the Respondent; and documentation of consultations with trade associations and consultants that represent the interests of SBE and/or M/WBEs in order to identify qualified and available SBE or M/WBE Subcontractors.) The appropriate form and content of CONTRACTOR's Good Faith Efforts documentation shall be in accordance with the SBEDA Ordinance as interpreted in the SBEDA Policy & Procedure Manual.

HUBZone Firm − a business that has been certified by U.S. Small Business Administration for participation in the federal HUBZone Program, as established under the 1997 Small Business Reauthorization Act. To qualify as a HUBZone firm, a small business must meet the following criteria: (1) it must be owned and Controlled by U.S. citizens; (2) at least 35 percent of its employees must reside in a HUBZone; and (3) its Principal Place of Business must be located in a HUBZone within the San Antonio Metropolitan Statistical Area. [See 13 C.F.R. 126.200 (1999).]

Independently Owned and Operated – ownership of an SBE firm must be direct, independent and by Individuals only. Ownership of an M/WBE firm may be by Individuals and/or by other businesses provided the ownership interests in the M/WBE firm can satisfy the M/WBE eligibility requirements for ownership and Control as specified herein in Section III.E.6. The M/WBE firm must also be Independently Owned and Operated in the sense that it cannot be the subsidiary of another firm that does not itself (and in combination with the certified M/WBE firm) satisfy the eligibility requirements for M/WBE Certification.

Individual − an adult person that is of legal majority age.

Industry Categories – procurement groupings for the City of San Antonio inclusive of Construction, Architectural & Engineering (A&E), Professional Services, Other Services, and

Goods & Supplies (i.e., manufacturing, wholesale and retail distribution of commodities). This term may sometimes be referred to as "business categories."

Minority/Women Business Enterprise (M/WBE) – firm that is certified as a Small Business Enterprise and also as either a Minority Business Enterprise or as a Women Business Enterprise, and which is at least fifty-one percent (51%) owned, managed and Controlled by one or more Minority Group Members and/or women, and that is ready, willing and able to sell goods or services that are purchased by the City of San Antonio.

M/WBE Directory – a listing of minority- and women-owned businesses that have been certified for participation in the City's M/WBE Program APIs.

Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) – any legal entity, except a joint venture, that is organized to engage in for-profit transactions, which is certified a Small Business Enterprise and also as being at least fifty-one percent (51%) owned, managed and controlled by one or more Minority Group Members, and that is ready, willing and able to sell goods or services that are purchased by the CITY. To qualify as an MBE, the enterprise shall meet the Significant Business Presence requirement as defined herein. Unless otherwise stated, the term "MBE" as used in this Ordinance is not inclusive of women-owned business enterprises (WBEs).

Minority Group Members – African-Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian Americans and Native Americans legally residing in, or that are citizens of, the United States or its territories, as defined below:

> African-Americans: Persons having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa as well as those identified as Jamaican, Trinidadian, or West Indian.
>
> Hispanic-Americans: Persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Spanish or Central and South American origin.
>
> Asian-Americans: Persons having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent or the Pacific Islands.
>
> Native Americans: Persons having no less than 1/16th percentage origin in any of the Native American Tribes, as recognized by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs and as demonstrated by possession of personal tribal role documents.

Originating Department – the CITY department or authorized representative of the CITY which issues solicitations or for which a solicitation is issued.

Payment – dollars actually paid to CONTRACTORS and/or Subcontractors and vendors for CITY contracted goods and/or services.

Prime Contractor – the vendor or contractor to whom a purchase order or contract is issued by the City of San Antonio for purposes of providing goods or services for the City. For purposes of this Agreement, this term refers to the CONTRACTOR.

Relevant Marketplace – the geographic market area affecting the S/M/WBE Program as determined for purposes of collecting data for the MGT Studies, and for determining eligibility

for participation under various programs established by the SBEDA Ordinance, is defined as the San Antonio Metropolitan Statistical Area (SAMSA), currently including the counties of Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Comal, Guadalupe, Kendall, Medina and Wilson.

Respondent – a vendor submitting a bid, statement of qualifications, or proposal in response to a solicitation issued by the City. For purposes of this Agreement, CONTRACTOR is the Respondent.

Responsible – a firm which is capable in all respects to fully perform the contract requirements and has the integrity and reliability which will assure good faith performance of contract specifications.

Responsive – a firm's submittal (bid, response or proposal) conforms in all material respects to the solicitation (Invitation for Bid, Request for Qualifications, or Request for Proposal) and shall include compliance with S/M/WBE Program requirements.

San Antonio Metropolitan Statistical Area (SAMSA) – also known as the Relevant Marketplace, the geographic market area from which the CITY's MGT Studies analyzed contract utilization and availability data for disparity (currently including the counties of Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Comal, Guadalupe, Kendall, Medina and Wilson).

SBE Directory - a listing of small businesses that have been certified for participation in the City's SBE Program APIs.

Significant Business Presence – to qualify for this Program, a S/M/WBE must be headquartered or have a *significant business presence* for at least one year within the Relevant Marketplace, defined as: an established place of business in one or more of the eight counties that make up the San Antonio Metropolitan Statistical Area (SAMSA), from which 20% of its full-time, part-time and contract employees are regularly based, and from which a substantial role in the S/M/WBE's performance of a Commercially Useful Function is conducted. A location utilized solely as a post office box, mail drop or telephone message center or any combination thereof, with no other substantial work function, shall not be construed to constitute a significant business presence.

Small Business Enterprise (SBE) – a corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship or other legal entity for the purpose of making a profit, which is Independently Owned and Operated by Individuals legally residing in, or that are citizens of, the United States or its territories, and which meets the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) size standard for a small business in its particular industry(ies) and meets the Significant Business Presence requirements as defined herein.

Small Business Office (SBO) – the office within the Economic Development Department (EDD) of the CITY that is primarily responsible for general oversight and administration of the S/M/WBE Program.

Small Business Office Manager – the Assistant Director of the EDD of the CITY that is responsible for the management of the SBO and ultimately responsible for oversight, tracking, monitoring, administration, implementation and reporting of the S/M/WBE Program. The SBO

Manager is also responsible for enforcement of contractor and vendor compliance with contract participation requirements, and ensuring that overall Program goals and objectives are met.

Small Minority Women Business Enterprise Program (S/M/WBE Program) – the combination of SBE Program and M/WBE Program features contained in the SBEDA Ordinance.

Subcontractor – any vendor or contractor that is providing goods or services to a Prime Contractor or CONTRACTOR in furtherance of the Prime Contractor's performance under a contract or purchase order with the City. A copy of each binding agreement between the CONTRACTOR and its subcontractors shall be submitted to the CITY prior to execution of this contract Agreement and any contract modification Agreement.

Suspension – the temporary stoppage of the SBE or M/WBE firm's beneficial participation in the CITY's S/M/WBE Program for a finite period of time due to cumulative contract payments the S/M/WBE firm received during a fiscal year that exceed a certain dollar threshold as set forth in Section III.E.7 of Attachment A to the SBEDA Ordinance, or the temporary stoppage of CONTRACTOR's and/or S/M/WBE firm's performance and payment under CITY contracts due to the CITY's imposition of Penalties and Sanctions set forth in Section III.E.13 of Attachment A to the SBEDA Ordinance.

Subcontractor/Supplier Utilization Plan – a binding part of this contract Agreement which states the CONTRACTOR's commitment for the use of Joint Venture Partners and / or Subcontractors/Suppliers in the performance of this contract Agreement, and states the name, scope of work, and dollar value of work to be performed by each of CONTRACTOR's Joint Venture partners and Subcontractors/Suppliers in the course of the performance of this contract, specifying the S/M/WBE Certification category for each Joint Venture partner and Subcontractor/Supplier, as approved by the SBO Manager. Additions, deletions or modifications of the Joint Venture partner or Subcontractor/Supplier names, scopes of work, of dollar values of work to be performed requires an amendment to this Agreement to be approved by the EDD Director or designee.

Women Business Enterprises (WBEs) - any legal entity, except a joint venture, that is organized to engage in for-profit transactions, that is certified for purposes of the SBEDA Ordinance as being a Small Business Enterprise and that is at least fifty-one percent (51%) owned, managed and Controlled by one or more non-minority women Individuals that are lawfully residing in, or are citizens of, the United States or its territories, that is ready, willing and able to sell goods or services that are purchased by the City and that meets the Significant Business Presence requirements as defined herein. Unless otherwise stated, the term "WBE" as used in this Agreement is not inclusive of MBEs.

D. SBEDA Program Compliance – General Provisions

As CONTRACTOR acknowledges that the terms of the CITY's SBEDA Ordinance, as amended, together with all requirements, guidelines, and procedures set forth in the CITY's SBEDA Policy & Procedure Manual are in furtherance of the CITY's efforts at economic inclusion and, moreover, that such terms are part of CONTRACTOR's scope of work as referenced in the CITY's formal solicitation that formed the basis for contract award and subsequent execution of

this Agreement, these SBEDA Ordinance requirements, guidelines and procedures are hereby incorporated by reference into this Agreement, and are considered by the Parties to this Agreement to be material terms. CONTRACTOR voluntarily agrees to fully comply with these SBEDA program terms as a condition for being awarded this contract by the CITY. Without limitation, CONTRACTOR further agrees to the following terms as part of its contract compliance responsibilities under the SBEDA Program:

1. CONTRACTOR shall cooperate fully with the Small Business Office and other CITY departments in their data collection and monitoring efforts regarding CONTRACTOR's utilization and payment of Subcontractors, S/M/WBE firms, and HUBZone firms, as applicable, for their performance of Commercially Useful Functions on this contract including, but not limited to, the timely submission of completed forms and/or documentation promulgated by SBO, through the Originating Department, pursuant to the SBEDA Policy & Procedure Manual, timely entry of data into monitoring systems, and ensuring the timely compliance of its Subcontractors with this term;

2. CONTRACTOR shall cooperate fully with any CITY or SBO investigation (and shall also respond truthfully and promptly to any CITY or SBO inquiry) regarding possible non-compliance with SBEDA requirements on the part of CONTRACTOR or its Subcontractors or suppliers;

3. CONTRACTOR shall permit the SBO, upon reasonable notice, to undertake inspections as necessary including, but not limited to, contract-related correspondence, records, documents, payroll records, daily logs, invoices, bills, cancelled checks, and work product, and to interview Subcontractors and workers to determine whether there has been a violation of the terms of this Agreement;

4. CONTRACTOR shall immediately notify the SBO, in writing on the Change to Utilization Plan form, through the Originating Department, of any proposed changes to CONTRACTOR's Subcontractor / Supplier Utilization Plan for this contract, with an explanation of the necessity for such proposed changes, including documentation of Good Faith Efforts made by CONTRACTOR to replace the Subcontractor / Supplier in accordance with the applicable Affirmative Procurement Initiative. All proposed changes to the Subcontractor / Supplier Utilization Plan including, but not limited to, proposed self-performance of work by CONTRACTOR of work previously designated for performance by Subcontractor or supplier, substitutions of new Subcontractors, terminations of previously designated Subcontractors, or reductions in the scope of work and value of work awarded to Subcontractors or suppliers, shall be subject to advanced written

approval by the Originating Department and the SBO.

5. CONTRACTOR shall immediately notify the Originating Department and SBO of any transfer or assignment of its contract with the CITY, as well as any transfer or change in its ownership or business structure.

6. CONTRACTOR shall retain all records of its Subcontractor payments for this contract for a minimum of four years, or as required by state law, following the conclusion of this contract or, in the event of litigation concerning this contract, for a minimum of four years, or as required by state law, following the final determination of litigation, whichever is later.

7. In instances wherein the SBO determines that a Commercially Useful Function is not actually being performed by the applicable S/M/WBE or HUBZone firms listed in a CONTRACTOR's Subcontractor / Supplier Utilization Plan, the CONTRACTOR shall not be given credit for the participation of its S/M/WBE or HUBZone subcontractor(s) or joint venture partner(s) toward attainment of S/M/WBE or HUBZone firm utilization goals, and the CONTRACTOR and its listed S/M/WBE firms or HUBZone firms may be subject to sanctions and penalties in accordance with the SBEDA Ordinance.

8. CONTRACTOR acknowledges that the CITY will not execute a contract or issue a Notice to Proceed for this project until the CONTRACTOR and each of its Subcontractors for this project have registered and/or maintained active status in the CITY's Centralized Vendor Registration System, and CONTRACTOR has represented to CITY which primary commodity codes each registered Subcontractor will be performing under for this contract.

E. SBEDA Program Compliance – Affirmative Procurement Initiatives

The CITY has applied the following contract-specific Affirmative Procurement Initiative (API) to this contract. CONTRACTOR hereby acknowledges and agrees that the selected API requirement shall also be extended to any change order or subsequent contract modification and, absent SBO's granting of a waiver, that its full compliance with the following API terms and conditions are material to its satisfactory performance under this Agreement:

M/WBE Subcontracting Program. In accordance with SBEDA Ordinance Section III. D. 2. (b), this contract is being awarded pursuant to the M/WBE Subcontracting Program. CONTRACTOR agrees to subcontract at least **seventeen percent (17%)** of its prime contract value to certified M/WBE firms headquartered or having a significant business presence within the San Antonio Metropolitan Statistical Area (SAMSA).

Segmented M/WBE Goal. In accordance with SBEDA Ordinance Section III. D. 2. (d), this contract is being awarded pursuant to Segmented M/WBE Goals. CONTRACTOR agrees to subcontract at least ***one percent (1%)*** of the contract value to a certified African American Business Enterprise (AABE) firm headquartered or having a significant business presence within the San Antonio Metropolitan Statistical Area (SAMSA). This one percent (1%) subcontracting goal will also count toward the aforementioned seventeen percent (17%) M/WBE subcontracting goal.

The Subcontractor / Supplier Utilization Plan that CONTRACTOR submitted to CITY with its response for this contract (or, as appropriate, that it agrees to submit during the price proposal negotiation phase of this contract), and that contains the names of the certified M/WBE and AABE Subcontractors to be used by CONTRACTOR on this contract, the respective percentages of the total prime contract dollar value to be awarded and performed by each M/WBE and AABE Subcontractor, and documentation including a description of each M/WBE and AABE Subcontractor's scope of work and confirmation of each M/WBE and AABE Subcontractor's commitment to perform such scope of work for an agreed upon dollar amount is hereby attached and incorporated by reference into the material terms of this Agreement. In the absence of a waiver granted by the SBO, the failure of CONTRACTOR to attain this subcontracting goal for M/WBE and AABE firm participation in the performance of a Commercially Useful Function under the terms of its contract shall be a material breach and grounds for termination of the contract with the CITY, and may result in debarment from performing future CITY contracts, withholding of payment for retainage equal to the dollar amount of the underutilization below the agreed upon M/WBE and AABE subcontracting goal, and/or shall be subject to any other remedies available under the terms of this Agreement for violations of the SBEDA Ordinance, or under any other law.

Subcontractor Diversity: The City of San Antonio strongly encourages each bidder to be as inclusive as possible, and to reach out to all segments of the M/WBE community in its efforts to exercise good faith in achieving the M/WBE subcontracting goal of 17% and AABE Subcontracting goal of 1% that have been established for this contract. While the relative availability of ready, willing, and able firms within various ethnic and gender categories will vary significantly from contract to contract based upon the particular trades that are involved, overall in the San Antonio Construction industry, as reflected in the City's Centralized Vendor Registration system for the month of April 2015, African-American owned firms represent approximately 1.83% of available subcontractors, Hispanic-American firms represent approximately 18.08%, Asian-American firms represent approximately 1.19%, Native American firms represent approximately 0.18%, and Women-owned firms represent approximately 6.21% of available construction subcontractors.

F. <u>Commercial Nondiscrimination Policy Compliance</u>

As a condition of entering into this Agreement, the CONTRACTOR represents and warrants that it has complied with throughout the course of this solicitation and contract award process, and will continue to comply with, the CITY's Commercial Nondiscrimination Policy, as described under Section III. C. 1. of the SBEDA Ordinance. As part of such compliance, CONTRACTOR shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry or national origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation or, on the basis of disability or other unlawful forms of

discrimination in the solicitation, selection, hiring or commercial treatment of Subcontractors, vendors, suppliers, or commercial customers, nor shall the company retaliate against any person for reporting instances of such discrimination. The company shall provide equal opportunity for Subcontractors, vendors and suppliers to participate in all of its public sector and private sector subcontracting and supply opportunities, provided that nothing contained in this clause shall prohibit or limit otherwise lawful efforts to remedy the effects of marketplace discrimination that have occurred or are occurring in the CITY's Relevant Marketplace. The company understands and agrees that a material violation of this clause shall be considered a material breach of this Agreement and may result in termination of this Agreement, disqualification of the company from participating in CITY contracts, or other sanctions. This clause is not enforceable by or for the benefit of, and creates no obligation to, any third party. CONTRACTOR's certification of its compliance with this Commercial Nondiscrimination Policy as submitted to the CITY pursuant to the solicitation for this contract is hereby incorporated into the material terms of this Agreement. CONTRACTOR shall incorporate this clause into each of its Subcontractor and supplier agreements entered into pursuant to CITY contracts.

G. Prompt Payment

Upon execution of this contract by CONTRACTOR, CONTRACTOR shall be required to submit to CITY accurate progress payment information with each invoice regarding each of its Subcontractors, including HUBZone Subcontractors, to ensure that the CONTRACTOR's reported subcontract participation is accurate. CONTRACTOR shall pay its Subcontractors in compliance with Chapter 2251, Texas Government Code (the "Prompt Payment Act") within ten days of receipt of payment from CITY. In the event of CONTRACTOR's noncompliance with these prompt payment provisions, no final retainage on the Prime Contract shall be released to CONTRACTOR, and no new CITY contracts shall be issued to the CONTRACTOR until the CITY's audit of previous subcontract payments is complete and payments are verified to be in accordance with the specifications of the contract.

H. Violations, Sanctions and Penalties

In addition to the above terms, CONTRACTOR acknowledges and agrees that it is a violation of the SBEDA Ordinance and a material breach of this Agreement to:

1. Fraudulently obtain, retain, or attempt to obtain, or aid another in fraudulently obtaining, retaining, or attempting to obtain or retain Certification status as an SBE, MBE, WBE, M/WBE, HUBZone firm, Emerging M/WBE, or ESBE for purposes of benefitting from the SBEDA Ordinance;

2. Willfully falsify, conceal or cover up by a trick, scheme or device, a material fact or make any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations, or make use of any false writing or document, knowing the same to contain any false, fictitious or fraudulent statement or entry pursuant to the terms of the SBEDA Ordinance;

3. Willfully obstruct, impede or attempt to obstruct or impede any authorized official or employee who is investigating the qualifications of a business entity which has requested Certification as an S/M/WBE or HUBZone firm;

4. Fraudulently obtain, attempt to obtain or aid another person fraudulently obtaining or attempting to obtain public monies to which the person is not entitled under the terms of the SBEDA Ordinance; and

5. Make false statements to any entity that any other entity is, or is not, certified as an S/M/WBE for purposes of the SBEDA Ordinance.

Any person who violates the provisions of this section shall be subject to the provisions of Section III. E. 13. of the SBEDA Ordinance and any other penalties, sanctions and remedies available under law including, but not limited to:

1. Suspension of contract;

2. Withholding of funds;

3. Rescission of contract based upon a material breach of contract pertaining to S/M/WBE Program compliance;

4. Refusal to accept a response or proposal; and

5. Disqualification of CONTRACTOR or other business firm from eligibility for providing goods or services to the City for a period not to exceed two years (upon City Council approval).

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