



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)
FOR AN
ASSESSMENT OF FAIR HOUSING

RFP NO. 2023-003

County of Riverside
Department of Housing and Workforce Solutions (HWS)
5555 Arlington Avenue
Riverside, CA 92504

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INTRODUCTION

The Housing Authority of the County of Riverside (HACR) and the County of Riverside's Department of Housing and Workforce Solutions ("County" or "HWS") is a committed partner in the community's effort to revitalize neighborhoods and foster economic development, as well as to provide quality, affordable housing.

WHAT IS AFFH?

Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, known as the Fair Housing Act, requires HUD and recipients of federal funds from HUD to affirmatively further the policies and purposes of the Fair Housing Act, also known as "affirmatively further fair housing" or "AFFH." The obligation to affirmatively further fair housing requires recipients of HUD funds to take meaningful actions, in addition to combating discrimination, that overcome patterns of segregation and foster inclusive communities free from barriers that restrict access to opportunity based on protected characteristics, which are: Race / Color / National origin / Religion / Sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation) / Familial status / Disability.

Generally, in administering programs and activities relating to housing and community development, the federal government, HUD, and its recipients must:

Determine who lacks access to opportunity and address any inequity among protected class groups.

Promote integration and reduce segregation.

Transform racially or ethnically concentrated areas of poverty into areas of opportunity.

The County is seeking proposals from qualified and licensed entities to conduct the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) analysis for the County of Riverside and fourteen (14) cooperating cities within Riverside County. The successful proposer will also be tasked with notifying other cities within Riverside County regarding their involvement with this collaborative AFFH submission.

County staff is seeking one (1) qualified consultant or company to handle all components of the HUD required AFFH.

Therefore, the County is soliciting and accepting proposals from qualified, licensed, and insured consultants or companies, demonstrating their qualifications, past performance, and interest for this program, which would include community outreach and successful completion and submission of the AFFH report to HUD by the due date, (to be published by HUD in the future).

All proposals submitted in response to this solicitation must conform to all the required specifications outlined within this document and any designated attachments in its entirety.

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RFP INFORMATION AT A GLANCE

[Table No. 1]

HWS CONTACT PERSON:	George Eliseo Email: gceliseo@rivco.org Phone: (951) 955-6405 Fax: (951) 688-6873
HOW TO OBTAIN THE RFP DOCUMENTS:	Online at: www.harivco.org -OR- via e-mail from the person listed above.
PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE: (Conference attendance is <u>NOT</u> mandatory to submit a proposal)	Monday, September 18th, 2023 at 10:30 AM. Via Teams (please RSVP via email for the link)
DEADLINES FOR SUBMITTING QUESTIONS AND REQUEST FOR INTERPRETATIONS: (RFIs), <u>INCLUDING ANY MODIFICATIONS TO COUNTY CONTRACT LANGUAGE OR SCOPE OF WORK:</u>	Tuesday, September 26th, 2023 at 5:00 PM.
HOW TO FULLY RESPOND TO THIS RFP BY SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL :	Per instructions within Section 4.0 of this RFP document, submit 3 copies of your tabbed, bound, hard copy proposal to the County by the due date.
PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL RETURN LOCATION AND DEADLINE:	Monday, October 2nd, 2023 at 5:00 PM. 5555 Arlington Avenue Riverside, CA 92504 (Proposals shall be delivered to the Housing Authority of the County of Riverside, on the 1st Floor of its Administrative Building located at 5555 Arlington Avenue, Riverside, CA 92504. Attn: George Eliseo)
NOTE: HWS reserves the right to deviate from this timeline and/or modify the Scope of Service at any time!	Notices of any such decisions or modifications will be located at: www.harivco.org

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1.0 COUNTY'S RESERVATION OF RIGHTS:

- 1.1 Right to Reject, Waive or Terminate the RFP.** The County reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive any informality in the RFP process, or to terminate the RFP process at any time, in its sole and absolute discretion, if deemed by the County to be in its best interests.
- 1.2 Right Not to Award.** The County reserves the right not to award a contract pursuant to this RFP.
- 1.3 Right to Terminate.** The County reserves the right to terminate a contract awarded pursuant to this RFP, at any time for its convenience upon 5 business day's written notice to the successful proposer(s).
- 1.4 Right to Determine Time and Location.** The County reserves the right to determine the days, hours and locations that the successful proposer shall provide services called for in this RFP.
- 1.5 Right to Determine Financial Responsibility and Viability.** The County reserves the right to require of proposer, information regarding financial responsibility and viability or such other information as the County determines is necessary to ascertain whether a proposal is in fact the lowest responsive and responsible proposal submitted.
- 1.6 Right to Retain Written Proposals.** The County reserves the right to retain all written proposals submitted to County by all proposers in response to this RFP, and not permit the withdrawal of same for a period of 60 calendar days subsequent to the deadline for receiving said proposals. The County may permit the withdrawal of proposals if requested in writing by the proposer and such request is approved in writing by the County Contracting Officer (CO) in his sole and absolute discretion.
- 1.7 Right to Negotiate Fees.** The County reserves the right to negotiate the fees proposed by the proposer entity.
- 1.8 Right to Reject Any Proposal.** The County reserves the right to reject and not consider any proposal that does not meet the requirements of this RFP, including but not limited to incomplete proposals and/or proposals offering alternate or non-requested services.
- 1.9 No Obligation to Compensate.** The County shall have no obligation to compensate any proposer for any costs incurred in responding to this RFP.
- 1.10 Right to Prohibit.** The County shall reserve the right to at any time during the RFP or contract process to prohibit any further participation by a proposer or reject any proposal submitted that does not conform to any of the requirements detailed herein. By accessing the www.harivco.org Internet System ("System") and downloading this document, each proposer is thereby agreeing to abide by all terms and conditions listed within this document and within the System, and further agrees that they will inform the CO in writing within 5 business days of the discovery of any item listed herein or of any item that is issued thereafter by the County that they feel needs to be addressed. Failure to abide by this time frame shall relieve the County, but not the proposer, of any responsibility pertaining to such issue.
- 1.11 Public Disclosure of Proposal Documents.** To the extent applicable, documents submitted in connection with this RFP may be subject to disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act.

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2.0 GENERAL INFORMATION:

The County is seeking proposals from qualified and licensed entities to conduct the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) analysis for the County of Riverside and fourteen (14) cooperating cities. The successful proposer will also be tasked with notifying other cities within Riverside County in regards to making a collaborative AFFH submission.

2.1 Statement of Intent: As outlined in more detail in Section 3.0 – Scope of Work below, this Request for Proposals (RFP) seeks a qualified firm or individual to conduct the inaugural “Assessment of Fair Housing” (AFH), an analysis required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This analysis must be completed in accordance with the requirements defined in HUD’s 2021 Restoring Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Interim Final Rule. **However, this rule is subject to change, pending HUD’s new and final rule in 2023.** [See 1. below]

1. HUD’s 2021 Interim Final Rule, [“Restoring Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Definitions and Certifications.”](#)

The AFH is an assessment of historical and existing fair housing conditions that result in goals that will be used in the development of the Consolidated Plan(s) for the Housing Authority of the County of Riverside, the County of Riverside, Cities of Banning, Beaumont, Blythe, Canyon Lake, Coachella, Desert Hot Springs, Eastvale, Indian Wells, Jurupa Valley, Lake Elsinore, La Quinta, Murrieta, Norco, San Jacinto, and Wildomar. As well as for the development of the Housing Authority of the County of Riverside’s Annual Plan. This AFH will cover the 15 cooperating cities in the County of Riverside and the unincorporated areas.

The target start date and term for the proposed services is August 2023 through September 2024, subject to negotiation of a final agreement. In any case the AFH must be submitted to HUD prior to their due date, (as yet unknown) most likely in August, 2024.

2.2 Background: The Fair Housing Act [See 2. below] calls for HUD and its program participants to abide by the Act’s intent of promoting fair housing and equal opportunity. On July 16, 2015, HUD adopted changes to the final AFFH rule. These changes provide program participants with procedural guidelines and data to ensure improved and comprehensive compliance with the Fair Housing Act. **However, HUD is in the process of changing this rule, again. See proposed Rule Federal Register HUD’s 2021 Interim Final Rule, “Restoring Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing...24 CFR Part 92**

2. *Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, 42 U.S.C. §§ 3601-3619*

According to HUD, furthering the purposes of fair housing means:

“ . . . taking meaningful actions, in addition to combating discrimination, that overcome patterns of segregation and foster inclusive communities free from barriers that restrict access to opportunity based on protected characteristics. Specifically, affirmatively furthering fair housing means taking meaningful actions that, taken together, address significant disparities in housing needs and in access to opportunity, replacing segregated living patterns with truly integrated and balanced living patterns, transforming racially and ethnically concentrated areas of poverty into areas of opportunity, and fostering and maintaining compliance with civil rights and fair housing laws. The duty to affirmatively further fair housing extends to all program participant’s activities and

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programs relating to housing and urban development.” [See 3. Below for links to AFFH Fact Sheets]

3. <https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/FHEO/documents/AFFH-Fact-Sheet.pdf>
<https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/FHEO/documents/AFFH-Fact-Sheet-The-Fair-Housing-Planning-Process-Under-the-AFFH-Rule.pdf>
<https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/FHEO/documents/AFFH-Fact-Sheet-Community-Participation-and-AFFH-Guidance-for-Consolidated-Plan-Program-Participants.pdf> \
<https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/FHEO/documents/AFFH-Fact-Sheet-How-Program-Participants-Can-Collaborate-on-Their-AFH-Submissions.pdf>

HUD’s AFFH Final Rule requires program participants to incorporate the policies underlying the Fair Housing Act into their planning processes. Previous strategies to ensure compliance required program participants to complete an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing (AI). The new AFH requirement replaces the AI.

The most recent AI was completed in 2018 and is available on the HACR website at: (<http://www.rivcoeda.org/CommunityDevelopmentNavOnly/CommunityDevelopment/CDBGPlansandReports/tabid/1369/Default.aspx>)

Efforts to combat ongoing discrimination and increase housing choice and access to opportunity are at the core of HUD’s fair housing efforts. However, to date, HUD’s fair housing efforts have required its grantees to undertake an AI to housing choice and have not been as effective as HUD intended. Under the AI planning process, HUD did not provide grantees relevant information, and did not clearly link grantees’ AI’s to community planning efforts, such as the Consolidated Plan.

The AFH replaces the AI with a more effective and standardized assessment. In the AFH, program participants identify and evaluate fair housing issues and factors contributing to fair housing issues. The AFH is an assessment of historical and existing fair housing conditions, focusing specifically on:

1. Patterns of integration and segregation;
2. Racially and ethnically concentrated areas of poverty;
3. Disparities in access to opportunity (proficient schools, jobs, transit & low transportation costs, clean air, low exposure to poverty, high labor market engagement); and
4. Disproportionate housing needs.

As part of this new requirement, HUD will provide additional data for communities to analyze and address fair housing activities related to the expenditure of federal community development funds. To ensure fair housing choice for all residents, the County of Riverside will lead a coordinated approach. The County will serve as the lead entity for a collaborative AFH process consisting of the 15 cooperating cities¹ and the unincorporated areas within Riverside County.

The cooperating jurisdictions include:

¹ Cooperating cities are subject to change.

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- The County of Riverside;
- The Housing Authority of the County of Riverside;
- The City of Banning;
- The City of Beaumont;
- The City of Blythe;
- The City of Calimesa;
- The City of Canyon Lake;
- The City of Coachella;
- The City of Desert Hot Springs;
- The City of Eastvale;
- The City of Lake Elsinore;
- The City of La Quinta;
- The City of Murrieta;
- The City of Norco;
- The City of Palm Desert;
- The City of Rancho Mirage;
- The City of San Jacinto; and
- The City of Wildomar.

The County of Riverside, together with the cooperating jurisdictions, and the other cities wishing to participate in a collaborative partnership (collectively, the “Cooperating Parties”) will enter into a Collaborative Agreement to share the scope and cost of this work. The County will take the lead in facilitating the preparation and submission of this work to HUD. References to the County in this RFP in relation to reviewing, approving, accepting, and owning the work extend and apply to the Cooperating Parties.

- 2.3 Submittal Deadline:** The County must receive proposals by **5:00 PM, October 2nd, 2023**. Proposals may be submitted by mail or hand delivered to: **Housing Authority of the County of Riverside, 5555 Arlington Avenue, Riverside, CA 92504**. County will date and time stamp all proposals upon receipt. Proposals submitted after the deadline indicated above will not be accepted. Delays in mail service or other methods of delivery will not excuse a late proposal delivery.
- 2.4 Exclusivity:** The County will choose one (1) successful proposer to provide these services.
- 2.5 Federal Funding Clause:** This Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) analysis will be funded in part with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funds, and Section 8 administration funds (24 CFR Part 570) and subject to certain Federal requirements including the *Uniform Administrative Requirements, [Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards \(2 CFR Part 200\)](#)*. Information pertaining to the Federal requirements is on file with the County of Riverside.
- 2.6 County Responsibility:** County shall make all reasonable efforts to cooperate with the successful proposer. County will provide the successful proposer access to non-privileged and/or non-confidential data necessary for the successful proposer to carry out their responsibilities under this RFP and resulting contract. To the extent the Executive Director or

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designee of County determines is necessary, will be responsible for providing or causing to be provided, information and completing or causing to be completed, tasks requested by the successful proposer necessary to manage the Program.

2.7 Contract Form: By responding to this RFP and submitting a proposal, the proposer acknowledges and agrees that County will only execute agreements prepared by County which are substantially approved as to form and substance by County. As provided further within Section 5.0 herein, the County **WILL NOT** execute the successful proposer's contract form; the contract **WILL** be executed on the County's form only (please see Attachment E), and all specifications listed within the subject County contract will generally be the same specifications listed within this Section 2.0. Any proposer that does not feel that these listed specifications are reasonable or complete shall address such with the County in writing during the proposal conduct period (prior to the posted submittal deadline) -- once the proposal deadline has passed, revision of the specifications will not occur, (no negotiations after the deadline!).

3.0 SCOPE OF WORK:

The Consultant must refer to the HUD-provided checklist [See 4. below] and worksheet to ensure they have completed the steps required for a complete AFH. However, once the rule change takes effect, Consultant will use the new rules so that the AFH is on compliance.

4. *See Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Rule Guidebook. Section 7.1 of the Appendix. [AFFH Rule Guidebook \(hud.gov\)](https://www.hud.gov/sites/default/files/affh-rule-guidebook)*

The Cooperating Parties will:

- Provide a list of primary City/County contacts for each participating jurisdiction;
- Provide data and assessment of prior Analysis of Impediments;
- Assist identifying local data and local knowledge;
- Assist identifying stakeholders for and participate in community meetings;
- Assist identifying contributing factors, priorities, and goals for fair housing; and
- Review and analyze data findings, recommendations, and the final report.

3.1 Using HUD's AFH User Interface: The Consultant must use HUD's AFH User Interface to upload and submit the entire AFH to HUD.

3.2 Using the Assessment Tool to Complete the AFH: The Consultant will use HUD's Assessment Tool to complete the AFH and will refer to HUD's AFFH Rule Guidebook as a roadmap for this work. The tool is designed to identify fair housing issues, determine the factors that significantly contribute to those issues (including what data to use), and develop a plan to overcome them. The AFH must include:

- Summary of fair housing issues and capacity;
- Analysis of HUD-provided data, local data, and local knowledge;
- Assessment of fair housing issues and contributing factors; and
- Identification of fair housing priorities and goals.

3.3 Supplementing HUD-Provided Data with Local Data and Local Knowledge: The Consultant will work with the Cooperating Parties to identify and supplement HUD-provided

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data with local data and local knowledge. This data includes but is not limited to the information obtained through the community participation process. The Consultant will develop an initial list of County of Riverside data required prior to beginning an in-depth analysis.

- 3.4 Analyzing Fair Housing Data:** The Consultant will use HUD-provided data to assess fair housing issues and contributing factors in order to work with the Cooperating Parties to set fair housing priorities and goals for the geographic areas covered by the County of Riverside, the Housing Authority of the County of Riverside and the Cities of Banning, Beaumont, Blythe, Canyon Lake, Coachella, Desert Hot Springs, Eastvale, Lake Elsinore, La Quinta, Murrieta, Norco, San Jacinto, and Wildomar. Data must provide benchmarks to allow for the measuring of trends and changes over time. (Beaumont and Eastvale are currently pending participation).
- 3.5 Analyzing HUD-Provided Maps & Tables:** HUD will provide data through maps and tables that will be available in the User Interface and the AFFH Data and Mapping Tool. The Consultant may provide additional relevant maps for attachment through the AFFH User Interface. The Consultant will analyze HUD-provided maps showing racially and ethnically concentrated areas of poverty, dot density maps showing the geographic dispersion of different racial and ethnic groups, and thematic maps showing disparities in the location of proficient schools across the jurisdiction and region. HUD maps provide census tract boundaries and the borders of the jurisdiction. The Consultant will analyze HUD-provided tables including but not limited to, the percentages of various races in a jurisdiction and region, the number of public housing units within a jurisdiction, and the number of residents with a particular type of disability in a jurisdiction.
- 3.6 Developing Maps & Gathering Local Data and Knowledge:** The Consultant is required to supplement HUD-provided maps with local data and knowledge. Local data refers to metrics, statistics, and other quantified information that are relevant to the County's geographic areas of analysis that can be found through a reasonable amount of search, are readily available at little or no cost, and are necessary for the completion of the AFH using the Assessment Tool. Local knowledge refers to information to be provided by the Cooperating Parties that relates to the County's geographic areas of analysis and is necessary for the completion of the AFH using the Assessment Tool.

Local data and knowledge include information that is gathered through the community participation process and by consulting local, state, or regional planning departments, academics, and others with knowledge of the local areas or whose work impacts on housing. The Consultant is required to consult directly with assigned staff from the Cooperating Parties.

- 3.7 Facilitating a Community Participation Process – Consultation Meetings:** The Consultant is required to conduct consultation meeting(s) with organizations, including but not limited to: local fair housing organizations(s), public and private housing providers, state housing coalitions, affordable housing advocates, affordable housing developers, community based organizations, tenant organizations, faith-based organizations, social service agencies, philanthropic organizations, and realtors. The Consultant will submit a list of questions to the Cooperating Parties for review prior to holding the consultation meetings. This list will be reviewed by the Cooperating Parties and approved for use during the community participation process. The Consultant will assist the Cooperating Parties in documenting the community participation process. This includes a summary of the effectiveness of outreach efforts and comments received. The documentation will include a summary of the comments, views, and recommendations, received in writing, or orally at public hearings, during the community participation process, including a summary of any comments, views, and recommendations

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not accepted by the Cooperating Parties and the reasons for non-acceptance. The community participation and consultation process must include organizations and other interested members of the public in the jurisdictions of each Cooperating Party, and not just those of the lead entity.

3.8 Facilitating a Community Participation Process – Public Meetings: The Cooperating Parties are required to provide opportunities for community participation throughout the development of the AFH. The Consultant must follow the policies and procedures described in each Cooperating Parties’ Citizen/Community Participation Plan (will be provided to the successful proposer) The Citizen Participation Plan should be used in the development of the AFH to obtain community feedback and address complaints. The Consultant must also consult with the County’s Resident Advisory Boards or other resident organizations, provide an opportunity for the submission of comments, and conduct a public hearing. The Consultant is expected to prepare and provide a presentation on the Cooperating Parties’ objective to affirmatively further fair housing at several community meetings (to be agreed upon) and address public comments and questions. These comments and questions are to be summarized and included in the AFH with a listing of all public recommendations accepted or not accepted, and the reasons for the acceptance or rejection of the recommendation. Local knowledge is to be obtained from the public gatherings and utilized in the development of the AFH. The community participation process must include residents and other interested members of the public in Riverside County and the jurisdictions of each Cooperating Party.

If contracted to facilitate the Community Participation process [See 5. Below], the Consultant must:

- Make the HUD–provided data and any other data to be included in the AFH available to residents, public agencies, and other interested parties;
- Conduct several public meetings (to be agreed upon);
- Publish the proposed AFH in a manner that affords residents and other the opportunity to examine its content and submit comments;
- Provide for at least one public hearing during the development of the AFH; and
- Provide a period of not less than 30 calendar days to receive comments from residents of the community.

3.9 Identifying Fair Housing Contributing Factors: The identification and prioritization of contributing factors is a process intended to inform goal setting, and help identify strategies, actions, and policy responses to fair housing issues. The Consultant must identify fair housing issues and contributing factors, prioritizing those factors that limit or deny fair housing choice of access to opportunity, negatively impact fair housing, or violate civil rights compliance. The prioritization of the contributing factors must be justified.

3.10 Setting Fair Housing Priorities & Goals: The Consultant is required to identify at least one or more goal(s) to overcome the fair housing issues for which significant contributing factors have been identified. The Consultant is to guide the Cooperating Parties in identifying goals and setting priorities based on findings and data.

HUD recommends SMART goals – Specific, Measurable, Action-Oriented, Realistic and Time-bound. For each goal, the Consultant must:

- Identify one or more contributing factors that the goal is designed to address;

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- Describe how the goal relates to overcoming the identified contributing factor(s) and related fair housing issue(s);
- Identify the metrics and milestones for determining what fair housing results will be achieved, including the timeframes for achieving them; and
- Identify the responsible party for each goal.

3.11 Preparing and Conducting Public Presentation of Draft AFH Plan: The Consultant will submit the preliminary draft AFH to the Cooperating Parties for review and comments. The Consultant will revise the AFH according to the Cooperating Parties' changes, then submit drafts for the Cooperating Parties to review. The Consultant may be required to join the Cooperating Parties' staff at public hearings to present the draft AFH to the County Board of Supervisors and any other elected officials from jurisdictions requesting review.

5. *The Cooperating Parties may choose to lead the community participation process without the Consultant. If so, the Cooperating Parties may require a minimal amount of consultation with the Consultant for the planning and execution of the meetings.*

3.12 Ensuring Content of Draft AFH Plan Complies with AFFH Rule Guidebook: The Consultant must ensure that the AFH complies with HUD's AFFH Rule Guidebook. The Assessment Tool outlines the required prompts and questions and includes instructions for the AFH and includes the following:

- I. Cover Sheet
- II. Executive Summary
- III. Community Participation Process
- IV. Assessment of Past Goals and Actions
- V. Fair Housing Analysis
 - a. Demographic Summary
 - b. General Issues
 - i. Segregation/Integration
 - ii. Racially or Ethnically Concentrated Areas of Poverty (R/ECAPs)
 - iii. Disparities in Access to Opportunity
 - iv. Disproportionate Housing Needs
 - c. Publicly Supported Housing Analysis
 - d. Disability and Access Analysis
 - e. Fair Housing Enforcement, Outreach Capacity, and Resources
- VI. Fair Housing Goals and Priorities

3.13 Responding to Public Comments: The Consultant will submit the draft report to the Cooperating Parties with supporting data in electronic format. After review and acceptance of the draft report by the Cooperating Parties, the report and supporting data will be released to the public, providing them 30 calendar days to submit their comments.

The Consultant will review, and address comments received through the public comment period and prepare a revised AFH draft for approval by the Cooperating Parties.

3.14 Submitting Final AFH Plan: After the approval of the AFH by the County Board of Supervisors and other elected officials, the Consultant will submit the AFH using HUD's online Assessment of Fair Housing User Interface for review and consideration by September 1, 2023.

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3.15 Revising and Resubmitting the Final AFH Plan: The Consultant will be available for revision and resubmission of the Final AFH Plan if HUD determines the AFH is inconsistent with fair housing or civil rights requirements or if the AFH is substantially incomplete. The Consultant must also aid the Cooperating Parties by making the revised AFH available to the public for a 30-day review and comment period. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** If HUD deems the revision unacceptable, the Consultant will repeat the revision and resubmission process until HUD has agreed to the changes and accepted the revision.

3.16 Length of Agreement: The anticipated duration of the agreement will be for 15 months, with the term to begin tentatively September 30, 2023 and end September 30, 2024, however these dates are subject to change.

4.0 PROPOSAL FORMAT:

4.1 Tabbed Proposal Submittal: The County intends to evaluate the proposals pursuant to a "Best Value" basis, not a "Low Proposal" basis ("Best Value," in that the County will, as detailed within Section 4.0 below, consider factors other than just cost in making the award decision) to select the successful proposer. Therefore, so that the County can properly evaluate the offers received, all proposals submitted in response to this RFP must be formatted in accordance with the numbered sequence noted below. Each category must be separated by numbered index dividers or tabs (extending so that each tab can be located without opening the proposal) and labeled with the corresponding tab reference. None of the proposed services may conflict with any requirement the County has published herein or has issued by addendum.

Each proposal should include sections addressing the following information in the order shown. The Consultant should be sure to include all information that it feels will enable the Evaluation Committee and, ultimately, the Cooperating Parties to decide. Failure of the Consultant to provide specific, detailed information may result in its proposal being rejected in favor of a sufficiently detailed proposal. Any necessary exhibits or other information, including information not specifically requested by this RFP but that the proposer believes would be helpful, should be attached to the end of the proposal under TAB 11. The party submitting the materials should keep in mind the limitations on confidential information described in Section 1.11.

TAB 1 - Proposal Submittal Checklist:

This Form is attached hereto as Attachment A to this RFP document and incorporated herein by this reference. This one-page Form must be fully completed, executed where provided thereon and submitted under this tab as a part of the proposal submittal.

TAB 2 - Form of Proposal:

This Form is attached hereto as Attachment B to this RFP document and incorporated herein by this reference. This 1-page Form must be fully completed, executed where provided thereon and submitted under this tab as a part of the proposal submittal.

TAB 3 - Profile of Proposer Firm Form:

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The Profile of Proposer Firm Form is attached hereto as Attachment C to this RFP document and incorporated herein by this reference. This 3-page Form must be fully completed executed and submitted under this tab as a part of the proposal submittal.

TAB 4 - Cover Letter:

Provide a one-page cover letter on your letterhead that includes the address, voice and facsimile numbers, and e-mail address of the contact person or persons. List the name and title of each person authorized to represent the Consultant/Company in negotiations.

TAB 5 - Qualifications and Experience:

1. Provide a statement of qualifications for your organization, including an organization chart, a statement of the size of firm, a description of services provided by your organization, and a statement of the extent of experience/history providing the services requested by this RFP.
2. How many full-time employees (FTEs) do you plan to assign to this project if you are selected?
3. How many people in total are employed by your company? Delineate between employees and consultants.
4. If applicable, list the professional qualifications for each individual that would be assigned to provide services requested by this RFP, including date and educational institutions of any applicable degrees, additional applicable training, and any professional certifications and/or licensing. In lieu of listing this information, you may submit a resume or curriculum vitae for each such individual if the resume/CV includes all the requested information.

TAB 6 - Proposed Approach:

This section describes your proposed approach for meeting the services required by the Cooperating Parties, as listed above. Relevant considerations include the quality and feasibility of your approach to meeting these needs, the way you plan to provide adequate staffing (if applicable), and equipment or other resources provided by you (if applicable). Keep these considerations in mind as you respond to the following:

1. Describe how you will fulfill the needs of the Cooperating Parties described in this RFP. Attach a project plan, if appropriate.
2. List your needs for physical space and/or equipment at the Cooperating Parties during this engagement, if any, aside from space or equipment that would be provided by the Cooperating Parties as an obvious aspect of the requested services (for example, computers to document services, etc.).
3. Identify how you will meet all other aspects of the scope of work and related requirements stated above. List any items that you cannot provide.

TAB 7 - Customer Service:

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1. In the event of a problem, who is to be contacted within your organization?
2. In the event of the identification of a problem by the Cooperating Parties, their clients, and/or other applicable constituents, describe how you will address such problems and the timeframe for addressing them.

TAB 8 - Cost Analysis and Budget for Primary Services:

1. Provide an itemized budget and a detailed explanation for all costs associated with your providing the requested services if you are selected.
 - a. Please itemize and provide a proposal of costs including the community participation processes detailed in Sections 3.7 and 3.8.
 - b. Itemize separate costs to notify and include other cities/jurisdictions that may be interested in participating in the cooperative AFFH submission.
2. Is travel time to the Cooperating Parties and other required locations expected to be billable? If so, how will travel time invoices be calculated? Generally, proposals that do not include travel time or expenses are preferred unless the services requested require travel as part of the service.
3. Include start-up costs, if any.

TAB 9 - References:

1. List at least three business references for which you have recently provided similar services. Include contact names, titles, phone numbers and e-mail addresses for all references provided.

TAB 10 - Equal Employment Opportunity: The proposer must submit under this tab a copy of its Equal Opportunity Employment Policy.

TAB 11 - (Optional Item) Other Information: The proposer may include hereunder any other general information that the proposer believes is appropriate to assist the County in its evaluation.

If no information is to be placed under any of the above noted tabs (especially the "Optional" tab), please place thereunder a statement such as "NO INFORMATION IS BEING PLACED UNDER THIS TAB" or "THIS TAB LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK." DO NOT eliminate any of the tabs.

Unless the Consultant is an individual, all proposals must be signed with a firm/company/partnership/entity name and by a responsible officer or employee indicating that officer or employee's authorization to commit the Consultant to the terms of the proposal. Obligations assumed by such signature must be fulfilled.

4.2 Proposal Submittal Binding Method: It is preferable and recommended that the proposer bind the proposal submittals in such a manner that the County can, if needed, remove the binding (i.e. "comb-type;" etc.) or remove the pages from the cover (i.e. 3-ring binder; etc.) to make copies then conveniently return the proposal submittal to its original condition.

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- 4.3 Proposal Submission:** All proposals must be submitted and time-stamped received in the designated County office by no later than the submittal deadline stated herein (or within any ensuing addendum). A total of 1 original signature copy (marked "ORIGINAL") and three (3) exact copies (each of the 3 proposal submittals shall have a cover and extending tabs) of the proposal submittal, shall be placed unfolded in a sealed package and addressed to:

**Housing Authority of the County of Riverside
Attention: George Eliseo, Contracts & Grants Analyst
5555 Arlington Avenue, Riverside, CA 92504**

The package exterior must clearly denote the following: “**RFP No. 2023-003 Assessment of Fair Housing**” and “**Sealed Proposal**” and must have the proposer’s name and return address. Proposals received after the published deadline will not be accepted. Email delivery shall not be a substitute for or waive physical delivery of the bid by the deadline.

- 4.4 Submission Conditions: *DO NOT FOLD OR MAKE ANY ADDITIONAL MARKS, NOTATIONS OR REQUIREMENTS ON THE DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED.*** Proposers are not allowed to change any requirements or forms contained herein, either by making or entering onto these documents or the documents submitted any revisions or additions; and if any such additional marks, notations or requirements are entered on any of the documents that are submitted to the County by the proposer, such may invalidate that proposal. If, after accepting such a proposal, the County decides that any such entry has not changed the intent of the proposal that the County intended to receive, the County may accept the proposal and the proposal shall be considered by the County as if those additional marks, notations or requirements were not entered on such. By accessing the noted Internet System, registering and downloading these documents, each prospective proposer that does so is thereby agreeing to confirm all notices that the County delivers to him/her as instructed, and by submitting a proposal, the proposer is thereby agreeing to abide by all terms and conditions published herein and by addendum pertaining to this RFP.
- 4.5 Submission Responsibilities:** It shall be the responsibility of each proposer to be aware of and to abide by all dates, times, conditions, requirements, and specifications set forth within all applicable documents issued by the County, including but not limited to this RFP document, the documents listed within the following Section 3.4, and any addenda and required attachments submitted by the proposer. By virtue of completing, signing, and submitting the completed documents, the proposer is stating his/her agreement to comply with all conditions and requirements set forth within those documents.
- 4.6 Proprietary Information:** To the extent not prohibited by applicable law, if a proposer does not desire certain proprietary information in their proposal disclosed, the proposer is required to identify all proprietary information in the proposal, which identification shall be submitted concurrently with the proposal. If the proposer fails to identify its proprietary information, it agrees by submission of its proposal that those sections shall be deemed non-proprietary and may be made available upon public request after a contract award. Any proposals received in connection with this RFP may be subject to disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act (Government Code Section 6250 et seq.)
- 4.7 Proposer's Responsibilities--Contact with the County:** It is the responsibility of the proposer to address all communication and correspondence pertaining to this RFP process to the CO only! Proposers must not make inquiry or communicate with any other County staff member or official (including members of the Board of Commissioners) pertaining

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to this RFP. Failure to abide by this requirement may be cause for the County to not consider a proposal submittal received from any proposer who may has not abided by this directive!

- 4.8 Addendums:** All questions and requests for information must be addressed in writing to the CO. The CO will respond to all such inquiries in writing by addendum to all prospective proposers (i.e. firms or individuals that have obtained the RFP Documents). During the RFP solicitation process, the CO will NOT conduct any *ex parte* (a substantive conversation—“substantive” meaning, when decisions pertaining to the RFP are made—between the County and a prospective proposer when other prospective proposers are not present) conversations that may give one prospective proposer an advantage over other prospective proposers. This does not mean that prospective proposers may not call the CO—it simply means that, other than making replies to direct the prospective proposer where his/her answer has already been issued within the solicitation documents, the CO may not respond to the prospective proposer’s inquiries but will direct him/her to submit such inquiry in writing so that the CO may more fairly respond to all prospective proposers in writing by addendum.
- 4.9 Recap of Attachments:** It is the responsibility of each proposer to verify that he/she has downloaded the following attachments pertaining to this RFP, which are hereby incorporated herein by this reference:

[Table No. 2]

Attachment	Attachment Description
A	Proposal Submittal Checklist
B	Form of Proposal
C	Profile of Proposer Firm Form
D	Link to the HUD AFFH Rule Guidebook
E	County Sample Contract Form (Note: This contract is being given as a sample only. County reserves the right to revise any clause herein and/or to include within the ensuing contract any additional clauses that are in its best interests)
F	Additional Federal Requirements

5.0 PROPOSAL EVALUATION:

5.1 Evaluation Factors: The following factors will be utilized by the County to evaluate each proposal submittal received; award of points for each listed factor will be based upon the documentation that the proposer submits within his/her proposal submittal:

A. Qualifications and Experience:

Maximum Points: 20

As indicated under Tab 5, the proposer’s qualifications and prior experience, including capability and experience of its key personnel, including their resumes and history of successfully performing similar services for public or private agencies.

B. Proposed Approach:

Maximum Points: 20

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As indicated under Tab 6, the proposer's proposed approach to conducting the AFFH, including clarity of understanding of the scope of services to be provided and appropriateness of the proposed solution/services, as well as the ability to meet any required timelines or other requirements.

C. Customer Service:

Maximum Points: 10

As indicated under Tab 7, the proposer's approach to customer service and coordination with the COUNTY and the Cooperating Parties.

D. Cost Analysis and Budget for Primary Services:

Maximum Points: 15

As indicated under Tab 8, the proposer's itemized budget and a detailed explanation for all costs associated with providing the requested services and an itemized proposal of costs including the community participation processes.

E. References:

Maximum Points: 15

As indicated under Tab 9, a comprehensive list of the proposer's references for other public and private entities that it has provided these same or similar services.

F. Lowest Overall Price:

Maximum Points: 20

The proposer with the lowest overall cost for the primary services described by this RFP will receive the maximum amount of points and the next highest proposers will each receive a percentage thereafter.

5.2 Evaluation Methods and Process:

- A. Initial Evaluation for Responsiveness:** Each proposal received will first be evaluated for responsiveness (e.g., meets the minimum of the published requirements). The County reserves the right to reject any proposals deemed by the County not minimally responsive (the County will notify such firms in writing of any such rejection).
- B. Evaluation Packet for Proposals Deemed Responsive:** Internally, an evaluation packet will be prepared for each evaluator, including the following documents: Score Sheet for each proposer and a copy of all pertinent RFP documents.
- C. Evaluation Committee:** The County anticipates that it will select a minimum of a three-person committee to evaluate each of the responsive "hard copy" proposals submitted in response to this RFP. PLEASE NOTE: No proposer shall be informed at any time during or after the RFP process as to the identity of any evaluation committee member. If, by chance, a proposer does become aware of the identity of such person(s), he/she SHALL NOT make any attempt to contact or discuss with such person anything related to this RFP. As detailed within Section 3.6 of this document, the designated CO is the only person at the County that the proposers shall contact pertaining to this RFP. Failure to abide by this requirement may (and

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most likely will) cause such proposer(s) to be eliminated from consideration for award.

- D. Evaluation:** The CO will evaluate and award points pertaining to the lowest overall price. The appointed evaluation committee, independent of the CO or any other person at the County, shall evaluate the responsive proposals submitted and award points pertaining to the listed Evaluation Factors. Upon final completion of the proposal evaluation process, the evaluation committee will forward the completed evaluations to the CO.
- E. Potential "Competitive Range" or "Best and Finals" Negotiations:** The County reserves the right to, as detailed within Section 7.2.N through Section 7.2.R of HUD Procurement Handbook 7460.8 REV 2, conduct a "Best and Finals" Negotiation, which may include oral interviews, with all firms deemed to be in the competitive range. Any firm deemed not to be in the competitive range shall be notified of such in writing by the County in a timely manner as possible, but in any case, within no longer than 5 days after the beginning of such negotiations with the firms deemed to be in the competitive range.
- F. Determination of Top-ranked Proposer:** Typically, the subjective points awarded by the evaluation committee will be combined with the objective points awarded by the CO to determine the final rankings, which is customarily forwarded by the CO to the Executive Director (ED) or designee for approval. If the evaluation was performed to the satisfaction of the ED, the final rankings may be forwarded to the Housing Authority Board of Supervisors (BOS) at a scheduled meeting for approval, in the BOS's sole and absolute discretion, if necessary. Contract negotiations may, at the County's option, be conducted prior to or after the BOS approval.
- G. Minimum Evaluation Results:** To be considered to receive an award a proposer must receive a calculated average of at least 70% of the Subjective Total Score.
- H. Ties:** In the case of a tie in points awarded, the award shall be decided as detailed within Section 6.12.C of HUD Procurement Handbook 7460.8 REV 2, by "drawing lots or other random means of selection."
- I. Notice of Results of Evaluation:** If an award is completed, all proposers will receive by e-mail a Notice of Results of Evaluation. Such notice shall inform all proposers of the following: (1) Which proposer received the award, (2) Where each proposer placed in the process because of the evaluation of the proposals received, (3) The cost or financial offers received from each proposer, (4) Each proposer's right to a debriefing and to protest.
- J. Proposal Protest:** Any prospective or actual proposer, who is allegedly aggrieved in connection with the solicitation of a proposal or award of a contract, shall have the right to protest. To be eligible to file a protest with the County pertaining to an RFP or contract, the alleged aggrieved protestant must have been involved in the RFP process in some manner as a prospective proposed buyer (i.e. registered, downloaded and received the RFP documents) when the alleged situation occurred. The alleged aggrieved protestant must file, in writing, to County the exact reason for the protest, attaching any supportive data. The protestant must state

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within the written protest document specifically (not by inference) what action by the County or condition is being protested as inequitable, making, where appropriate specific reference to the RFP documents issued and including the specific citation of law, rule, regulation, or procedure upon which the protest is based. The protest document must also state the corrective action requested. Failure by the alleged aggrieved protestant to fully submit such information shall relieve County from any responsibility to take any corrective action, and as a result of noncompliance, the appeal will be dismissed without further review. The County has no obligation to consider a protest filed by any party that does not meet these criteria. Any protest against a solicitation must be received before the due date for the receipt of proposals, and any protest against the award of a contract must be received within ten (10) calendar days after the proposer receives notice of the contract award, or the protest will not be considered. All proposal protests shall be in writing, submitted to the Contracting Officer or designee, who shall issue a written decision on the matter. The Contracting Officer may, at his/her discretion, suspend the procurement pending resolution of the protest if the facts presented so warrant. All appeals shall be marked as follows and sent to the address listed below:

**APPEAL OF RFP NO. 2023-003
County of Riverside
Attn: George Eliseo, Contracting Officer
5555 Arlington Avenue Riverside, CA 92504**

K. Restrictions: All persons having familial (including in-laws) and/or employment relationships (past or current) with principals and/or employees of a proposer entity will be excluded from participation on the County evaluation committee. Similarly, all persons having ownership interest in and/or contract with a proposer entity will be excluded from participation on the County evaluation committee.

6.0 CONTRACT AWARD:

6.1 Contract Award Procedure: If a contract is awarded pursuant to this RFP, the following detailed procedures will be followed:

By completing, executing, and submitting the Form of Proposal, (Attachment B), the proposer is thereby agreeing to “abide by all terms and conditions pertaining to this RFP as issued by the County, in hard copy, including an agreement to execute the attached Sample Contract form (Attachment E).” Accordingly, the County has no responsibility to conduct after the submittal deadline any negotiations pertaining to the contract clauses already published; and in any case the County has no power or authority to negotiate any clauses contained within any attached HUD documents.

Depending on the amount of the award, the County will forward the Contract to the County Board of Supervisors (BOS) for review and approval/disapproval, in their sole and absolute discretion, prior to signing the contract with the selected proposer.

The contract shall be awarded subject to a resolution or minute order to that effect duly adopted by the County BOS, in their sole and absolute discretion. Execution of the contract documents shall constitute a written memorial thereof.

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- 6.2 Contract Conditions:** The following provisions are considered mandatory conditions of any contract award made by the County pursuant to this RFP:
- 6.3 Contract Form:** The County will not execute a contract on the successful proposer's form--contracts will only be executed on the County form (please see the Sample Contract Attachment E), and by submitting a proposal the successful proposer agrees to do so (please note that the County reserves the right to amend the County Sample Contract form as the County deems necessary). **Please note that the County has no legal right or ability to (and will not) at any time negotiate any clauses contained within ANY of the HUD forms included as a part of this RFP.**
- 6.4 Assignment of Personnel:** The County shall retain the right to demand and receive a change in personnel assigned to the work performed pursuant to this RFP and the contract if the County believes that such change is in the best interest of the County and the completion of the contracted work.
- 6.5 Unauthorized Sub-Contracting Prohibited:** The successful proposer shall not assign any right, nor delegate any duty for the work proposed pursuant to this RFP (including, but not limited to, selling, or transferring the contract) without the prior written consent of the CO in his/her sole and absolute discretion. Any purported assignment of interest or delegation of duty, without the prior written consent of the CO shall be void and may result in the cancellation of the contract with the County, or may result in the full or partial forfeiture of funds paid to the successful proposer as a result of the proposed contract; as determined by the CO in his/her sole and absolute discretion.
- 6.6 Contract Period:** The County anticipates that it will initially award a contract for the period of one (1) year with the option, at the County's discretion, of one (1) additional one-year option period, for a maximum total of two (2) years or until Program funding is exhausted, whichever comes first.
- 6.7 Licensing and Insurance Requirements:** Prior to any individual contract award (but not as a part of the proposal submission) the *successful proposer* will be required to provide the following during the term of the contract:
- 6.8 Insurance:** Without limiting or diminishing the Proposer's obligation to indemnify or hold the County harmless, Proposer shall procure and maintain or cause to be maintained, at its sole cost and expense, the following insurance coverages during the term of the Contract. As respects to the insurance section only, the County herein refers to the Housing Authority of the County of Riverside, the County of Riverside, its Agencies, Districts, Special Districts, and Departments, their respective directors, officers, Board of Supervisors, Board of Commissioners, employees, elected or appointed officials, agents or representatives as Additional Insureds.
- 6.9 Workers' Compensation:** If the Proposer has employees as defined by the State of California, the Proposer shall maintain statutory Workers' Compensation Insurance (Coverage A) as prescribed by the laws of the State of California. Policy shall include Employers' Liability (Coverage B) including Occupational Disease with limits not less than \$1,000,000 per person per accident. The policy shall be endorsed to waive subrogation in favor of the County.

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- 6.10 Commercial General Liability:** Commercial General Liability insurance coverage, including but not limited to, premises liability, unmodified contractual liability, products and completed operations liability, personal and advertising injury, employment practices liability, and cross liability coverage, covering claims which may arise from or out of Proposer's performance of its obligations hereunder. Policy shall name the County, its Agencies, Districts, Special Districts, Consultants, Departments, their Directors, Officers, Board of Supervisors, Board of Commissioners, employees, elected or appointed officials, agents, or representatives as Additional Insureds. Policy's limit of liability shall not be less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence combined single limit. If such insurance contains a general aggregate limit, it shall apply separately to the Contract or be no less than two (2) times the occurrence limit.
- 6.11 Vehicle Liability:** If vehicles or mobile equipment are used in the performance of the obligations under the Contract, then Proposer shall maintain liability insurance for all owned, non-owned or hired vehicles so used in an amount not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence combined single limit. If such insurance contains a general aggregate limit, it shall apply separately to the Contract or be no less than two (2) times the occurrence limit. Policy shall name the County of Riverside, its Agencies, Districts, Special Districts, Consultants, Departments, their Directors, Officers, Board of Supervisors, Board of Commissioners, employees, elected or appointed officials, agents, or representatives as Additional Insureds.
- 6.12 Professional Liability:** The Successful Proposer shall maintain Professional Liability Insurance providing coverage for the successful Proposer's performance of work included within this Contract, with a limit of liability of not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 annual aggregate. If Proposer's Professional Liability Insurance is written on a claims made basis rather than an occurrence basis, such insurance shall continue through the term of this Contract and Proposer shall purchase at his sole expense either 1) an Extended Reporting Endorsement (also, known as Tail Coverage); or 2) Prior Dates Coverage from new insurer with a retroactive date back to the date of, or prior to, the inception of the Contract; or 3) demonstrate through Certificates of Insurance that Proposer's has Maintained continuous coverage with the same or original insurer. Coverage provided under items; 1), 2), or 3) will continue as long as the law allows.
- 6.13 General Insurance Provisions - All lines:**
- a. Any insurance carrier providing insurance coverage hereunder shall be admitted to the State of California and have an A M BEST rating of not less than A: VIII (A:8) unless such requirements are waived, in writing, by the County Risk Manager. If the County's Risk Manager waives a requirement for a particular insurer such waiver is only valid for that specific insurer and only for one policy term.
 - b. The successful proposer must declare its insurance self-insured retention for each coverage required herein. If any such self-insured retention exceeds \$500,000 per occurrence each such retention shall have the prior written consent of the County Risk Manager before the commencement of operations under the Contract. Upon notification of self-insured retention unacceptable to the County, and at the election of the County's Risk Manager, Proposer's carriers shall either; 1) reduce or eliminate such self-insured retention as respects the Contract with the County, or 2) procure a bond which guarantees

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payment of losses and related investigations, claims administration, and defense costs and expenses.

- c. proposer shall cause proposer's insurance carrier(s) to furnish the County with either 1) a properly executed original Certificate(s) of Insurance and certified original copies of Endorsements effecting coverage as required herein, and 2) if requested to do so orally or in writing by the County Risk Manager, provide original Certified copies of policies including all Endorsements and all attachments thereto, showing such insurance is in full force and effect. Further, said Certificate(s) and policies of insurance shall contain the covenant of the insurance carrier(s) that thirty (30) days written notice shall be given to the County prior to any material modification, cancellation, expiration or reduction in coverage of such insurance. In the event of a material modification, cancellation, expiration, or reduction in coverage, the Contract shall terminate forthwith, unless the County receives, prior to such effective date, another properly executed original Certificate of Insurance and original copies of endorsements or certified original policies, including all endorsements and attachments thereto evidencing coverage's set forth herein and the insurance required herein is in full force and effect. ***Proposer shall not commence operations until the County has been furnished original Certificate (s) of Insurance and certified original copies of endorsements and if requested, certified original policies of insurance including all endorsements and any and all other attachments as required in this Section, showing that such insurance is in full force and effect. An individual authorized by the insurance carrier to do so on its behalf shall sign the original endorsements for each policy and the Certificate of Insurance.***
- d. It is understood and agreed to by the parties hereto that the proposer's insurance shall be construed as primary insurance, and the County's insurance and/or deductibles and/or self-insured retentions or self-insured programs shall not be construed as contributory.
- e. If, during the term of the Contract or any extension thereof, there is a material change in the scope of services; or, there is a material change in the equipment to be used in the performance of the scope of work; or, the term of the Contract, including any extensions thereof, exceeds five (5) years; the COUNTY reserves the right to adjust the types of insurance and the monetary limits of liability required under the Contract, if in the County Risk Manager's reasonable judgment, the amount or type of insurance carried by the Proposer has become inadequate.
- f. Proposer shall pass down the insurance obligations contained herein to all tiers of subcontractors working under the Contract.
- g. The insurance requirements contained in the Contract may be met with a program(s) of self-insurance acceptable to the County.
- h. Proposer agrees to notify County of any claim by a third party or any incident or event that may give rise to a claim arising from the performance of the Contract.

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- 6.14 State Business License.** A copy of the proposer's license issued by the State of California licensing authority allowing the proposer to provide the services detailed herein, if such a license is required.
- 6.15 Registration as a California Business Entity.** Registration with the California Secretary of State as a California Business Entity is mandatory to do business with the COUNTY. Proposers outside of California should visit the California Secretary of State website at <http://www.sos.ca.gov/> for additional registration information.
- 6.16 Right to Negotiate Final Fees:** The County shall retain the right to negotiate the amount of fees that are paid to the successful proposer, meaning the fees proposed by the top-rated proposer may, at the County's discretion, be the basis for the beginning of negotiations. Such negotiations shall begin after the County has chosen a top-rated proposer. If such negotiations are not, in the opinion of the CO successfully concluded within 5 business days, the County shall retain the right to end such negotiations and begin negotiations with the next-rated proposer. The County shall also retain the right to negotiate with and make an award to more than one proposer, as long as such negotiation(s) and/or award(s) are addressed in the above manner (i.e. top-rated first, then next-rated following until a successful negotiation is reached).
- 6.17 Contract Service Standards:** All work performed pursuant to this RFP must conform and comply with all applicable local, state and federal codes, statutes, laws and regulations.
- 6.18 Attachments:** Each of the attachments and exhibits attached hereto are incorporated herein by this reference.

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ATTACHMENT A

“Proposal Submittal Checklist”

(This Form must be fully completed and placed under Tab No. 1 of the “hard copy” tabbed proposal submittal.)

Instructions: Unless otherwise specifically required, the items listed below must be completed and included in the proposal submittal. Please complete this form by marking an “X,” where provided, to verify that the referenced completed form or information has been included within the “hard copy” proposal submittal submitted by the proposer. Also, complete the Section 3 Statement and the Proposer’s Statement as noted below:

X=ITEM INCLUDED	SUBMITTAL ITEMS <i>(Three copies of each proposal, including one with original signatures)</i>
_____	Tab 1 Proposal Submittal Checklist (Attachment A)
_____	Tab 2 Form of Proposal (Attachment B)
_____	Tab 3 Profile of Proposer Firm Form (Attachment C)
_____	Tab 4 Cover Letter
_____	Tab 5 Qualifications and Experience
_____	Tab 6 Proposed Approach
_____	Tab 7 Customer Service
_____	Tab 8 Cost Analysis and Budget for Primary Services
_____	Tab 9 References
_____	Tab 10 Equal Employment Opportunity Policy
_____	Tab 11 Other Company Information (Optional)

PROPOSER’S STATEMENT

The undersigned proposer hereby states that by completing and submitting this Form and all other documents within this proposal submittal, he/she is verifying that all information provided herein is, to the best of his/her knowledge, true and accurate, and that if the County discovers that any information entered herein to be false, such shall entitle the County to not consider or make award or to cancel any award with the undersigned party.

Further, by completing and submitting the proposal submittal, the undersigned proposer is thereby agreeing to abide by all terms and conditions pertaining to this RFP as issued by the County, including an agreement to execute the County Sample Contract, attached to this RFP as Attachment E.

Pursuant to all RFP documents, this Form of Proposal, and all attachments, and pursuant to all completed documents submitted, including these forms and all attachments, the undersigned proposes to supply the County with the services described herein for the fee(s) entered herein.

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Signature Date Printed Name Company

ATTACHMENT B

FORM OF PROPOSAL

(This Form must be fully completed and placed under Tab No. 2 of the "hard copy" tabbed proposal submittal.)

- A. Form:** Each proposer shall submit their proposed fees on this form only, which shall be completed, signed, and returned to the COUNTY with the completed Proposal.

- B. Entry of Proposed Fees:** Each proposer must enter the proposed fees for each of the following Pricing Items where provided. Such fees shall be all-inclusive of all related costs that the Proposer will incur to provide the listed services, including, but not limited to (unless otherwise stated herein): sales tax, employee wages and benefits; clerical support; overhead; profit; licensing; insurance; materials; supplies; tools; equipment; long distance telephone calls; document copying; etc. You must enter a proposed fee for the majority of Pricing Items (a "No Proposal" is not allowed for any item), though a "No Charge" is allowed for one or more of the Pricing Items.

C. Pricing Items:

Program Management Fee: _____

Community Outreach Cost per City: _____

AFFH Report Fee: _____

Total of All Costs and Fees: _____

- D. Quantities:** All quantities entered by the COUNTY herein and within the corresponding Pricing Items are for calculating purposes only. As may be further detailed herein, the COUNTY does not guarantee any minimum or maximum amount of work as a result of any award ensuing from this RFP, as the ensuing contract will be a Requirements Contract, in that the COUNTY shall retain one proposer only and shall retain the right to order from that proposer (successful proposer), any amount of services the COUNTY requires.

Date: _____ **Company:** _____

Print Name: _____ **Signature:** _____

Office Phone Mobile Phone Email Address

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Business Address: _____

ATTACHMENT C

“PROFILE OF PROPOSER FIRM FORM”

(This Form must be fully completed and placed under Tab No.3 of the “hard copy” tabbed proposal submittal.)

(1) Name of Firm: _____ Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

E-Mail: _____

(2) Street Address, City, State, Zip: _____

(3) **Please attach a brief biography/resume of the company**, including the following information:
(a) Year Firm Established; (b) Former Name and Year Established (if applicable); (c) Name of Parent Company and Date Acquired (if applicable).

(4) Identify Principals/Partners in Firm (submit under Tab No. 5 a brief professional resume for each):

NAME	TITLE	% OF OWNERSHIP

(5) Identify the individual(s) that will act as project manager and any other supervisory personnel that will work on project; please submit under Tab No. 5 a brief resume for each. (Do not duplicate any resumes required above):

NAME	TITLE

(6) Proposer Diversity Statement: You must circle all of the following that apply to the ownership of this firm and enter where provided the correct percentage (%) of ownership of each:

Caucasian American (Male) _____%
 Public-Held Corporation _____%
 Government Agency _____%
 Non-Profit Organization _____%

Resident- (RBE), Minority- (MBE), or Woman-Owned (WBE) Business Enterprise (Qualifies by virtue of 51% or more ownership and active management by one or more of the following:

Resident-Owned* _____%
 African American _____%
 **Native American _____%
 Hispanic American _____%
 Asian/Pacific American _____%
 Hasidic Jew _____%
 Asian/Indian American _____%

Woman-Owned (MBE) _____%
 Woman-Owned (Caucasian) _____%
 Disabled Veteran _____%
 Other (Specify): _____%

WMBE Certification Number: _____

Certified by: (Agency): _____

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(Note: a certification/number not required to propose – enter if available)

Signature	Date	Printed Name	Company
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(7) Federal Tax ID No.: _____

(8) County of Riverside Business License No.: _____

(9) State of California Business Entity Number (Secretary of State): _____

(10) Worker's Compensation Insurance Carrier: _____

Policy No.: _____ Expiration Date: _____

(11) General Liability Insurance Carrier: _____

Policy No. _____ Expiration Date: _____

(12) Professional Liability Insurance Carrier: _____

Policy No. _____ Expiration Date: _____

(13) Has your firm or any member of your firm been a part to litigation with a public entity?
Yes No Initials _____

If yes, when, with who and state the circumstances and any resolution.

(14) Is your firm currently involved in local, County, State, Federal mortgage foreclosure proceedings or currently 90 days in arrears on a local public or private loan?
Yes No Initials _____

If yes, when, with who and state the circumstances and any resolution.

(15) Is your firm currently in rem foreclosure or substantial tax arrears with a City/County or local jurisdiction?
Yes No Initials _____

If yes, when, with who and state the circumstances and any resolution.

(16) Has, or is this firm or any member of your firm currently in default on any contract obligation or agreement of any kind entered into with a City/County or local public agency?
Yes No Initials _____

If yes, when, with who and state the circumstances and any resolution.

(17) In the past 10 years, has your firm or any member of your firm failed to qualify as a responsible bidder, or refused to enter into a contract after an award has been made, privately or with any government agency?
Yes No Initials _____

If yes, when, with who and state the circumstances and any resolution.

(18) In the last 7 years, has your firm filed a bankruptcy petition or been the subject of involuntary bankruptcy proceedings?
Yes No Initials _____

If yes, when, with who and state the circumstances and any resolution.

(19) In the last 10 years, failed to file any required tax returns, or failed to pay any applicable Federal, State of California, or County of Riverside or other fees?
Yes No Initials _____

If yes, when, with who and state the circumstances and any resolution.

(20) Does your firm or any member of your firm have a record of substantial Building Code Violations or litigation against properties owned by the firm or by any entity or individual that comprises the Proposer?
Yes No Initials _____

If yes, when, with who and state the circumstances and any resolution.

(21) Has your firm or any member of your firm been convicted for fraud, bribery, or grand larceny?
Yes No Initials _____

If yes, when, with who and state the circumstances and any resolution.

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(22) Has your firm or any member of your firm ever sued or been sued by the Housing Authority of the County of Riverside or its affiliated entities? Yes No Initials _____

If yes, when and state the circumstances and any resolution of the lawsuit.

(23) Has your firm or any member of your firm ever had a claim brought against because of breach of contract or nonperformance? Yes No Initials _____

If yes, when and state the circumstances and any resolution of the matter.

(24) Debarred Statement: Has this firm, or any principal(s) ever been debarred from providing any services by the Federal Government, any state government, the State of California, or any local government agency within or without the State of California? Has this firm been de-designated as a developer of any government sponsored or publicly assisted project? Yes No Initials _____

If "Yes," please attach a full detailed explanation, including dates, circumstances and current status.

(25) Disclosure Statement: Does this firm or any principals thereof have any current, past personal or professional relationship with any Commissioner or Officer of the COUNTY? Yes No Initials _____

If "Yes," please attach a full detailed explanation, including dates, circumstances and current status.

(26) Non-Collusive Affidavit: The undersigned party submitting this bid hereby certifies that such bid is genuine and not collusive and that said bidder entity has not colluded, conspired, connived or agreed, directly or indirectly, with any proposer or person, to put in a sham proposal or to refrain from proposing, and has not in any manner, directly or indirectly sought by agreement or collusion, or communication or conference, with any person, to fix the proposal price of affiant or of any other proposer, to fix overhead, profit or cost element of said proposal price, or that of any other bidder or to secure any advantage against the COUNTY or any person interested in the proposed contract; and that all statements in said bid are true.

Initials _____

(27) Verification Statement: The undersigned bidder hereby states that by completing and submitting this bid he/she is verifying that all information provided herein is, to the best of his/her knowledge, true and accurate, and agrees that if the COUNTY discovers that any information entered herein is false, that shall entitle the COUNTY to not consider nor make award or to cancel any award with the undersigned party.

Initials _____

Signature

Date

Printed Name

Company

ATTACHMENT D
“AFFH RULE GUIDEBOOK”

HUD’s previous AFFH Rule Guidebook can be found on their website in PDF format at:
[AFFH Rule Guidebook \(hud.gov\)](https://www.hud.gov/affh/guidebook)

Consultant must obtain the current AFFH Rule Guidebook when it becomes available from HUD.

ATTACHMENT E
“Sample Contract”
(behind this page)

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ATTACHMENT F

“Additional Federal Requirements”

Whereas the work may be subject to applicable Federal, State, and local laws and regulations, including but not limited to the regulations pertaining to the Community Development Block Grant program (24 CFR Part 570) and the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (2 CFR Part 200). Contractor, sub-contractors, consultants, and sub-consultants agree to comply with, and are subject to, all applicable requirements as follows:

1. Equal Employment Opportunity - Compliance with Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, entitled "Equal Employment Opportunity", as amended by Executive Order 11375 of October 13, 1967, and as supplemented in Department of Labor regulations (41 CFR chapter 60): The Contractor/Consultant will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. Contractor/Consultant will ensure that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex or national origin. The Contractor/Consultant will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed and the employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race color, religion, sex, or national origin. Such actions shall include, but are not limited to, the following: employment, up-grading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The Contractor/Consultant agrees to post in a conspicuous place, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the County setting forth the provisions of this non-discriminating clause.

2. Copeland “Anti-Kickback” Act (18 U.S.C. 874 and 40 U.S.C. 276c: All contracts and subgrants in excess of \$2,000 for construction or repair awarded by recipients and subrecipients shall include a provision for compliance with the Copeland “Anti-Kickback” Act (18 U.S.C. 874), as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR part 3, “Contractors and Subcontractors on Public Building or Public Work Financed in Whole or in Part by Loans or Grants from the United States”). The Act provides that each contractor or subrecipient shall be prohibited from inducing, by any means, any person employed in the construction, completion, or repair of public work, to give up any part of the compensation to which he is otherwise entitled. The recipient shall report all suspected or reported violations to HUD.

3. Davis-Bacon Act, as amended (40 U.S.C. 276a to a-7: When required by Federal program legislation, all construction contracts awarded by the recipients and subrecipients of more than \$2000 shall include a provision for compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 276a to a-7) and as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR part

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5, “Labor Standards Provisions Applicable to Contracts Governing Federally Financed and Assisted Construction”). Under this Act, contractors shall be required to pay wages to laborers and mechanics at a rate not less than the minimum wages specified in a wage determination made by the Secretary of Labor. In addition, contractors shall be required to pay wages not less than once a week. The recipient shall place a copy of the current prevailing wage determination issued by the Department of Labor in each solicitation and the award of a contract shall be conditioned upon the acceptance of the wage determination. The recipient shall report all suspected or reported violations to HUD.

4. Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 327 through 333): Where applicable, all contracts awarded by recipients in excess of \$2000 for construction contracts and in excess of \$2500 for other contracts that involve the employment of mechanics or laborers shall include a provision for compliance with Sections 102 and 107 of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 327–333), as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR part 5). Under Section 102 of the Act, each contractor shall be required to compute the wages of every mechanic and laborer on the basis of a standard workweek of 40 hours. Work in excess of the standard workweek is permissible provided that the worker is compensated at a rate of not less than 1 1/2 times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in the workweek. Section 107 of the Act is applicable to construction work and provides that no laborer or mechanic shall be required to work in surroundings or under working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous or dangerous. These requirements do not apply to the purchases of supplies or materials or articles ordinarily available on the open market, or contracts for transportation or transmission of intelligence.

5. Rights to Inventions Made Under a Contract or Agreement: Contracts or agreements for the performance of experimental, developmental, or research work shall provide for the rights of the Federal Government and the recipient in any resulting invention in accordance with 37 CFR part 401, “Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements,” and any implementing regulations issued by HUD.

6. Rights to Data and Copyrights: Contractors and consultants agree to comply with all applicable provisions pertaining to the use of data and copyrights pursuant to 48 CFR Part 27.4, Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR).

7. Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.), as amended: Contracts and subgrants of amounts in excess of \$100,000 shall contain a provision that requires the recipient to agree to comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.). Violations shall be reported to HUD and the Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

8. Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (31 U.S.C. 1352): Contractors who apply or bid for an award of \$100,000 or more shall file the required certification. Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or

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organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal contract, grant or any other award covered by 31 U.S.C. 1352. Each tier shall also disclose any lobbying with non-Federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any Federal award. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier to tier up to the recipient.

9. Debarment and Suspension (E.O.s 12549 and 12689): No contract shall be made to parties listed on the General Services Administration's List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement or Non-procurement Programs in accordance with E.O.s 12549 and 12689, "Debarment and Suspension," as set forth at 24 CFR part 24. This list contains the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, and contractors declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than E.O. 12549. Contractors with awards that exceed the small purchase threshold shall provide the required certification regarding its exclusion status and that of its principal employees.

10. Drug-Free Workplace Requirements: The Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 701) requires grantees (including individuals) of federal agencies, as a prior condition of being awarded a grant, to certify that they will provide drug-free workplaces. Each potential recipient must certify that it will comply with drug-free workplace requirements in accordance with the Act and with HUD's rules at 24 CFR part 24, subpart F.

11. Access to Records and Records Retention: The Consultant or Contractor, and any sub-consultants or sub-contractors, shall allow all duly authorized Federal, State, and/or County officials or authorized representatives access to the work area, as well as all books, documents, materials, papers, and records of the Consultant or Contractor, and any sub-consultants or sub-contractors, that are directly pertinent to a specific program for the purpose of making audits, examinations, excerpts, and transcriptions. The Consultant or Contractor, and any sub-consultants or sub-contractors, further agree to maintain and keep such books, documents, materials, papers, and records, on a current basis, recording all transactions pertaining to this agreement in a form in accordance with generally acceptable accounting principles. All such books and records shall be retained for such periods of time as required by law, provided, however, notwithstanding any shorter periods of retention, all books, records, and supporting detail shall be retained for a period of at least four (4) years after the expiration of the term of this Agreement.

12. Federal Employee Benefit Clause: No member of or delegate to the congress of the United States, and no Resident Commissioner shall be admitted to any share or part of this agreement or to any benefit to arise from the same.