

**JEFFERSON COUNTY PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
HISTORIC COURT HOUSE, 195 ARSENAL STREET
WATERTOWN, NEW YORK 13601-2565
PH: (315) 785-3077
FAX: (315) 785-7591
Email: Purchasing@co.jefferson.ny.us**

Date of Notice: December 30, 2020

Notice to Bidders

In accordance with Section 103 of General Municipal Law, State of New York, Jefferson County (herein called the County) invites the submission of sealed bids for:

BID #21-01 – PURCHASE & DELIVERY OF IMPRINTED TRASH BAGS FOR THE JEFFERSON COUNTY RECYCLING DEPARTMENT

Bids will be received by the County until **THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2021 AT 2:30 PM EST** at the office of the Purchasing Department, 195 Arsenal Street, Watertown, New York 13601. Bids may not be submitted via fax or email, and all bids submitted must remain valid for up to forty-five (45) days from the date of the bid opening. No bids will be considered if received after the due date and time and the Purchasing Department shall assume no responsibility for the premature opening of any bid not properly addressed and identified.

Copies of this bid may be examined and copies obtained at the County Purchasing Department. The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids received.

All questions regarding this bid should be submitted in writing (mail, fax, or email) to the County Purchasing Department.

"IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXECUTIVE ORDER 202.11 ISSUED BY GOVERNOR CUOMO, THE GENERAL PUBLIC WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ATTEND THIS BID OPENING IN PERSON BUT THE BID OPENING WILL BE RECORDED AND MADE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE TO VIEW"

INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS & GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. With submission of a bid, a Bidder agrees to be bound by the requirements set forth in the following general conditions. Whenever reference is made to "Contractor", "Bidder", or "Vendor", this shall include the party with whom the County enters into an agreement, as well as any subcontractors whom the Bidder has engaged.
2. The County does not assume responsibility for errors or misinterpretations resulting from the use of incomplete sets of documents or documents that were not directly issued by the Jefferson County Purchasing Department. Any Vendor submitting a bid based on incomplete or inaccurate information resulting from documentation received from a third party shall not have cause for relief or completion of a contract in accordance with the official documents on file with the Purchasing Department. Verbal explanations or instructions regarding this bid provided by anyone other than an employee of the Purchasing Department shall be considered informal and will not be binding on the County unless confirmed in writing as an amendment to this solicitation, if such information is deemed necessary for the preparation of uniform bids. The County reserves the right to "Revise" or "Amend" the bid specification prior to the due date by "Written Addenda".

Prior to submission of a bid it is the responsibility of each Bidder to become fully familiar with the requirements of this solicitation. No Bidder may plead misunderstanding because of the misinterpretation of estimates, scope of work, or other issues related to this request. It shall be the responsibility of each Bidder to identify any apparent discrepancy in the specifications or question of interpretation thereof. Failure to do so constitutes acceptance as written. The apparent silence of this specification as to any details or the omission from it of a detailed description concerning any part shall be interpreted as meaning that only the best commercial practices are to prevail and that only materials and workmanship of first quality are to be used. The County shall have the right to waive any technical defect, qualification, omission, informality, or irregularity in any bid received if, in its judgment, the best interest of the County shall thereby be served. **The County will issue no response to any request for clarification received within ten (10) days of the due date.**

3. Bids should be submitted in a sealed envelope marked with the name of the bid and the words "**SEALED BID**" written on the outside of the envelope. Please submit three (3) copies one (1) original unbound two (2) copies. No employee in the Purchasing Department will be held liable for the premature opening of any bid received not designated as such. Bids submitted by **FAX OR E-MAIL** will not be accepted.
4. **Taxes.** No charge will be allowed for federal, state, sales, and excise taxes from which the County is exempt.
5. **Deviations.** Deviations to the specifications must be fully explained, and if judged to be in the best interest of the County, may be accepted at the sole discretion of the County.
6. **Qualifications.** Each Bidder must be prepared to present satisfactory proof of his ability to successfully complete the requirements of this solicitation. The County reserves the right to make whatever investigations or inquiries necessary to determine the competency and ability of any Bidder to complete the requirements of this solicitation. A review may include but not be limited to inspection of the Bidder's facilities and equipment, references or previous contract performance with the County or others.
7. Each bidder affirms that all figures provided are correct to the best of their knowledge and Understands that Jefferson County will not be responsible for any errors or omissions on the part of the bidder regarding estimates, calculations, or preparation of the bid, and will not be grounds for withdrawal or correction of the bid or bid security except as provided under General Municipal Law.

In case of errors between unit and extension of prices, the unit price will govern.

8. Award. The County has endeavored to incorporate within these specifications all the elements which it reasonably anticipates will be required to obtain responses from qualified Bidders. By submission of a bid you agree to provide goods or services consistent with these specifications unless otherwise stated. The bid will be awarded to the lowest responsive and responsible Bidder meeting the specifications or providing acceptable deviation.

The County reserves the right to reject in whole or part, any or all bids deemed not to be in the best interest of the County at the sole discretion of the County. If two or more Bidders submit identical bids as to price, the decision of the County to award a contract to one of such Bidders shall be final. If, after review it is determined that both bids are essentially equivalent the names of both bidders will be placed in a container and the winning bid selected by a draw witnessed by a minimum of two members of the Purchasing Department and a member of the County Audit department. The resulting contract award shall be deemed executory only to the extent of the monies appropriated and available, and no liability on account thereof shall be incurred by the County beyond the amount of such monies. It is understood that neither this contract nor any representation by any public employee or office creates any legal or moral obligation to request, appropriate or make available monies for the purpose of the contract. The County intends to issue a formal Purchase Order to purchase the goods and/or services described in this solicitation. It is understood that the successful Contractor is an independent Contractor and shall not be considered an agent of the County, nor shall any of the Contractor's agents or employees be considered subagents for the County.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE COUNTY WILL NOT PROVIDE VERBAL RESULTS OF ANY BID. REQUESTS FOR BID RESULTS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING (EMAIL IS ACCEPTABLE) TO THE JEFFERSON COUNTY PURCHASING DEPARTMENT AT purchasing@co.jefferson.ny.us RESPONSES WILL BE PROVIDED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

9. Indemnification. CONTRACTOR agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless COUNTY, and its officers, employees and agents from and against any and all claims, liens, demands, judgments, penalties, fines, liabilities, settlements, damages, costs and expenses of whatever kind or nature (including, without limitation, attorneys' fees and disbursements), known or unknown, contingent or otherwise, whether incurred as a result of a claim by a third party or any other person or entity, arising out of or in any way related to: (a) the work or operations of CONTRACTOR in the performance of this Agreement; or (b) CONTRACTOR'S failure to comply with any of the provisions of this Agreement or of the Law. Insofar as the facts and Law relating to any claim would preclude COUNTY or its officers, employees or agents, from being completely indemnified by CONTRACTOR, COUNTY and its officers, employees and agents, shall be partially indemnified by CONTRACTOR to the fullest extent permitted by Law. The acts or omissions of any party employed directly or indirectly by CONTRACTOR, shall be deemed to be that of CONTRACTOR for the purposes of the CONTRACTOR's obligations to defend, indemnify and hold harmless under this Section. The fact that a party so employed by CONTRACTOR is alleged to or is proven to have acted outside the scope of employment, agency or contract, shall not relieve CONTRACTOR of any of its duties under this Section.
10. Venues and Disputes. The exclusive means of disposing of any dispute arising under a contract with Jefferson County, which is not disposed of by agreement, shall be decided in a New York State Court of competent jurisdiction located within Jefferson County, New York. There shall be no right to binding arbitration. Pending final resolution of a dispute, the Vendor must proceed diligently with contract performance. The Vendor waives any dispute or claim not made in writing and received by the County within thirty (30) days of the occurrence giving rise to the dispute or claim. The claim must be in writing for sum certain and must be fully supported by all cost and pricing information.
11. Contract Term and Renewal Option. The initial contract term shall be from 2/1/21 – 1/31/22. If mutually agreed between the County and the Vendor, the contract may be renewed under the same terms and conditions for an additional one (1) year not to exceed a total contract term of two (2) years. Notice of

intent to renew will be provided to the contractor generally within ninety (90) days prior to the expiration date of the current contract. This notice shall not be deemed to commit the County to renew the contract for the renewal period until such time as the County takes official action (generally by issuing a formal Purchase Order) to commit to such renewal. The County may issue new bids for a replacement contract at any time during the term of the initial contract if deemed necessary by the County to do so.

12. Contract Cancellation. Unless otherwise noted, the County of Jefferson retains the right to cancel any contract without cause provided the Vendor is given at least thirty (30) days notice of intent to cancel. This provision should not be understood as waiving the County's right to terminate the contract for cause or stop work immediately for unsatisfactory work, but is supplementary to that provision.
13. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 109 of the General Municipal Law, no Bidder to whom a contract is granted or awarded shall assign, transfer, convey, subcontract, or otherwise dispose of all or part of such contract, or of his right, title, and interest herein, including the performance of the contract or the right to receive monies due, or to become due, or of his power to execute the contract without the prior written consent of the Jefferson County Purchasing Department
14. The Successful Bidder agrees to comply with any and all applicable laws, codes, and regulations in connection with the services identified in this bid as well as the non-discrimination and employment practices as required by applicable State and Federal laws and regulations regarding employment discrimination. The bidder assures the County that in accordance with applicable law: it does not and agrees that it will not discriminate in any manner on the basis of age, color, creed, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual preference or handicap.
15. FOIL. All material submitted in response to this Bid becomes the property of the County and will be considered public records after the award of the contract. Proposals shall not be shared with any competing offerors during the selection phase of this procurement; however, after award of the contract to the successful offeror, proposals received in response to this Request for Proposal may be subject to disclosure under a provision of the Freedom of Information Act. Information in proposals that is clearly identified as proprietary will not be disclosed at any time. Blanket statements that all contents of the proposal are confidential and proprietary will not be honored by the County. The New York State Freedom of Information Law (FOIL), as set forth in Public Officers Law, Article 6, mandates public access to certain government records. Generally, proposals submitted in response to this Bid may constitute government records subject to FOIL. Proposals may contain, among other things, certain technical, financial, or other data and information that constitute trade secrets, if publicly disclosed, could cause substantial injury to the commercial enterprise's competitive position. To protect this information from disclosure under FOIL, Proposers should specifically identify the pages of the proposal that contain such information by properly marking the top of the applicable pages as "CONFIDENTIAL" and inserting the following statement in the front of its proposal:

The information or data on pages _____ of this proposal, identified on the top thereof as "CONFIDENTIAL", contain financial, technical, or other information which constitute government records subject to FOIL. Proposals may contain, among other things, certain technical, financial, or other data and information that constitute trade secrets, if publicly disclosed, could cause substantial injury to the commercial enterprise's competitive position. We request that the County use such information only for the evaluation of this proposal but we understand that the Authority must comply with the provisions of the New York State Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) and public disclosure of the information contained in this proposal whether or not marked as "CONFIDENTIAL", and to make no claim for any damages as a result of any such disclosure by the County pursuant to FOIL.

In the event the County receives a FOIL request for disclosure of information marked as "CONFIDENTIAL", the Proposer shall be notified of the request and may expeditiously submit a detailed statement and explanation indicating the reasons the Proposer has for believing that the information requested is exempt from disclosure under the law. This detailed statement and explanation shall be used by the County in making its determination as to whether disclosure is required under the law.

"When submitting a bid for consideration, unless otherwise noted, all bidders understand that Jefferson County may reject all submissions that are marked "confidential" either substantially or in their entirety (other than narrowly defined data considered a 'trade secret'. All submissions are considered non public information until the evaluation is complete and a Contract or Purchase Order is issued. At that point all submissions become public record."

16. Equivalency. In submitting a proposal, the Bidder is agreeing to provide goods and services consistent with the specifications. Where a brand name or equivalent specification is used in this solicitation, the use of any brand name noted is for the purpose of describing the standard of quality, performance and characteristics desired and is not intended to limit or restrict competition.

A Contract, if awarded, will be on the basis of materials and equipment as described in the Drawings, or the Specifications, and "or equal" items submitted by the Bidder and accepted by the County. The Bidder may offer "or equal" items that meet the same performance or reliability standards as specified herein. If the Bidder offers an "or equal" item, the Bidder must include with the bid package, documentation establishing equality of construction, operation and utility. Said "or equal" items shall be accepted or rejected based upon the County's evaluation of the submitted documentation. All costs associated with the review of any "or equal" items prior to recommendation to award, shall be at the Bidder's expense.

If a submitted "or equal" item is rejected, the Bidders shall be afforded an opportunity to meet with the County to offer additional qualifying opinions and information prior to the County rejecting the bid. The Bidder shall not have the opportunity to submit any alternative materials or equipment after the bids are opened.

The decision to accept or reject an "or equal" item rests solely with the County. If a substitute "or equal" item is not accepted by the County, the bid will be deemed non-responsive and the County shall reject this bid. The next lowest responsive bid shall then be reviewed for recommendation of award.

17. Jefferson County may access contract pricing available through New York State contracts, GSA Schedule 70, Schedule 84, and Schedule 1122 contracts, and may "piggyback" on some contracts let by other municipal governments. If your products or services are offered through one of these sources you may offer the pricing of the alternate contract already in place.

If at any time during the term of this contract the successful vendor also has a NYS, GSA, or other contract legally available to the County through General Municipal Law, the County reserves the right to purchase from any or all of the contracts and the vendor agrees to supply goods or services in accordance with that contract if requested to do so.

18. Requirements Contract. Bidder acknowledges that the Contract that will be entered into as a result of this solicitation will be a Requirements Contract, and the County guarantees no minimum or maximum purchases will be made. The County will have no obligation to the Contractor if no items or services are required. Any quantities which are included are the present expectations for the period of the contract and the Contractor understands and agrees that the County is under no obligation to the Contractor to buy any amount as a result of having provided this estimate or of having had any normal or otherwise measurable requirement in the past. The bidder further understands that the County may require services in excess of the estimated annual contract amount and that such excess shall not

harassment prevention in the workplace and provides annual sexual harassment prevention training to all of its employees. Such policy shall, at a minimum, meet the requirements of section two hundred one-g of the labor law. Where competitive bidding is not required, state departments and agencies may, at their discretion, require the above certification.

A model policy and training has been created by the NYS Department of Labor and can be found here: <https://www.ny.gov/programs/combating-sexual-harassment-workplace>

BID #21-01
PURCHASE & DELIVERY OF IMPRINTED TRASH BAGS FOR THE JEFFERSON COUNTY RECYCLING DEPARTMENT
BID SPECIFICATIONS/BID PAGE

Jefferson County is soliciting bids for the purchase & delivery of 20,000 imprinted trash bags for our Jefferson County Recycling Department for immediate shipment with the following minimum specifications:

Material – Low Density Polyethylene (No Reprocessed Film or High Density)

Color – Clear

Size – 33 Gallon (33" x 39")

Gauge – 2 mil thickness

Style – Flat Bottom

PRINTING:

Each bag to be imprinted as follows:

Verbiage: "JEFF CO – 35 LB MAXIMUM"

Lettering: 6" High, Red, Block Style, Water Soluble Ink

NO Other Markings on the Bags

Ties: 5/6" x 8" must be included

1. Quantity: 200 cases (100 Bags/Case) \$ _____ /CASE DELIVERED

Delivery _____ days, ARO – PLEASE SPECIFY

2. Please provide pricing and minimum order should additional Quantities be required prior to 1/31/22.

Minimum Quantity _____ Cases (100/Case) \$ _____ /CASE

Delivery _____ days, ARO – PLEASE SPECIFY

COMPANY NAME: _____

BID PROPOSAL CERTIFICATIONS

Firm Name: _____

Business Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Fax Number: _____

Email: _____ Federal ID Number: _____

I. General Bid Certification

The bidder certifies that he will furnish, at the prices herein quoted, the materials, equipment, and/or services as proposed on this bid.

Any deviation to specifications is fully explained and attached. By signing and submitting this bid for consideration to the County of Jefferson, the vendor acknowledges that they have read, understand, and agree to the specifications as presented without reservation or alteration.

Deviations: Yes _____ No _____

II. Non-Collusive Bidding Certification

By submission of this bid proposal, the bidder certifies that he is complying with Section 103-d of the General Municipal Law as follows:

Statement of non-collusion in bids and proposals to political subdivision of the state. Every bid or proposal hereafter made to a political subdivision of the state or any public department, agency or official thereof where competitive bidding is required by statute, rule, regulation, or local law, for work or services performed or to be performed or goods sold or to be sold, shall contain the following statement subscribed by the bidder and affirmed by such bidder as true under the penalties of perjury: Non-collusive bidding certification.

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

- (1) The prices in this bid have been arrived at independently without collusion, consultation, communication or agreement, for the purpose of restricting competition, as to any matter relating to such prices with any other bidder or with any competitor.
- (2) Unless otherwise required by law, the prices which have been quoted in this bid have not been knowingly disclosed by the bidder and will not knowingly be disclosed by the bidder prior to opening, directly or indirectly, to any other bidder or to any competitor; and
- (3) No attempt has been made or will be made by the bidder to induce any other person, partnership or corporation to submit or not submit a bid for the purpose of restricting competition.

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

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

Printed Name of Signer _____
 Authorized Signature _____
 Title _____
 Date _____

NON-BIDDER'S RESPONSE

For purposes of maintaining accurate Bidder's lists and facilitating your firm's response to our invitation for bid, the County of Jefferson is interested in ascertaining reasons for prospective Bidder's failure to respond to invitations for bids. If your firm is not responding to this bid, please indicate the reason(s) by checking any appropriate item(s) below and returning this form to the Jefferson County Purchasing Director, 195 Arsenal Street, Watertown, New York 13601. This form may be returned by mail or fax. Faxes may be sent to 315-785-7591. Failure to submit either a bid proposal or return this form will result in removal of your firm's name from our Bidder's lists. Thank you for your cooperation.

We are not responding to this invitation for bid for the following reason(s)

- Items or materials requested not manufactured by us or not available to our company.
- Our items or materials do not meet specifications.
- Specifications not clearly understood or applicable (too vague, too rigid, etc.)
- Quantities too small.
- Insufficient time allowed for preparation of bid.
- Incorrect address used. Correct mailing address is:

- Our branch/division handles this type of bid.
Correct name and mailing address is:

- We are unable to bid at this time but would like to continue to receive invitations for bids.
- We are unable to bid and wish to be removed from the Bidder's list.

NAME OF FIRM: _____
MAILING ADDRESS: _____
CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE: _____

BY: _____
Signature of Representative

DATE: _____

Bid Number: 20-42 Bid Name: **PURCHASE & DELIVERY OF IMPRINTED TRASH BAGS FOR THE JEFFERSON COUNTY RECYCLING DEPARTMENT**

Attachment
Certification Pursuant to Section 103-g
of the New York State
General Municipal Law

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

Signature

Title

Date

Company Name