

AGREEMENT No. RFP 2024-02
BETWEEN CITY OF PAHOKEE AND HCT CERTIFIED PUBLIC
ACCOUNTANTS AND CONSULTANTS LLC

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into as of this ____ day of _____, 2024, by and between **HCT Certified Public Accountants and Consultants LLC**, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Florida, having its principal office at 3816 Hollywood Boulevard, Suite 203, Hollywood, Florida 33021 (hereinafter referred to as the “CONSULTANT”), and **City of Pahokee**, a political subdivision of the State of Florida, having its principal office at 207 Begonia Drive, Pahokee, Florida 33476 (hereinafter referred to as the “CITY”).

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the CONSULTANT has offered to provide the services and to be bound by the terms and conditions of the Request for Proposals (RFP) No. 2024-02 (Independent External Auditing Services) which includes the General Terms and Conditions, Special Conditions, Scope of Services, and associated addenda attached hereto and incorporated herein as “Exhibit A”, and the assertions included in the CONSULTANT’s Proposal attached hereto and incorporated herein as “Exhibit B”; and

WHEREAS, the CITY desires to retain a CONSULTANT to provide independent external auditing services as more particularly specified in the Scope of Services in “Exhibit A”; and

WHEREAS, CONSULTANT desires to render services described in the Scope of Services and has the qualifications, experience, staff and resources to perform those services; and

WHEREAS, through a competitive selection process conducted in accordance with the requirements of Florida law and City policy, the CITY has determined that it to be in the best interest of the CITY to award an Agreement to the CONSULTANT for the rendering of those services described in the scope of services.

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE AND ENTIRE AGREEMENT.

The foregoing “Whereas” clauses are hereby incorporated by reference and affirmed and ratified by the parties as true and correct. The Documents which comprise this Agreement between the CITY and the CONSULTANT are attached hereto, made a part hereof and consist of the following:

- A. This Agreement;

- B. RFP No. 2024-02 hereto as “Exhibit A”;
- C. Proposal hereto as “Exhibit B”;

In the event of a conflict between any of the terms and conditions in the Exhibits and this Agreement, this Agreement shall prevail.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants, terms, and provisions contained herein, the parties do hereby agree as follows:

Additional Terms and Conditions

SECTION 1. TERM.

1.1 This contract shall commence upon the effective date of the duly executed Agreement and shall remain in effect for a period of three (3) years, with two (2) one renewal options.

1.2 The CITY has the right to terminate this Agreement for convenience and for any reason or no reason, in whole or in part, upon fifteen (15) days written notice to the CONSULTANT. Upon termination of this Agreement, and final payment of any undisputed outstanding amounts due for the work rendered prior to and through the date of the notice of termination, copies of all records, charts, and other documents related to the work performed under this Agreement, whether finished or not, shall be turned over to the CITY within ten (10) days.

1.3 If a Party fails to fulfill in a timely manner, or otherwise violates or defaults upon, any of the covenants, agreements, or stipulations material to this Agreement, the non-defaulting Party, shall thereupon have the right to terminate this Agreement for cause. Prior to exercising its option to terminate for cause, the non-defaulting Party shall notify the defaulting Party of its violation of the particular term(s) of this Agreement and shall grant the defaulting Party ten (10) business days to cure such default. If such default remains uncured after ten (10) business days, the non-defaulting Party may terminate this Agreement without further notice to defaulting Party. Upon termination, the non- defaulting Party shall be fully discharged from any and all liabilities, duties, and terms arising out of, or by virtue of, the Agreement.

1.4 Loss of Funding: The Agreement shall remain in full force and effect only as long as provided for in the Agreement has been appropriated by City of Pahokee City Commission in the annual budget for the fiscal year of this Agreement. The Agreement is subject to termination based on a lack of funding.

SECTION 2. COMPENSATION

2.1 Payment shall become due and payable to CONSULTANT upon submission of thereceipt of invoice. Notwithstanding the foregoing the CITY as a municipal corporation is subject to the Local Government Prompt Payment Act, Chapter 218, Part VII, Fla. Stat. (2010), as amended.

2.2 Pursuant to the proposal in “Exhibit B”, CONSULTANT shall submit a flat fee proposal for the initial year of the contract. Fees for the option years shall be at the same terms and conditions of the original year.

Base Year 1 - FY 2023-- \$32,940.00 (If required, Uniform Guidance \$9,500)

Base Year 2 - FY 2024-- \$34,940.00 (If required, Uniform Guidance \$9,500)

Base Year 3 - FY 2025-- \$36,940.00 (If required, Uniform Guidance \$9,500)

Option Year 1 - FY 2026-- \$32,940.00 (If required, Uniform Guidance \$9,500)

Option Year 2 - FY 2027-- \$32,940.00 (If required, Uniform Guidance \$9,500)

SECTION 3. NOTICE.

3.1 Whenever any party desires to give notice unto any other party, it must be given by written notice, sent by certified United States mail, with return receipt requested, or by nationally recognized overnight delivery service, addressed to the party for whom it is intended and the remaining party, at the places last specified, and the places for giving of notice shall remain such until they shall have been changed by written notice in compliance with the provisions of this section. Notice may also be sent by electronic means (facsimile or email) provided such is followed by a hard copy of such notice provided in the manner set forth above. Notice is deemed given when received. For the present, CONSULTANT and the CITY designate the following as the respective places for giving such notice:

To the City:

City Manager's Office
City of Pahokee City Hall
207 Begonia Drive
Pahokee, FL 33476

Office of the City Attorney
City of Pahokee
Burnadette Norris-Weeks,
P.A.
401 North Avenue of the Arts
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311

With copy to the:

Finance Director
207 Begonia Drive
Pahokee, FL 33476

CONSULTANT:

Roderick Harvey, CPA, CVA
3816 Hollywood Boulevard
Suite 203
Hollywood, Florida 33021

SECTION 4. MODIFICATION.

4.1 The covenants, terms, and provisions of this Agreement may be modified only by way of a written instrument, mutually accepted by the parties hereto in writing. In the event of a conflict between the covenants, terms, and/or provisions of this Agreement and any written Amendment(s) hereto, the provisions of the latest executed instrument shall take precedence.

SECTION 5. INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT

5.1 The CONSULTANT is an Independent Consultant under this Agreement. Personnel provided by the CONSULTANT shall be employees of the CONSULTANT and subject to supervision by the CONSULTANT, and not as officers, employees, or agents of the CITY. Personnel policies, tax responsibilities, social security, health insurance, worker's compensation insurance, employee benefits, purchasing policies and other similar administrative procedures applicable to the Work rendered under this Agreement shall be those of the CONSULTANT. The CONSULTANT shall be solely responsible for any injuries suffered by the CONSULTANT's employees. It is clear that CITY will not provide workers' compensation insurance for the CONSULTANT or its employees.

Nothing contained in the Agreement shall be construed so as to create a partnership or joint venture and neither party hereto shall be liable for the debts or obligations of the others. No employee or agent of the CONSULTANT shall be deemed to be an employee or agent of the CITY. The CONSULTANT shall be responsible for compliance with all applicable, local, state and federal laws and regulations in the performance of any services to the CITY. Should any question arise as to the interpretation or as to the nature of the services to be provided by the CONSULTANT, the opinion of the CITY shall establish, for all purposes, the nature of the work. The CONSULTANT shall have no power to obligate CITY.

SECTION 6. INDEMNIFICATION.

6.1 For other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and adequacy of which is hereby acknowledged, CONSULTANT shall indemnify and hold harmless the CITY and its officers and employees from liabilities, damages, losses, and costs, including, but not limited to, reasonable attorneys' fees, to the extent caused by the negligence, recklessness, or intentionally wrongful conduct of the CONSULTANT and other persons employed or utilized by the CONSULTANT in the performance of the Agreement.

6.2 Nothing herein shall be construed to extend the CITY's liability beyond that provided in Section 768.28, Florida Statutes.

SECTION 7. GOVERNING LAW.

7.1 This Agreement will be governed by the laws of the State of Florida. Any claim, objection, or dispute arising out of the terms of this Agreement shall be brought in Palm Beach County.

SECTION 8. RECORDS.

8.1 Records for Personnel Expenses shall be kept on a generally recognized accounting basis and shall be available to the CITY or its authorized representative at mutually convenient times.

8.2 With respect to all matters covered by this Agreement, records will be made available for examination, audit, inspection, or copying purposes at any time during normal business hours at a location within the City and the CITY may reasonably require. CONSULTANT will permit same to be examined and excerpts or transcriptions made or duplicated from such records, and audits made of all contracts, invoices, materials, records of personnel and of employment and other data relating to all matters covered by this Agreement. The CITY's right of inspection and audit shall obtain likewise with reference to any audits made by any other agency, whether local, state or federal. CONSULTANT shall retain all records and supporting documentation applicable to this Agreement for five (5) years from the date of submission of the annual performance report. If any litigation, claim, negotiation, audit, monitoring, inspection or other action has been started before the expiration of the required record retention period, records must be retained until completion of the action and resolution of all issues which arise from it, or the end of the required period, whichever is later.

SECTION 9. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS.

9.1 The CONSULTANT shall comply with the applicable requirements of State laws and all Codes and Ordinances of City of Pahokee as amended from time to time, together with keeping and maintaining in full force and effect during the term of this Agreement all licenses and certificates of authorization required pursuant to applicable law, including without limitation those required by Chapters 471, 481, and 489, Florida Statutes.

A. If the PROJECT involves E.P.A. Grant eligible work, the CITY and the CONSULTANT agree that the provisions of 40 CFR, Part 35, Appendix C-1, shall become a part of this Agreement and that such provisions shall supersede any conflicting provisions of this Agreement for work performed under said Agreement.

B. If the PROJECT involves work under other Federal or State Grantors or Approving Agencies, the CITY and the CONSULTANT shall review and approve the applicable required provisions or any other supplemental provisions as may be included in the Agreement.

C. Any documents provided by CONSULTANT to the CITY are public records and the CITY may authorize third parties to review and reproduce such documents pursuant to public records laws, including the provisions of Chapter 119, Florida Statutes

SECTION 10. EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION (E-VERIFY)

10.1 The Firm must comply with the Employment Eligibility Verification Program ("E-Verify Program") developed by the federal government to verify the eligibility of individuals to work in the United States and 48 CFR 52.222-54 (as amended) is incorporated herein by reference. If applicable, in accordance with Subpart 22.18 of the Federal Acquisition Register, the CONSULTANT must (1) enroll in the E-Verify Program, (2) use E-Verify to verify the employment eligibility of all new hires working in the United States; (3) use E-Verify to verify the employment eligibility of all employees assigned to the Agreement; and (4) include this requirement in certain subcontracts, such as construction. Information on registration for and use of the E-Verify Program can be obtained via the internet at the Department of Homeland Security Web site: <http://www.dhs.gov/E-Verify>.

SECTION 11. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT

11.1 During the performance of this Agreement or any related Work Order, the CONSULTANT

shall:

- A. Not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, age, sex, handicap, or national origin. CONSULTANT shall take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed and that employees are treated during employment without regard to their race, color, religion, age, sex, handicap, or national origin. Such action shall include, but not be limited to the following: Employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. CONSULTANT shall post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

- B. In all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the CONSULTANT, it must state that all qualified applicants will receive considerations for employment without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, handicap, or national origin.

SECTION 12. ASSIGNMENT AND SUBCONSULTING

13.1 This Agreement and the rights of the CONSULTANT and obligations hereunder may not be assigned, delegated, or sub consulted by the CONSULTANT without the express prior written consent of the CITY. Any assignment, delegation or sub consult without such express prior written consent shall be null and void and shall constitute a material breach of this Agreement, upon which the CITY may immediately terminate the Agreement in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (Termination by Default). The CITY may assign its rights, together with its obligations hereunder.

SECTION 13. CONSULTANT'S COMPLIANCE WITH FLORIDA PUBLIC RECORDS LAW

13.1 Pursuant to Section 119.0701 of the Florida Statutes, CONSULTANT agrees to:

- A. Keep and maintain public records in CONSULTANT's possession or control in connection with CONSULTANT's performance under this agreement. CONSULTANT shall ensure that public records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from public records disclosure requirements are not disclosed, except as authorized by law, for the duration of the Agreement, and following completion of the Agreement until the records are transferred to the CITY.

- B. Upon request from the City's custodian of public records, CONSULTANT shall provide the CITY with a copy of the requested records or allow the records to be inspected or copied within a reasonable time at a cost that does not exceed the cost provided by Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, or as otherwise provided by law.

- C. Unless otherwise provided by law, any and all records, including but not limited to reports, surveys, and other data and documents provided or created in connection with this Agreement are and shall remain the property of the CITY. Notwithstanding, it is understood that at all times CONSULTANT's work papers shall remain the sole property of CONSULTANT, and are not subject to the terms of this Agreement.

- D. Upon completion of this Agreement or in the event of termination by either party, any and all public records relating to the Agreement in the possession of CONSULTANT shall be delivered by CONSULTANT to the CITY Manager, at no cost to the CITY, within seven (7) days. All such records stored electronically by CONSULTANT shall be delivered to the CITY in a format that is compatible with the City's information technology systems. Once the public records have been delivered upon completion or termination of this Agreement, CONSULTANT shall destroy any and all duplicate records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from public records disclosure requirements. Notwithstanding the terms of this Section, the Parties agree and it is understood that CONSULTANT will maintain a copy of any information, confidential or otherwise, necessary to support its work product generated as a result of its engagement for services, solely for reference and archival purposes in accordance with all applicable professional standards, which will remain subject to the obligations of confidentiality herein.
- E. Any compensation due to CONSULTANT shall be withheld until all records are received as provided herein.
- F. CONSULTANT's failure or refusal to comply with the provisions of this section shall result in the immediate termination of this Agreement by the CITY.

IF THE CONSULTANT HAS QUESTIONS REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF CHAPTER 119, FLORIDA STATUTES, TO THE CONSULTANT'S DUTY TO PROVIDE PUBLIC RECORDS RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT, CONSULTANT SHALL COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF FLORIDA STATUTES 119.071 TO THE EXTENT APPLICABLE TO CONSULTANT. IF THE CONSULTANT HAS QUESTIONS REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF CHAPTER 119, FLORIDA STATUTES, TO THE CONSULTANT'S DUTY TO PROVIDE PUBLIC RECORDS RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT, CONTACT THE CUSTODIAN OF PUBLIC RECORDS AT 561-924-5534 OR VIA EMAIL AT CITYCLERK@CITYOFPAHOKEE.COM.

SECTION 14. PROMPT PAYMENT ACT.

14.1 The CITY as a municipal corporation is subject to the *Local Government Prompt Payment Act*, Chapter 218, Part VII, Fla. Stat. (as amended).

SECTION 15. CONFLICT OF INTEREST/CODE OF ETHICS.

15.1 The CONSULTANT represents that it has provided a list of all current client's subject to the jurisdiction of the CITY. Any potential or actual conflict between private interests and responsibilities under this Agreement shall be immediately disclosed to the CITY. The CONSULTANT agrees that it will not enter into any agreements during the term of this Agreement to provide services for any person or corporation who applies for a permit or other development approval from the CITY. Upon request of the CONSULTANT, and full disclosure of the nature and extent

of the proposed representation, the CITY Manager or his designee shall have the authority to authorize such representation during the term of this Agreement.

15.2 The CONSULTANT agrees to adhere to and be governed by all applicable provisions of the Palm Beach County Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance, as amended; and by City of Pahokee Charter and Code as amended; both of which are incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein, in connection with the Agreement conditions hereunder. The CONSULTANT covenants that it presently has no interest and shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirectly that should conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of the services.

15.3 Standards and Proper Decorum: The CITY promotes and expects a *high standard* of ethics and professional conduct in all CITY employees. The CONSULTANT shall be held to the same standards and shall be *held* accountable to any conduct or demeanor contrary to the policy while representing the CITY.

SECTION 16. SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY.

16.1 The CITY is a political subdivision of the State of Florida, self-insured and subject to the provisions of Section 768.28, Florida Statutes, as may be amended from time to time. Nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed or otherwise interpreted as waiving the City's sovereign immunity protections, or as increasing the limits of liability as set forth in Section 768.28, Florida Statutes.

SECTION 17. ORDER OF PRECEDENCE.

17.1 IN THE EVENT THERE IS A CONFLICT BETWEEN THIS AGREEMENT, CONSULTANT'S RESPONSE, OR SCOPE OF WORK, THE ORDER OF PRECEDENCE SHALL BE THIS AGREEMENT, AND THE CONSULTANT'S RESPONSE. THE CITY EXPRESSLY REJECTS ANY ADDITIONAL TERMS OR CONDITIONS NOT CONSISTENT WITH THE TERMS HEREIN.

SECTION 18. INSURANCE.

18.1 CONSULTANT shall carry professional liability insurance or other form of insurance, which shall provide coverage of not less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00), naming the CITY as Additional insured. CONSULTANT shall maintain and carry in full force during the Term the insurance required herein. Upon City's notification, the CONSULTANT shall furnish to the Finance Director, Joseph R Martin, Certificates of Insurance that indicate that insurance coverage has been obtained which meets the requirements as outlined below:

- A. Worker's Compensation Insurance for all employees of the CONSULTANT as required by Florida Statute 440. Should the CONSULTANT be exempt from this Statute, the CONSULTANT and each employee shall hold the CITY harmless from any injury incurred during performance of the Contract. The exempt CONSULTANT shall also submit a written statement detailing the number of employees and that they are not required to carry Worker's Compensation insurance, and do not anticipate hiring any additional employees during the term of this contract or a copy of a Certificate of Exemption.

- B. General Liability Insurance on a comprehensive basis in an amount not less than \$1,000,000 per person, \$2,000,000 per occurrence for bodily injury and property damage. City of Pahokee must be shown as an additional insured with respect to this coverage. The mailing address of City of Pahokee City Hall, 207 Begonia Drive, Pahokee, FL 33476, as the certificate holder, must appear on the certificate of insurance.

- C. Automobile Liability Insurance covering all owned, non-owned, and hired vehicles used in connection with the Services, in an amount not less than \$1,000,000 per person and \$2,000,000 per occurrence. City of Pahokee must be shown as an additional insured with respect to this coverage. The mailing address of City of Pahokee City Hall, 207 Begonia Drive, Pahokee, FL 33476, as the certificate holder, must appear on the certificate of insurance. Add: Uninsured Motorist Coverage. The insurance coverage required shall include those classifications, as listed in standard liability insurance manuals, which most nearly reflect the operation of the CONSULTANT. All insurance policies required above shall be issued by companies authorized to do business under the laws of the State of Florida.

SECTION 19. NON-EXCLUSIVITY.

19.1 This Agreement is non-exclusive. The CITY retains the right to engage the services of additional third-party CONSULTANTS or assign responsibilities to an employee of the CITY to perform the same or similar services provided by CONSULTANT under this Agreement and to assign work to such parties in its sole discretion.

SECTION 20. ANTI-DISCRIMINATION.

20.1 CONSULTANT certifies that it does not discriminate in its membership or policies based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, familial status or handicap. CONSULTANT further agrees that neither CONSULTANT, nor any parent company, subsidiaries or affiliates of CONSULTANT are currently engaged in, nor will engage in during the term of this Agreement, the boycott of a person or business based in or doing business with a member of the World Trade Organization or any country with which the United States has free trade.

SECTION 21. SCRUTINIZED COMPANIES.

21.1 CONSULTANT certifies that it and its sub consultants are not on the Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel List. Pursuant to Section 287.135, F.S., the CITY may immediately terminate this Agreement at its sole option if the CONSULTANT or its sub consultants are found to have submitted a false certification; or if the CONSULTANT, or its sub consultants are placed on the Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel List or is engaged in the boycott of Israel during the term of the Agreement.

21.2 If this Agreement is for more than one million dollars, the CONSULTANT certifies that it and its sub consultants are also not on the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan, Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List, or engaged with business operations in Cuba or Syria as identified in Section 287.135, F.S. Pursuant to Section 287.135, F.S., the CITY may immediately terminate this Agreement at its sole option if the CONSULTANT, its affiliates, or its sub consultants are found to have submitted a false certification; or if the CONSULTANT, its affiliates, or its sub consultants are placed on the Scrutinized Companies with

Activities in Sudan List, or Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List, or engaged with business operations in Cuba or Syria during the term of the Agreement.

21.3 The CONSULTANT agrees to observe the above requirements for applicable subcontracts entered into for the performance of work under this Agreement. As provided in Subsection 287.135(8), F.S., if federal law ceases to authorize the above-stated consulting prohibitions then they shall become inoperative.

SECTION 22. NO CONTINGENCY FEES.

22.1 The CONSULTANT warrants that it has not employed or retained any company or person, other than a bona fide employee working solely for the CONSULTANT, to solicit or secure this Agreement, and that it has not paid or agreed to pay any person(s), company, corporation, individual or firm, other than a bona fide employee working solely for the CONSULTANT any fee, commission, percentage, gift, or any other consideration, contingent upon or resulting from the award or making of this Agreement.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have made and executed this Agreement on this ____ day of _____, 2024.

CONSULTANT

CITY OF PAHOKEE

Signature

City Manager

Name

Date

Title

Approved as to form and legal
sufficiency:

Date

City Attorney

Attest:

City Clerk

(City Seal)

“EXHIBIT A”

RFP No. 2024-02

(ATTACHED)

“EXHIBIT B”

PROPOSAL

(ATTACHED)