



Finance Department
Central Services Division

**INVITATION TO BID
TREE REMOVAL
BID NO.: 1215-PW-133**

12/29/15

Name of Bidding Firm: _____
Address _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Fax: _____
E-Mail: _____

Bid Opening Time and Date **11:00 a.m., Local Time, Monday, January 25, 2016**

Bids will be accepted until the specified opening time and date. Any bidder attempting to deliver after the opening time and date will be refused.

Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting **9:00 a.m. Local Time, Friday, January 8, 2016**
City Yards Administration Building, 523 S. Central Avenue

Bid Deposit/Bid Bond: NO
Prevailing Wage NO
Performance Bond: NO

PLEASE MARK THE RETURN SEALED ENVELOPE:

1. *Bid Opening Date and Time*
2. Title of Job
3. Bid Number

RETURN BIDS TO:

City of Rockford
Central Services Manager
425 East State Street, 4th Floor
Rockford, Illinois 61104

BIDS SUBMITTED BY FASCIMILE OR E-MAIL WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

BID RESULTS:

Bid results may be obtained by telephone at 779-348-7164 by fax at 800-380-7174. or at www.rockfordil.gov

CITY OF ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS—BIDDING GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. Pricing. The bidder shall insert price for all bid items and all other information requested in these specifications. The price shall be the *full, delivered cost* to the City of Rockford with no additions.
2. Total versus "Per Item" Awards. The City generally awards contracts based on a lump sum basis to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder. However, the City may choose to award on a per item basis. Therefore, each bidder must submit pricing for each item indicated on the bid forms. Bidders must clearly indicate which items are bid and which are not.
3. Delivery of Merchandise. Delivery terms will always be Freight On Board (FOB)—Destination. The City of Rockford accepts no responsibility for the condition of any merchandise purchased prior to acceptance by City Personnel. Failure to comply with this requirement may constitute rejection of the bid.
4. Acceptance of Merchandise at Delivery. The City of Rockford reserves the right to refuse acceptance of delivered merchandise that differs substantially from the specifications in this invitation to bid or as otherwise permitted by Illinois law.
5. Prompt Payment Act. The City of Rockford intends to comply with the governmental prompt payment act. The awarded vendor will be paid upon submission of invoices to: City of Rockford Accounts Payable, 425 East State Street, Rockford, IL 61104.
6. W-9 Request for Taxpayer Identification Number. Prior to issuance of a purchase order, the successful bidder will be required to supply the City of Rockford with a federal W-9 Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification. Failure to comply with this requirement will be considered a violation of contract terms, for which the City may bar the vendor from bidding for a period of up to three years.
7. Legal Compliance. The vendor awarded this contract will comply with all Federal, State, County, and City laws, ordinances, rules and regulations, which in any manner affect the product or service placed for bid herein. Lack of knowledge on the part of the awarded vendor of applicable law will in no way be cause for release of this obligation. If the City becomes aware of violation of any laws, ordinances, rules and regulations on the part of the awarded vendor, it reserves the right to reject any bid, cancel any contract, and pursue any other legal remedies deemed necessary.
8. Legal Requirements. This contract sets forth the entire final agreement between the City of Rockford and the bidder and shall govern the respective duties and obligations of the parties. The validity of this contract, and any disputes arising from the contract, shall be governed by the laws of the State of Illinois. Any litigation under this agreement shall be resolved in the trial courts of Winnebago County, State of Illinois. Should a provision of this contract be declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, it shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions of the contract.
9. Safety. Prevention of accidents at any project is the sole responsibility of the awarded vendor and its subcontractors, agents, and employees. The awarded vendor, its subcontractors, agents, and employees shall be fully and solely responsible for the safety of this project. The awarded vendor shall retain exclusive and direct control over the acts or omissions of its subcontractors, agents and employees, and any other persons performing portions of the work and not directly employed by the awarded vendor.

10. Criminal Background Check. When necessary for the protection of citizens and/or City staff, the City may require an awarded vendor to conduct a criminal background check on all of its personnel who will have direct contact with City facilities or residents/businesses served under this contract. Personnel are defined as representatives, agents, employees, subcontractors, or anyone else who will be utilized to fulfill obligations under this contract. Criminal background checks, at a minimum, shall consist of a county level felony and misdemeanor check for each county in which the personnel resided in the last 10 years. The awarded vendor shall notify the City of any of its personnel who have been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor prior to commencing any work under this contract. At the City's discretion, personnel with any felony or misdemeanor convictions which raise a concern about the safety of building, property, or City staff/resident's personal security, or is otherwise job related (as determined by the City) shall not perform work under this contract. Once given notice that a background check(s) will be required, it must be completed within 14 calendar days so as to not delay work to be completed.

11. Control of the Work. With respect to the awarded vendor's own work, the City shall not have contractual, operational, and/or supervisory control over and/or charge of the work and shall not be responsible for construction means, methods, techniques, sequences, procedures, and programs in connection with the awarded vendor's work, since these are solely the vendor's responsibility under the agreement. The City shall not be responsible for the awarded vendor's failure to carry out the work in accordance with the agreement's terms and conditions. The City shall not have control over and/or charge of acts or omissions of the awarded vendor, its subcontractors, and/or their agents or employees, or any other person performing portions of the work not directly employed by the awarded vendor. The awarded vendor shall be considered to be an "independent contractor" pursuant to Illinois law.

12. Bid Bond. When required on the cover sheet, a bid bond for not less than 5 percent of the bid amount must accompany all bids as a guarantee that if the bid is accepted, the bidder will execute and file the proper contract. A bank cashier's check, bank draft, or certified check equal to the amount specified is acceptable in lieu of a bid bond. Bid bonds of the two lowest firms will be retained until the contract is awarded.

13. Performance Bond. When required by the specifications herein, the awarded vendor shall furnish a performance bond equal to the amount of the contract, acceptable to the City, within 14 calendar days after notification of contract award. Failure to furnish the required bond within the time specified may be cause for rejection of the bid and any bid deposit may be retained by the City as liquidated damages and not as a penalty.

14. Taxes. No charge will be allowed for taxes from which the City of Rockford, Illinois is exempt. The City of Rockford, Illinois is not liable for the Illinois Retailers' Occupation Tax, the Service Occupation Tax or the Service Use Tax. The City is exempt from the Federal Excise and Transportation Tax.

15. Withdrawal of Bids. Firms may withdraw or cancel their bids at any time prior to the advertised invitation to bid opening. After the opening time, no bid shall be withdrawn or cancelled. All bids shall be firm and valid for a period of sixty (60) calendar days. If a bidder to whom a contract is awarded refuses to accept the award, the City may, at its discretion, suspend the bidder for a period of time up to three (3) years.

16. Subcontracting. The bidder shall provide information for all subcontractors, leased operators/equipment, and suppliers and all other information requested in the Subcontractor and Supplier Detail Forms attached. Requests for deviations from the completed detail forms submitted must be made in writing, and reviewed and approved by the City's Diversity Procurement Officer and the Central Services Manager or designee. The awarded vendor may not subcontract any portion of the contract after award without written consent of the City of Rockford

Central Services Manager. When subcontractors are used, the awarded vendor is required to pay subcontractors promptly after completion of work. Delay of payment is prohibited.

17. Termination of Contract. The City of Rockford reserves the right to terminate the contract in its entirety or in portions, upon written notice to the awarded vendor, if the Rockford City Council does not appropriate sufficient funds to complete the contract or in the event of default by the awarded vendor. Default is defined as failure of the awarded vendor to perform any of the provisions of this contract or failure to make sufficient progress so as to endanger performance of this contract in accordance with its terms. In the event of default, the City may purchase the product(s) and/or service(s) from other sources and hold the defaulting company responsible for any excess costs occasioned thereby. The City may require payment of liquidated damages for non-performance. Should default be due to failure to perform or because of a request for a price increase, the City reserves the right to remove the firm from the City's bidder list for a period of up to three years.

18. Late Bids and Proposals. Regardless of cause, late bids and proposals will not be accepted and will automatically be disqualified from further consideration. It shall be solely the vendor's risk to ensure delivery at the designated office by the designated time. Late bids and proposals will not be opened and may be returned to the awarded vendor at their request and expense.

19. EEO Forms. Each firm shall be required to submit with its bid information all EEO forms included in the invitation to bid package. Any bid which fails to include the properly completed compliance items will not be read and will not be considered. All subcontractors shall also be required to comply with the same EEO forms as the firm.

20. Restrictive or Ambiguous Specifications. It is the responsibility of the bidding firm to review the invitation to bid specifications and to notify the Central Services Manager if the specifications are formulated in a manner that would unnecessarily restrict competition. Any such protest or question regarding the specifications or invitation to bid procedures must be received by the Central Services Division not less than seventy-two hours prior to the time set for the opening. In the event a contract term is not defined within the contract document, the term will be given its ordinary dictionary definition.

21. Bid Protest. Firms wishing to protest bids or awards shall notify the Central Services Manager in writing within 7 days after the invitation to bid opening. The notification should include the bid number, the name of the firm protesting, and the reason why the firm is protesting the bid. The Central Services Manager will respond to the protest within seven (7) calendar days. A successful protest may result in the reversal of a previously awarded contract.

22. Disputes. In case of disputes as to whether or not an item or service quoted or delivered meets specifications, the decision of the Central Services Manager, or authorized representative shall be final and binding to all parties. The Central Services Manager has the right to waive technicalities as they see fit. The Central Services Manager may request a written recommendation from the head of the department using the equipment or service being procured.

23. Exceptions. Any deviations from these specifications shall be noted and submitted with the bid. Failure to address deviations from specifications may result in bid rejection.

24. Acceptance/Rejection of Bids. The City of Rockford reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids or proposals at any time, for any reason, including but not limited to the Rockford City Council not appropriating

sufficient funds to purchase equipment or complete the contract. The City may make awards in any manner deemed in the best interest of the City.

25. Prevailing Wage. When indicated on the cover page of this document, this contract calls for the construction of a "public work," within the meaning of the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act, 820 ILCS 130/.01 *et seq.* ("the Act"). The Act requires awarded vendors and subcontractors to pay laborers, workers, and mechanics performing services on public works projects no less than the "prevailing rate of wages" (hourly cash wages plus fringe benefits) in the county where the work is performed. When required, awarded vendors are responsible for paying current prevailing wage rates, as posted on the Illinois Department of Labor's website at: <http://www.state.il.us/agency/idol/rates/rates.HTM>. It is the awarded vendor's responsibility to verify current wage rates, as they are updated monthly. All awarded vendors and subcontractors rendering services under this contract must comply with all requirements of the Act, including but not limited to, all wage, notice, and record keeping duties.

26. Certified Payroll. All Certified Payroll reports required to be submitted under the Prevailing Wage Act, 820 ILCS 130, must be submitted monthly via the City's current Certified Payroll reporting system. No paper copies or non-conforming Certified Payroll reports will be accepted. The City reserves the right to withhold payment due to the awarded vendor until the vendor displays compliance with this provision.

27. Substance Abuse Prevention. When required by Illinois State Statutes, awarded vendors must have in place and file with the City a written program for prevention of substance abuse among its employees. This program must include pre-hire, random, reasonable suspicion, and post-accident drug and alcohol testing, as required by the Substance Abuse Prevention on Public Works Projects Act.

28. Apprenticeship Requirement. For construction contracts over \$50,000, awarded vendors must participate in apprenticeship and training programs approved and registered with the United States Department of Labor's Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training for all Trades that will be in the awarded vendor's (or his subcontractor's) employment, with each worker receiving the required apprenticeship/training appropriate to his trade. Owners or work performed by owners is not exempt from the apprenticeship and training requirement.

29. Indemnification. To the fullest extent permitted by law, the awarded vendor shall indemnify and hold harmless the City, its officers, representatives, elected and appointed officials, agents, and employees from and against all claims, damages, losses and expenses, including but not limited to attorney's fees, arising out of or resulting from the awarded vendor's performance of work under this agreement, and indemnifies and agrees to defend and hold harmless the City against any and all losses, claims, damages, and expenses arising from the work performed hereunder of the erection, construction, placement, or operation of any scaffold, hoist, crane, stay, ladder, support, or other mechanical contrivance in connection with such work including but not limited to losses, claims, damages, and expenses arising pursuant to claims asserted against the City pursuant to theories premised upon section 414 of the Restatement (Second) of Torts and section 343 of the Restatement (Second) of Torts.

This indemnification agreement shall not be limited in any way by any limitations on the amount or type of damages, compensation, or benefits payable by or for the awarded vendor under Worker's Compensation Acts, disability benefit acts, or other employee benefit acts, and serves as an express agreement to waive the protection of *Kotecki v. Cyclops Welding Corp.*, 146 Ill.2d 155, 585 N.E.2d 1023 (1991) in Illinois.

Further, the awarded vendor agrees that it is solely responsible for compliance with all safety laws applicable to the work performed hereunder, including but not limited to the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 and

the Construction Safety Act of 1960 and all standards and regulations which have been or shall be promulgated by the agencies which administer the Acts.

Under no circumstances shall the awarded vendor, its subcontractors, agents, and employees be required to indemnify the City for its own negligence.

30. Officers. Each bidder affirms, by submission of a response to this bid or request for proposals, that no officer of the City of Rockford, Illinois, is directly or indirectly interested in the proposal for any reason of personal gain.

31. Non-Waiver. The failure by the City to require performance of any provision shall not affect the City's right to require performance at any time thereafter, nor shall a waiver of any breach or default of this contract constitute a waiver of any subsequent breach or default or a waiver of the provision itself.

32. Professional Services Selection Act. The City of Rockford intends to comply with 50 ILCS 510/5 governing the selection of professional services. Any reference in these terms and conditions to supplying pricing or price as a determining factor in selection do not apply for services covered by said act.

33. Compliance with Stormwater Management Ordinance and Environmental Consent Decree. Contractor must comply with the City's Stormwater Management Ordinance. For work performed on the stormwater system, including projects only requiring erosion and sediment control measures, acknowledgement of receipt of the USEPA issued Environmental Consent Decree is required. It is also required that the vendor retain all invoices, work orders and/or other records of work performed in drainage areas for three (3) years beyond the end of the consent decree, estimated to be 12/31/2022. These records are subject to audit and are to be made available immediately upon request by the City or the Federal and State Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Additionally, there may be other records provided that the vendor will be required to keep on file upon request of the City. Violation of this section and with the City's Stormwater Management Ordinance may result in a fine.

34. The City of Rockford reserves the right to accept or reject any and all proposals and to waive technicalities in submitted bids.

Acknowledgement of Addenda

By indicating below, we acknowledge receipt of the addenda listed.

Addendum	_____	Date	_____
Addendum	_____	Date	_____
Addendum	_____	Date	_____
Addendum	_____	Date	_____
Addendum	_____	Date	_____

Person, Firm or Corporation

Authorized Signature and Title

Acknowledgement of Stormwater Management Ordinance and Environmental Consent Decree

By indicating below, we acknowledge receipt of the Stormwater Management Ordinance and Environmental Consent Decree. Both documents can be found on the City of Rockford website at <http://rockfordil.gov/public-works/engineering-cip/stormwater.aspx>

I have been provided access to the City of Rockford Stormwater Management Ordinance and the Environmental Consent Decree and agree to comply with the terms outlined therein.

Person, Firm or Corporation

Authorized Signature and Title

**BID REQUIREMENTS FOR
EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

All bidders seeking to do business with the City of Rockford are **REQUIRED** to submit with any formal, sealed bid all of the following documents and information, attached herewith, completed and signed:

1. Equal Employment Opportunity Affirmative Action Plan Statement of Policy.
2. The Statement of Non-Compliance and Certificate of Non-Segregated Facilities.
3. The Contractor or Vendor Workforce Data Form listing all current employees, by classification, directly employed by the bidder. All categories of information requested must be supplied.
Note: The number of employees must be entered under each category (no check marks)

Below are the Federal definitions of the following racial groups accepted as minorities by the City of Rockford:

Black: A person having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa, not of Hispanic origin.

Hispanic: A person of Spanish or Portuguese culture with origins in Mexico, South or Central America, or the Caribbean Islands, regardless of race.

Asian: A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands. This area includes for example, China, Japan, Korea, the Philippine Republic and Samoa.

American Indian or Alaskan Native: A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North America.

4. Your State of Illinois Pre-Qualification Certification Number, issued by the Illinois Department of Human Rights for the Illinois Department of Human Rights Act, **must provide expiration date entered in the place provided therefore.**
5. Certificate of Non-Barred Bidding
6. All executed Subcontractor/Leased Operator and Supplier forms.

If you have not obtained your State of Illinois Pre-Qualification Number (item #4), by signing these documents you agree to make application for this number within 30 days from the date of bid opening.

ANY BID WHICH FAILS TO INCLUDE THE CITY OF ROCKFORD EEO PAGES 2, 4, 5, 6, AND 7, COMPLETED AND SIGNED WITH YOUR SEALED BID WILL NOT BE READ AND WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED – NO EXCEPTIONS.

Falsification of any required Equal Employment Opportunity or Affirmative Action information on the part of the bidder could result in rejection of the bid submitted or in the case where a contract has already been awarded, in the cancellation of said contract.

Any questions pertaining to E.E.O. requirements should be addressed to Ron Moore, Diversity Procurement Officer, Legal Department, 425 East State Street, Rockford, Illinois 61104, Phone: : (779) 348-7396 or ron.moore@rockfordil.gov

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PLAN
STATEMENT OF POLICY

It is the policy of this company, [REDACTED] to provide equal employment opportunity without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, handicap, age or sex through a program of positive action affecting all employees. In this program, our company carries out the requirements of Federal Executive orders 11246 and 11375, Civil Rights Act of 1964, Equal Employment Act of 1972, and all other applicable laws, and indicates its active support of the principle of equal opportunity in employment.

At present, [REDACTED] % of our work force are minorities and [REDACTED] % of our work force are females, and we will attempt to utilize minorities and females through a positive, continuing program in all jobs for which we contract in the future. Our company will utilize referrals from the City of Rockford's Diversity Procurement Officer for use of minorities and females regarding any future job vacancies.

It is also our intent to make efforts to purchase supplies or equipment from small business concerns located in the City of Rockford or counties of Winnebago or Boone and owned in substantial part (at least 51 per cent) by minorities or females.

[REDACTED] is the official who will be responsible for implementing this policy statement.

[REDACTED] will be designated as the Equal Opportunity Officer in our company, responsible for submission of all required equal employment opportunity documents.

In addition, [REDACTED] is hereby authorized to sign payroll as well as this company's officers. (NOTE: If only officers will be authorized to sign payrolls, please fill in "No One" in this space.)

STATEMENT OF NONCOMPLIANCE

If the equal employment opportunity hearing committee determines that a contractor, subcontractor/leased operator of equipment or bidder is not in compliance with this chapter, (also known as Chapter 11, Article III the City of Rockford Equal Opportunity Employment Ordinance), the hearing committee shall issue and serve upon such person a written statement of noncompliance setting forth the manner in which it finds such person has violated this chapter, and imposing and/or requiring appropriate sanctions, including, but not limited to any and/or all of the following:

- a. Denying, suspending or revoking qualifications, or declaring the contractor or subcontractor irresponsible and ineligible for future contracts or subcontracts until such time as the contractor or subcontractor shall demonstrate to the equal employment opportunity hearing committee that it is in compliance;
- b. Withholding or delaying payment on the contractor or;
- c. Suspending, avoiding or canceling contract work.

CERTIFICATION OF NON-SEGREGATED FACILITIES

The bidder certifies that he/she does not maintain or provide for his/her employees any segregated facilities at any of his/her establishments, and that he/she does not permit his/her employees to perform their services at any location, under his/her control, where segregated facilities are maintained. The bidder agrees that a breach of this certification will be a violation of the Equal Opportunity clause in any contract resulting from acceptance of this bid.

The bidder agrees that (except where he/she has obtained identical certification from proposed subcontractors/leased operators of equipment for specific time periods) he/she will obtain identical certification from proposed subcontractors/leased operators of equipment from the provisions of the Equal Opportunity clause, and that he/she will retain such certification in his/her files.

CERTIFICATE OF NON-BARRED BIDDING

The undersigned certifies that it is not barred from bidding on this contract as a result of a conviction for the violation of State laws prohibiting bid rigging or bid rotating. The undersigned also certifies that current or prospective employees, contractors, and subcontractors/leased operators of equipment are not listed as Excluded Individuals/Entities with the US Government, as maintained by the US General Services Administration.

By signing below, the firm agrees that all information provided in the previous pages is accurate, and that if the firm below does not currently have a Department of Human Rights number they will apply for one within thirty days with the State of Illinois.

Authorized Signature

Title

Firm

Our firm is a:

Minority Business Enterprise _____

Women Business Enterprise _____

Neither _____

City-Certified? Yes ___ No ___

City Certified? Yes ___ No ___

(Revised 12/21/09)

Subcontractor/Leased Operator of Equipment Detail Form
City of Rockford

Firms submitting bids must supply information on Subcontractors/Leased Operators of Equipment selected for work on the project specified. It is required that Subcontractors/Leased Operators of Equipment listed below will be utilized for actual construction should the firm be awarded a contract. Any deviations from the list below require notice in writing and approval by the Diversity Procurement Officer, Central Services Manager, or their designee. This form may be duplicated if additional space is necessary, all pages must be signed, and submitted.

Subcontractor/Leased Operator Information		Type of Work Supplied	MBE/WBE Business?	Dollar Amount	Subcontract Percent of Bid Total
Please provide business name and address, and a contact person.		Describe the work the subcontractor/leased operator will perform for this contract.			
Name	_____	_____	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	\$ _____	_____ %
Address	_____				
City, State	_____				
Contact	_____				
Name	_____	_____	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	\$ _____	_____ %
Address	_____				
City, State	_____				
Contact	_____				
Name	_____	_____	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	\$ _____	_____ %
Address	_____				
City, State	_____				
Contact	_____				
Name	_____	_____	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	\$ _____	_____ %
Address	_____				
City, State	_____				
Contact	_____				
Name	_____	_____	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	\$ _____	_____ %
Address	_____				
City, State	_____				
Contact	_____				

The bidder intends to Subcontract/Lease Operators of Equipment for _____ % of the total contract with MBE/WBE firms.

Signed _____ Title _____ Date _____

**Supplier Detail Form
City of Rockford**

Firms submitting bids must supply information on suppliers selected for the project specified. It is required that suppliers listed below will be utilized during construction should the firm be awarded a contract. Any deviations from the list below require notice in writing and approval by the Diversity Procurement Officer, Central Services Manager, or their designee. This form may be duplicated if additional space is necessary, all pages must be signed, and submitted.

Supplier Information		Type of Product Supplied	MBE/WBE Business?	Dollar Amount of Supply Contract	Supplier Percent of Bid Total
Please provide business name and address, and a contact person.		Describe the product the supplier v provide for this contract.			
Name	_____	_____	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	\$ _____	_____ %
Address	_____				
City, State	_____				
Contact	_____				
Name	_____	_____	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	\$ _____	_____ %
Address	_____				
City, State	_____				
Contact	_____				
Name	_____	_____	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	\$ _____	_____ %
Address	_____				
City, State	_____				
Contact	_____				
Name	_____	_____	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	\$ _____	_____ %
Address	_____				
City, State	_____				
Contact	_____				
Name	_____	_____	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	\$ _____	_____ %
Address	_____				
City, State	_____				
Contact	_____				

The bidder intends to procure _____% of the total contract from MBE/WBE firms.

Signed _____ Title _____ Date _____

Note. If you are a U.S. person and a requester gives you a form other than Form W-9 to request your TIN, you must use the requester's form if it is substantially similar to this Form W-9.

Definition of a U.S. person. For federal tax purposes, you are considered a U.S. person if you are:

- An individual who is a U.S. citizen or U.S. resident alien;
- A partnership, corporation, company, or association created or organized in the United States or under the laws of the United States;
- An estate (other than a foreign estate); or
- A domestic trust (as defined in Regulations section 301.7701-7).

Special rules for partnerships. Partnerships that conduct a trade or business in the United States are generally required to pay a withholding tax under section 1446 on any foreign partners' share of effectively connected taxable income from such business. Further, in certain cases where a Form W-9 has not been received, the rules under section 1446 require a partnership to presume that a partner is a foreign person, and pay the section 1446 withholding tax. Therefore, if you are a U.S. person that is a partner in a partnership conducting a trade or business in the United States, provide Form W-9 to the partnership to establish your U.S. status and avoid section 1446 withholding on your share of partnership income.

In the cases below, the following person must give Form W-9 to the partnership for purposes of establishing its U.S. status and avoiding withholding on its allocable share of net income from the partnership conducting a trade or business in the United States:

- In the case of a disregarded entity with a U.S. owner, the U.S. owner of the disregarded entity and not the entity;
- In the case of a grantor trust with a U.S. grantor or other U.S. owner, generally, the U.S. grantor or other U.S. owner of the grantor trust and not the trust; and
- In the case of a U.S. trust (other than a grantor trust), the U.S. trust (other than a grantor trust) and not the beneficiaries of the trust.

Foreign person. If you are a foreign person or the U.S. branch of a foreign bank that has elected to be treated as a U.S. person, do not use Form W-9. Instead, use the appropriate Form W-8 or Form 8233 (see Publication 515, Withholding of Tax on Nonresident Aliens and Foreign Entities).

Nonresident alien who becomes a resident alien. Generally, only a nonresident alien individual may use the terms of a tax treaty to reduce or eliminate U.S. tax on certain types of income. However, most tax treaties contain a provision known as a "saving clause." Exceptions specified in the saving clause may permit an exemption from tax to continue for certain types of income even after the payee has otherwise become a U.S. resident alien for tax purposes.

If you are a U.S. resident alien who is relying on an exception contained in the saving clause of a tax treaty to claim an exemption from U.S. tax on certain types of income, you must attach a statement to Form W-9 that specifies the following five items:

1. The treaty country. Generally, this must be the same treaty under which you claimed exemption from tax as a nonresident alien.
2. The treaty article addressing the income.
3. The article number (or location) in the tax treaty that contains the saving clause and its exceptions.
4. The type and amount of income that qualifies for the exemption from tax.
5. Sufficient facts to justify the exemption from tax under the terms of the treaty article.

Example. Article 20 of the U.S.-China income tax treaty allows an exemption from tax for scholarship income received by a Chinese student temporarily present in the United States. Under U.S. law, this student will become a resident alien for tax purposes if his or her stay in the United States exceeds 5 calendar years. However, paragraph 2 of the first Protocol to the U.S.-China treaty (dated April 30, 1984) allows the provisions of Article 20 to continue to apply even after the Chinese student becomes a resident alien of the United States. A Chinese student who qualifies for this exception (under paragraph 2 of the first protocol) and is relying on this exception to claim an exemption from tax on his or her scholarship or fellowship income would attach to Form W-9 a statement that includes the information described above to support that exemption.

If you are a nonresident alien or a foreign entity, give the requester the appropriate completed Form W-8 or Form 8233.

Backup Withholding

What is backup withholding? Persons making certain payments to you must under certain conditions withhold and pay to the IRS 28% of such payments. This is called "backup withholding." Payments that may be subject to backup withholding include interest, tax-exempt interest, dividends, broker and barter exchange transactions, rents, royalties, nonemployee pay, payments made in settlement of payment card and third party network transactions, and certain payments from fishing boat operators. Real estate transactions are not subject to backup withholding.

You will not be subject to backup withholding on payments you receive if you give the requester your correct TIN, make the proper certifications, and report all your taxable interest and dividends on your tax return.

Payments you receive will be subject to backup withholding if:

1. You do not furnish your TIN to the requester,
2. You do not certify your TIN when required (see the Part II instructions on page 3 for details),

3. The IRS tells the requester that you furnished an incorrect TIN,

4. The IRS tells you that you are subject to backup withholding because you did not report all your interest and dividends on your tax return (for reportable interest and dividends only), or

5. You do not certify to the requester that you are not subject to backup withholding under 4 above (for reportable interest and dividend accounts opened after 1983 only).

Certain payees and payments are exempt from backup withholding. See *Exempt payee code* on page 3 and the separate Instructions for the Requester of Form W-9 for more information.

Also see *Special rules for partnerships* above.

What is FATCA reporting?

The Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) requires a participating foreign financial institution to report all United States account holders that are specified United States persons. Certain payees are exempt from FATCA reporting. See *Exemption from FATCA reporting code* on page 3 and the Instructions for the Requester of Form W-9 for more information.

Updating Your Information

You must provide updated information to any person to whom you claimed to be an exempt payee if you are no longer an exempt payee and anticipate receiving reportable payments in the future from this person. For example, you may need to provide updated information if you are a C corporation that elects to be an S corporation, or if you no longer are tax exempt. In addition, you must furnish a new Form W-9 if the name or TIN changes for the account; for example, if the grantor of a grantor trust dies.

Penalties

Failure to furnish TIN. If you fail to furnish your correct TIN to a requester, you are subject to a penalty of \$50 for each such failure unless your failure is due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect.

Civil penalty for false information with respect to withholding. If you make a false statement with no reasonable basis that results in no backup withholding, you are subject to a \$500 penalty.

Criminal penalty for falsifying information. Willfully falsifying certifications or affirmations may subject you to criminal penalties including fines and/or imprisonment.

Misuse of TINs. If the requester discloses or uses TINs in violation of federal law, the requester may be subject to civil and criminal penalties.

Specific Instructions

Line 1

You must enter one of the following on this line; **do not** leave this line blank. The name should match the name on your tax return.

If this Form W-9 is for a joint account, list first, and then circle, the name of the person or entity whose number you entered in Part I of Form W-9.

a. **Individual.** Generally, enter the name shown on your tax return. If you have changed your last name without informing the Social Security Administration (SSA) of the name change, enter your first name, the last name as shown on your social security card, and your new last name.

Note. ITIN applicant: Enter your individual name as it was entered on your Form W-7 application, line 1a. This should also be the same as the name you entered on the Form 1040/1040A/1040EZ you filed with your application.

b. **Sole proprietor or single-member LLC.** Enter your individual name as shown on your 1040/1040A/1040EZ on line 1. You may enter your business, trade, or "doing business as" (DBA) name on line 2.

c. **Partnership, LLC that is not a single-member LLC, C Corporation, or S Corporation.** Enter the entity's name as shown on the entity's tax return on line 1 and any business, trade, or DBA name on line 2.

d. **Other entities.** Enter your name as shown on required U.S. federal tax documents on line 1. This name should match the name shown on the charter or other legal document creating the entity. You may enter any business, trade, or DBA name on line 2.

e. **Disregarded entity.** For U.S. federal tax purposes, an entity that is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner is treated as a "disregarded entity." See Regulations section 301.7701-2(c)(2)(iii). Enter the owner's name on line 1. The name of the entity entered on line 1 should never be a disregarded entity. The name on line 1 should be the name shown on the income tax return on which the income should be reported. For example, if a foreign LLC that is treated as a disregarded entity for U.S. federal tax purposes has a single owner that is a U.S. person, the U.S. owner's name is required to be provided on line 1. If the direct owner of the entity is also a disregarded entity, enter the first owner that is not disregarded for federal tax purposes. Enter the disregarded entity's name on line 2, "Business name/disregarded entity name." If the owner of the disregarded entity is a foreign person, the owner must complete an appropriate Form W-8 instead of a Form W-9. This is the case even if the foreign person has a U.S. TIN.

Line 2

If you have a business name, trade name, DBA name, or disregarded entity name, you may enter it on line 2.

Line 3

Check the appropriate box in line 3 for the U.S. federal tax classification of the person whose name is entered on line 1. Check only one box in line 3.

Limited Liability Company (LLC). If the name on line 1 is an LLC treated as a partnership for U.S. federal tax purposes, check the "Limited Liability Company" box and enter "P" in the space provided. If the LLC has filed Form 8832 or 2553 to be taxed as a corporation, check the "Limited Liability Company" box and in the space provided enter "C" for C corporation or "S" for S corporation. If it is a single-member LLC that is a disregarded entity, do not check the "Limited Liability Company" box; instead check the first box in line 3 "Individual/sole proprietor or single-member LLC."

Line 4, Exemptions

If you are exempt from backup withholding and/or FATCA reporting, enter in the appropriate space in line 4 any code(s) that may apply to you.

Exempt payee code.

- Generally, individuals (including sole proprietors) are not exempt from backup withholding.
- Except as provided below, corporations are exempt from backup withholding for certain payments, including interest and dividends.
- Corporations are not exempt from backup withholding for payments made in settlement of payment card or third party network transactions.
- Corporations are not exempt from backup withholding with respect to attorneys' fees or gross proceeds paid to attorneys, and corporations that provide medical or health care services are not exempt with respect to payments reportable on Form 1099-MISC.

The following codes identify payees that are exempt from backup withholding. Enter the appropriate code in the space in line 4.

- 1—An organization exempt from tax under section 501(a), any IRA, or a custodial account under section 403(b)(7) if the account satisfies the requirements of section 401(f)(2)
- 2—The United States or any of its agencies or instrumentalities
- 3—A state, the District of Columbia, a U.S. commonwealth or possession, or any of their political subdivisions or instrumentalities
- 4—A foreign government or any of its political subdivisions, agencies, or instrumentalities
- 5—A corporation
- 6—A dealer in securities or commodities required to register in the United States, the District of Columbia, or a U.S. commonwealth or possession
- 7—A futures commission merchant registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission
- 8—A real estate investment trust
- 9—An entity registered at all times during the tax year under the Investment Company Act of 1940
- 10—A common trust fund operated by a bank under section 584(a)
- 11—A financial institution
- 12—A middleman known in the investment community as a nominee or custodian
- 13—A trust exempt from tax under section 664 or described in section 4947

The following chart shows types of payments that may be exempt from backup withholding. The chart applies to the exempt payees listed above, 1 through 13.

IF the payment is for . . .	THEN the payment is exempt for . . .
Interest and dividend payments	All exempt payees except for 7
Broker transactions	Exempt payees 1 through 4 and 6 through 11 and all C corporations. S corporations must not enter an exempt payee code because they are exempt only for sales of noncovered securities acquired prior to 2012.
Barter exchange transactions and patronage dividends	Exempt payees 1 through 4
Payments over \$600 required to be reported and direct sales over \$5,000 ¹	Generally, exempt payees 1 through 5 ²
Payments made in settlement of payment card or third party network transactions	Exempt payees 1 through 4

¹ See Form 1099-MISC, Miscellaneous Income, and its instructions.

² However, the following payments made to a corporation and reportable on Form 1099-MISC are not exempt from backup withholding: medical and health care payments, attorneys' fees, gross proceeds paid to an attorney reportable under section 6045(f), and payments for services paid by a federal executive agency.

Exemption from FATCA reporting code. The following codes identify payees that are exempt from reporting under FATCA. These codes apply to persons submitting this form for accounts maintained outside of the United States by certain foreign financial institutions. Therefore, if you are only submitting this form for an account you hold in the United States, you may leave this field blank. Consult with the person requesting this form if you are uncertain if the financial institution is subject to these requirements. A requester may indicate that a code is not required by providing you with a Form W-9 with "Not Applicable" (or any similar indication) written or printed on the line for a FATCA exemption code.

A—An organization exempt from tax under section 501(a) or any individual retirement plan as defined in section 7701(a)(37)

B—The United States or any of its agencies or instrumentalities

C—A state, the District of Columbia, a U.S. commonwealth or possession, or any of their political subdivisions or instrumentalities

D—A corporation the stock of which is regularly traded on one or more established securities markets, as described in Regulations section 1.1472-1(c)(1)(i)

E—A corporation that is a member of the same expanded affiliated group as a corporation described in Regulations section 1.1472-1(c)(1)(i)

F—A dealer in securities, commodities, or derivative financial instruments (including notional principal contracts, futures, forwards, and options) that is registered as such under the laws of the United States or any state

G—A real estate investment trust

H—A regulated investment company as defined in section 851 or an entity registered at all times during the tax year under the Investment Company Act of 1940

I—A common trust fund as defined in section 584(a)

J—A bank as defined in section 581

K—A broker

L—A trust exempt from tax under section 664 or described in section 4947(a)(1)

M—A tax exempt trust under a section 403(b) plan or section 457(g) plan

Note. You may wish to consult with the financial institution requesting this form to determine whether the FATCA code and/or exempt payee code should be completed.

Line 5

Enter your address (number, street, and apartment or suite number). This is where the requester of this Form W-9 will mail your information returns.

Line 6

Enter your city, state, and ZIP code.

Part I. Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. If you are a resident alien and you do not have and are not eligible to get an SSN, your TIN is your IRS individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN). Enter it in the social security number box. If you do not have an ITIN, see *How to get a TIN* below.

If you are a sole proprietor and you have an EIN, you may enter either your SSN or EIN. However, the IRS prefers that you use your SSN.

If you are a single-member LLC that is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner (see *Limited Liability Company (LLC)* on this page), enter the owner's SSN (or EIN, if the owner has one). Do not enter the disregarded entity's EIN. If the LLC is classified as a corporation or partnership, enter the entity's EIN.

Note. See the chart on page 4 for further clarification of name and TIN combinations.

How to get a TIN. If you do not have a TIN, apply for one immediately. To apply for an SSN, get Form SS-5, Application for a Social Security Card, from your local SSA office or get this form online at www.ssa.gov. You may also get this form by calling 1-800-772-1213. Use Form W-7, Application for IRS Individual Taxpayer Identification Number, to apply for an ITIN, or Form SS-4, Application for Employer Identification Number, to apply for an EIN. You can apply for an EIN online by accessing the IRS website at www.irs.gov/businesses and clicking on Employer Identification Number (EIN) under Starting a Business. You can get Forms W-7 and SS-4 from the IRS by visiting IRS.gov or by calling 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676).

If you are asked to complete Form W-9 but do not have a TIN, apply for a TIN and write "Applied For" in the space for the TIN, sign and date the form, and give it to the requester. For interest and dividend payments, and certain payments made with respect to readily tradable instruments, generally you will have 60 days to get a TIN and give it to the requester before you are subject to backup withholding on payments. The 60-day rule does not apply to other types of payments. You will be subject to backup withholding on all such payments until you provide your TIN to the requester.

Note. Entering "Applied For" means that you have already applied for a TIN or that you intend to apply for one soon.

Caution: A disregarded U.S. entity that has a foreign owner must use the appropriate Form W-8.

Part II. Certification

To establish to the withholding agent that you are a U.S. person, or resident alien, sign Form W-9. You may be requested to sign by the withholding agent even if items 1, 4, or 5 below indicate otherwise.

For a joint account, only the person whose TIN is shown in Part I should sign (when required). In the case of a disregarded entity, the person identified on line 1 must sign. Exempt payees, see *Exempt payee code* earlier.

Signature requirements. Complete the certification as indicated in items 1 through 5 below.

1. Interest, dividend, and barter exchange accounts opened before 1984 and broker accounts considered active during 1983. You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification.

2. Interest, dividend, broker, and barter exchange accounts opened after 1983 and broker accounts considered inactive during 1983. You must sign the certification or backup withholding will apply. If you are subject to backup withholding and you are merely providing your correct TIN to the requester, you must cross out item 2 in the certification before signing the form.

3. Real estate transactions. You must sign the certification. You may cross out item 2 of the certification.

4. Other payments. You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification unless you have been notified that you have previously given an incorrect TIN. "Other payments" include payments made in the course of the requester's trade or business for rents, royalties, goods (other than bills for merchandise), medical and health care services (including payments to corporations), payments to a nonemployee for services, payments made in settlement of payment card and third party network transactions, payments to certain fishing boat crew members and fishermen, and gross proceeds paid to attorneys (including payments to corporations).

5. Mortgage interest paid by you, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, qualified tuition program payments (under section 529), IRA, Coverdell ESA, Archer MSA or HSA contributions or distributions, and pension distributions. You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification.

What Name and Number To Give the Requester

For this type of account:	Give name and SSN of:
1. Individual	The individual
2. Two or more individuals (joint account)	The actual owner of the account or, if combined funds, the first individual on the account ¹
3. Custodian account of a minor (Uniform Gift to Minors Act)	The minor ²
4. a. The usual revocable savings trust (grantor is also trustee) b. So-called trust account that is not a legal or valid trust under state law	The grantor-trustee ¹ The actual owner ¹
5. Sole proprietorship or disregarded entity owned by an individual	The owner ³
6. Grantor trust filing under Optional Form 1099 Filing Method 1 (see Regulations section 1.671-4(b)(2)(i)(A))	The grantor ⁴
For this type of account:	Give name and EIN of:
7. Disregarded entity not owned by an individual	The owner
8. A valid trust, estate, or pension trust	Legal entity ⁴
9. Corporation or LLC electing corporate status on Form 8832 or Form 2553	The corporation
10. Association, club, religious, charitable, educational, or other tax-exempt organization	The organization
11. Partnership or multi-member LLC	The partnership
12. A broker or registered nominee	The broker or nominee
13. Account with the Department of Agriculture in the name of a public entity (such as a state or local government, school district, or prison) that receives agricultural program payments	The public entity
14. Grantor trust filing under the Form 1041 Filing Method or the Optional Form 1099 Filing Method 2 (see Regulations section 1.671-4(b)(2)(i)(B))	The trust

¹ List first and circle the name of the person whose number you furnish. If only one person on a joint account has an SSN, that person's number must be furnished.

² Circle the minor's name and furnish the minor's SSN.

³ You must show your individual name and you may also enter your business or DBA name on the "Business name/disregarded entity" name line. You may use either your SSN or EIN (if you have one), but the IRS encourages you to use your SSN.

⁴ List first and circle the name of the trust, estate, or pension trust. (Do not furnish the TIN of the personal representative or trustee unless the legal entity itself is not designated in the account title.) Also see *Special rules for partnerships* on page 2.

*Note. Grantor also must provide a Form W-9 to trustee of trust.

Note. If no name is circled when more than one name is listed, the number will be considered to be that of the first name listed.

Secure Your Tax Records from Identity Theft

Identity theft occurs when someone uses your personal information such as your name, SSN, or other identifying information, without your permission, to commit fraud or other crimes. An identity thief may use your SSN to get a job or may file a tax return using your SSN to receive a refund.

To reduce your risk:

- Protect your SSN,
- Ensure your employer is protecting your SSN, and
- Be careful when choosing a tax preparer.

If your tax records are affected by identity theft and you receive a notice from the IRS, respond right away to the name and phone number printed on the IRS notice or letter.

If your tax records are not currently affected by identity theft but you think you are at risk due to a lost or stolen purse or wallet, questionable credit card activity or credit report, contact the IRS Identity Theft Hotline at 1-800-908-4490 or submit Form 14039.

For more information, see Publication 4535, Identity Theft Prevention and Victim Assistance.

Victims of identity theft who are experiencing economic harm or a system problem, or are seeking help in resolving tax problems that have not been resolved through normal channels, may be eligible for Taxpayer Advocate Service (TAS) assistance. You can reach TAS by calling the TAS toll-free case intake line at 1-877-777-4778 or TTY/TDD 1-800-829-4059.

Protect yourself from suspicious emails or phishing schemes. Phishing is the creation and use of email and websites designed to mimic legitimate business emails and websites. The most common act is sending an email to a user falsely claiming to be an established legitimate enterprise in an attempt to scam the user into surrendering private information that will be used for identity theft.

The IRS does not initiate contacts with taxpayers via emails. Also, the IRS does not request personal detailed information through email or ask taxpayers for the PIN numbers, passwords, or similar secret access information for their credit card, bank, or other financial accounts.

If you receive an unsolicited email claiming to be from the IRS, forward this message to phishing@irs.gov. You may also report misuse of the IRS name, logo, or other IRS property to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) at 1-800-366-4484. You can forward suspicious emails to the Federal Trade Commission at: spam@uce.gov or contact them at www.ftc.gov/idtheft or 1-877-IDTHEFT (1-877-438-4338).

Visit IRS.gov to learn more about identity theft and how to reduce your risk.

Privacy Act Notice

Section 6109 of the Internal Revenue Code requires you to provide your correct TIN to persons (including federal agencies) who are required to file information returns with the IRS to report interest, dividends, or certain other income paid to you; mortgage interest you paid; the acquisition or abandonment of secured property; the cancellation of debt; or contributions you made to an IRA, Archer MSA, or HSA. The person collecting this form uses the information on the form to file information returns with the IRS, reporting the above information. Routine uses of this information include giving it to the Department of Justice for civil and criminal litigation and to cities, states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. commonwealths and possessions for use in administering their laws. The information also may be disclosed to other countries under a treaty, to federal and state agencies to enforce civil and criminal laws, or to federal law enforcement and intelligence agencies to combat terrorism. You must provide your TIN whether or not you are required to file a tax return. Under section 3406, payers must generally withhold a percentage of taxable interest, dividend, and certain other payments to a payee who does not give a TIN to the payer. Certain penalties may also apply for providing false or fraudulent information.

Tree Removal
Bid No. 1215-PW-133

1.0 General Scope

- 1.1 The City of Rockford, Illinois is seeking vendors to remove dead, dying, or hazardous trees in the City right-of-way. The City estimates that contract will require the removal of approximately 1,200 trees in 2016 and 800 per year in subsequent years.

2.0 General Requirements

- 2.1 Vendor Qualifications. No contract shall be awarded except to responsible vendors capable of providing the quality of services desired. Before awarding the contract, the City will require a vendor to present evidence of the necessary experience, capability, facilities, equipment, and financial resources to provide the desired services in a timely manner. A minimum of one ISA Certified Arborist shall be present on all job sites at all times. The vendor shall be located within twenty-five (25) miles of the corporate city limits of the City of Rockford. All prospective vendors must have the personnel and equipment to remove an average of 100 trees in aggregate per month within the city limits of Rockford.
- 2.2 Basis of Award. The contract will be awarded to the two (2) lowest responsible and responsive vendors in the removal and pruning categories and the lowest responsible and responsive bidder(s) in the emergency response category. The lowest bidder shall be the primary vendor for removals and the second lowest bidder shall be used when the volume of work exceeds the capacity of the primary vendor to complete the work within the specified timeframe. The City may also utilize additional vendors outside of this contract should the volume of work exceed the capacity of the primary and secondary vendors to complete all of the work within the specified timeframe. The City reserves the right to request any information necessary to determine a vendor's ability to provide the desired service. This may include standard specification information, references from other clients, and a site visit to preview vehicles. If these information requests are denied, the City reserves the right to reject the bid.
- 2.3 Certification Required. All perspective bidders must have a minimum of one (1) ISA Certified Arborist present on all job sites at all times. No award of contract shall be made until the City Forester has received and confirmed the names and ISA certification numbers of the vendor's employees. Prior to award of the contract, the vendor shall have in place a compliance agreement with the Illinois Dept. of Agriculture regarding the movement of tree material outside of the current EAB Quarantine Area. A copy of this signed document shall be provided to the City Forester.
- 2.4 Evaluation of Bids. The evaluation team shall recommend award of this contract to the vendor that is able to deliver the product specified in this document in a timely fashion for the lowest grand total price.
- 2.5 Pre-Bid Meeting. A **mandatory** pre-bid meeting will take place at the City Yards Administration Building located at 523 S. Central Ave., on Friday, January 8 at 9 a.m. Bids will only be accepted from those vendors who attend this mandatory pre-bid meeting.

- 2.6 Contract Length. The initial contract will be valid from the date of award until March 1, 2017. Upon mutual written consent, the City and the vendor may agree to extend the contract for up to two (2) additional one year terms.
- 2.7 Price Adjustments. Prior to each annual extension, the vendor may request to increase prices with the maximum allowable increase being the lesser of 5% or the current Consumer Price Index (CPI). These price increases must be requested forty-five (45) days prior to the contract extension and will only become effective upon approval of the Central Services Division.
- 2.8 Bid Form. Included at the end of these specifications is a bid form for tree removal, pruning and emergency services. The following information is required on the bid form. Vendors shall supply unit prices and total prices for each category of tree, as well as a grand total for all of the items and hourly rates for emergency services to include labor and equipment.
- 2.9 Equipment. The Vendor shall attach a list of equipment, which the vendor proposes to use on the project, noting which items are owned and those are being leased. All State of Illinois vehicle inspections shall be up to date throughout the duration of this contract (every 6 months). A copy of the required annual inspections of aerial lift trucks shall also be provided to the city representative throughout the duration of this contract.
- 2.10 References. The Vendor shall attach at least two municipal or commercial references (or have in the past provided services to the City that have been deemed acceptable) that can attest to the vendor's ability to fulfill the requirements of this contract. Please provide name, address, phone number, and nature and size of past contracts for each reference.
- 2.11 Penalties for non-compliance with contract:
- 2.11.1 Liquidated Damages. The Vendor is responsible to remove trees and stumps within a reasonable time as outlined in paragraphs 3.3.3 and 3.4.2. If the Vendor fails to make good effort to remove these trees within the allocated period, the City will notify them of default. If the Vendor fails to rectify the situation within three days, the City will assess liquidated damages against the Vendor in the amount of \$100 per day until the situation is rectified. In addition, the Vendor assumes responsibilities for any damages or losses to the City or to third parties caused by the failure to remove the trees in the time allocated by the contract. The amount may be deducted from any payments due the Vendor from the City.
- 2.11.2 In addition to liquidated damages, the City reserves the right to procure services for subsequent tree removals from another vendor if the Vendor fails to rectify non-performance.
- 2.12 Insurance Requirements. Upon execution of the contract, and prior to the vendor commencing any work or services with regard to the project, the vendor shall carry commercial general liability insurance, umbrella liability insurance, and automobile liability insurance on ISO form CG 00 01 10 01 (or a substitute form providing equivalent coverage) and the vendor shall provide the City with a Certificate of Insurance and Additional Insured Endorsement on ISO form CG 20 10 11 85 (or substitute form providing equivalent coverage) or on the combination of ISO forms CG 20 10 10 01 and CG 20 37 10 01 (or substitute forms providing equivalent coverage) naming the City as

Additional Insured thereunder. Additional insured coverage shall apply as primary insurance and be noncontributory with respect to any other insurance afforded to the City. All coverage shall be placed with an insurance company duly admitted in the State of Illinois and shall be reasonably acceptable to the City. All vendor insurance carriers must maintain an A.M. Best rating of "A-" or better. Coverage shall be afforded to the additional insured whether or not a claim is in litigation.

The insurance coverage required above shall be of sufficient type, scope and duration to ensure coverage for the City for liability related to any manifestation date within the applicable statutes of limitation and/or repose which pertain to any work performed by or on behalf of the City in relation to the contract. The following insurance requirements shall apply to the successful firm for the duration of the contract unless explicitly waived by the Central Services Manager:

- 2.12.1 Commercial General Liability. The coverage available to the City, as Additional Insured, shall not be less than \$1 million each occurrence, \$2 million general aggregate (subject to a per project general aggregate provision applicable to the project), \$2 million products/completed operations aggregate and \$1 million personal and advertising injury limits. Such insurance shall cover liability arising from premises, operations, independent vendors, products-completed operations, personal and advertising injury, and liability assumed under an insured contract (including the tort liability of another assumed in a business contract).
 - 2.12.2 Umbrella Liability. The coverage available to the City, as Additional Insured, shall not be less than \$2 million each occurrence, \$2 million generate aggregate. Such insurance shall cover liability arising from premises, operations, independent vendors, products-completed operations, personal and advertising injury, and liability assumed under an insured contract (including the tort liability of another assumed in a business contract).
 - 2.12.3 Automobile Coverage. The coverage available to the City, as Additional Insured, shall include comprehensive automobile bodily injury and property damage liability coverage for a minimum amount of \$1 million each occurrence, \$2 million general aggregate
 - 2.12.4 Workers Compensation. Vendor shall maintain during the life of this contract statutory workmen's compensation and employer's liability insurance for all his employees engaged in work on the job site.
 - 2.12.5 Insurance Certificates. Each Certificate of insurance shall provide that the insurer must give the City at least 30 days' prior written notice of cancellation and termination of the City's coverage thereunder. Not less than two weeks prior to the expiration, cancellation or termination of any such policy, the vendor shall supply the City with a new and replacement Certificate of Insurance and Additional Insured endorsement as proof of renewal of said original policy. Said new and replacement endorsements shall be similarly endorsed in favor of the City as set forth above.
- 2.13 Contact Person. The contact person for this proposal is Carrie Eklund, Central Services Manager, at (779) 348-7467 or carrie eklund@rockfordil.gov

3.0 Specific Requirements

- 3.1 General Description. Within the corporate limits of the City of Rockford, the vendor will remove dead, dying, diseased and/or hazardous trees located in the City right-of-way. Additionally, the work may also include pruning and tree & brush removal from creeks or creek banks. Pricing for brush removal work will be solicited from the vendor(s) on a case by case basis. The work to be completed under these specifications includes furnishing of all supervision, labor, materials, tools, and machinery necessary to remove trees and stumps and site restoration.
- 3.2 Quantities. Based on prior experience, the estimated number of trees to be removed annually under this contract is 800 to 1200 trees. However, the City of Rockford does not guarantee that the estimated quantities of trees will be removed or that additional quantities of trees will not be required for removal during the contract period. The City shall only be billed for and compensate the vendor for trees requested to be removed and actually removed (including stump removal and site restoration), in accordance with this contract.
- 3.3 Tree Removal. The Vendor shall remove all trees designated for removal by the City of Rockford Forester or a representative:
- 3.3.1 List. Tree removal lists containing the address, cell number, species, diameter at breast height (DBH), and utility information for each tree will be submitted to the Vendor on a periodic basis. Lists submitted to the Vendor will include approximately twenty (20) to thirty (30) trees.
- 3.3.2 Tree Marking. City personnel will mark trees for removal with a florescent orange dot. Before removal the Vendor must verify that the tree is both marked and appears on the list. The Vendor will not receive payment for removal of unmarked trees.
- 3.3.3 Completion Time. Upon receipt of the tree removal list, the Vendor is required to remove all trees listed within twenty (20) business days (trees requiring the assistance of a utility company are exempt from this standard). City representative will coordinate with the utility and removal contractor for these removals). The Vendor must notify the City Forester or its designee upon completing all tree removals on a given list.
- 3.3.4 Removal. Removal shall consist of cutting down each tree in a safe manner to a point three inches (3") above the adjacent ground level.
- (a) The Vendor is also responsible for topping trees that extend through utility wires prior to tree removal (within the guidelines of utility company restrictions).
- (b) If the Vendor deems it necessary, trees should only be dropped "free fall" only after receiving prior written authorization from the City of Rockford representative.
- (c) Sidewalk, curbs, streets, and manhole structures shall always be protected from the impact of falling wood by use of the tree or limb ground supports. Ropes or other mechanical devices shall be used to lower all limbs of sufficient size that may cause damage to other trees or surrounding public or private property.
- 3.3.5 Emergency/Storm Damage. The Vendor shall be required to respond based on the need of the City of Rockford. Storm damage, hazard trees, broken limbs, hanging limbs, or any trees deemed as a hazard by the City shall be secured by the vendor on an as needed basis by the City. The Vendor shall be required to respond within 2 hours of notification. The following equipment or combination thereof could be required based on the

circumstances. Costs shall be provided on a time and material basis, per hour, on the following manned equipment: aerial bucket truck, log loader truck, chipper unit, rubber tire end loader, crane, stump grinder, and chainsaw/groundman. Based on the bid results, the City reserves the option to divide the Removal and Emergency / Storm Damage contract award at their discretion.

3.4 Tree stump removal and restoration. The Vendor shall remove the stumps of all tree removals:

3.4.1 Stump and root removal. The Vendor shall remove all tree stumps and buttress roots to a depth that is adequate so as to return the area to the grade of the parkway outside the root flare zone. In addition, the Vendor shall remove sufficient subsurface roots as may be necessary to eliminate "humps" in the lawn area adjacent to the stump. There is no provision in this contract for additional compensation for abnormally large root flairs or surface roots. During the months from May 1st thru November 30th, stumps shall be removed and site restoration completed within five (5) business days of the tree removal date. The vendor will be allowed additional time to complete stump removal and site restoration from December thru April based on weather conditions and availability of topsoil.

3.4.2 Stump only removal. At the request of the city representative, stump only removals may be requested of the vendor. A separate bid based on diameter inch of the cut portion of the stump is required. Site restoration shall be performed to the same standards as listed in article 3.4.4 and shall be completed within five (5) business days of receiving the list from the City Forester.

3.4.3 Site Restoration. The site should be restored to the level of the existing parkway and consist of pulverized topsoil and seeding at the time the stump is removed. The seeding will consist of Medalist America Boulevard Salt Tolerant Mix (A) or equivalent blend:

- 40% Fults Puccinellia Distans
- 30% Dawson Creeping Red Fescue
- 20% Park Kentucky Bluegrass
- 10% Target Perennial Ryegrass

If the seed does not germinate properly and should it be determined that all reasonable care had been taken by the homeowner to assure that the seed germinate and grow, the vendor shall be responsible correct by reseeding or adding topsoil if settling of the parkway has occurred. This shall be performed at no additional cost to the City.

3.5 Debris Removal. The Vendor is responsible for the removal and disposal of all debris from a site after removing a tree and returning the site to its original state.

3.5.1 Removal and clean up shall include the raking of all lawn areas, sweeping of all streets and sidewalks, and hauling away all brush, tree branches, logs, stumps, tree grindings, and excess top soil from all public and private property in and around the area of work. The site shall be returned to the same state in which it existed in prior to removal.

3.5.2 Vendors shall remove all debris from the site the same day it is generated.

- 3.5.3 The Vendor shall be responsible for maintaining a disposal site for debris resulting from the work executed under this contract. The vendor shall also be responsible for the processing and appropriate disposal of all ash tree material generated from tree removals under this contract as deemed appropriate by the City Forester.
- 3.6 Maintenance Pruning. The City Forester may request non-emergency maintenance pruning of City trees and will provide the vendor with the scope of work (Pruning Classification) and the method of work (manual climbers or aerial vehicle) prior to commencement of the work. (See Appendix A). All pruning cuts shall be in compliance with current ISA standards and best management practice.
- 3.7 Work Crew Supervision. The Vendor shall provide qualified supervision of each crew at all times while working under this contract. Each supervisor shall be authorized by the Vendor to accept and act upon all directives issued by the City Forester or a representative thereof. Vendor and vendor's employees shall follow all applicable ISA and ANSI safety standards (includes personal protective gear – i.e. hardhats, safety vests, etc.) while performing work for the city.
- 3.8 Discontinuance of Work. Any practice of obviously hazardous work as determined by the City Forester or a representative thereof shall be immediately discontinued by the Vendor upon receipt of either written or oral notice to discontinue such practice.
- 3.9 Protection of Property. The Vendor shall take all necessary precautions to eliminate damage to adjacent trees and shrubs, lawns, curbs, walks, or other real or personal property. The vendor shall not park equipment on sidewalks, driveways or private grassy areas without the approval of the City Forester or his representative. Holes made in lawns, regardless of size, shall be filled with black dirt and seeded. Larger holes or tire marks shall be sodded. The City Forester or his designee shall have final determination of necessary restoration. It is recommended that the vendor take before and after pictures of each site in order to confirm or refute any property owner claims for damage as a result of the work being performed.
- 3.10 Inspection of Work. All work shall be completed to the satisfaction of the Forester or a representative thereof including any questions as to proper procedures or quality of workmanship. Payment will not be made until the work is approved by the Forester.
- 3.11 Damage to Public or Private Property. The Vendor is solely responsible for any damage to public or private property caused by the Vendor's operation. The Vendor shall resolve any claims for damage with the property owner within ten (10) days after damage occurs. Should the damage not be rectified within the time frame agreed upon or to the satisfaction of the City Forester or its designee, the City reserves the right to repair or replace that which was damaged caused by the Vendor and deduct these costs from any payment due the Vendor. Failure to report damage to public or private property to the city representative shall initiate penalties as specified in article 2.7 of this contract.
- 3.12 Safety Standards. In performance of this contract and as part of the total bid price, the Vendor shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, including the following:

- 3.12.1 During tree removals on City-owned streets, the Vendor shall have the responsibility of blocking the entire street at each intersection, using proper signs and barricades to prevent any motorized vehicle from entering. The Vendor shall have the responsibility of notifying the City of Rockford Police and Fire departments when any street must be closed.
- 3.12.2 Proper flag people, warning signs, barricades, and/or other protective devices shall be provided by the Vendor. Barricade/lane closures will be provided at the City's expense based on mutual agreement of need. Traffic control needs will be determined at a minimum of 5 days prior to commencement. Traffic control shall be in compliance with the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices and IDOT Standard Specifications, Sec. 900. Yellow flashing lights mounted on a vehicle shall not be deemed as adequate. Questions of sufficiency shall be resolved to the satisfaction of the City Forester or representative.
- 3.12.3 During tree removal, sidewalks shall be properly barricaded and closed to the satisfaction of the City Forester or representative.
- 3.13 "JULIE" Notification. The vendor is required to notify "JULIE" prior to any excavation.
- 3.14 Communication. The vendor shall maintain a communication system that consists of both cellular phone and wireless email capability at no additional cost to the City. The vendor shall return all calls or emails from the City Forester or his representative within two (2) hours.

4.0 Payment for Services

- 4.1 Basis for Payment. Payment for tree and stump removal and site restoration will be made on a unit price per inch and size class basis. Price will be determined by multiplying the DBH of the tree times the price per inch for the particular size class in which the tree falls. All measurements will be rounded to the nearest whole inch with measurements less than 0.5 inches being rounded down and measurements 0.5 or higher being rounded to higher whole inch.
- 4.2 Measurement. Tree diameter shall be measured with a standard diameter tape at four and one-half (4-½) feet from the ground. In the case of multi-stemmed trees whose crotch is between ground level and 4-½ feet above ground, measurement will be taken one foot below the crotch. In the case of multi-stemmed trees whose crotch is at or below ground, each stem shall be measured at a height of 4-1/2 feet above ground and the sum of the two stems shall be used as the overall diameter of the tree.
- 4.3 No allowance shall be made for trees that have a crown ratio larger than that of any average species for that diameter class or for trees that present a particular problem in removing.
- 4.4 Any disagreement regarding tree size shall be resolved by the Vendor and City of Rockford representative prior to tree removal.

**Bid No.: 1215-PW-133
APPENDIX A**

For the purpose of unit price quotations trees shall be classified as follows:

<u>Type</u>	<u>DBH Size</u>	<u>Annual Number of Trees (Est.)</u>	<u>Estimated Total of Diameters</u>	<u>Per Inch Price</u>	<u>Total Price*</u>
Class A (Small Trees)	7 to 12	75	750 inches	\$ _____	\$ _____
Class B (Medium Trees)	13 to 18	300	8,000 inches	\$ _____	\$ _____
Class C (Large Trees)	19 to 24	500	11,000 in.	\$ _____	\$ _____
Class D (Extra Large Trees)	25 to 30	400	11,200 in.	\$ _____	\$ _____
Class E (Very Large Trees)	31 to 36	150	4,950 inches	\$ _____	\$ _____
Class F (Mature Trees)	37 and Over	75	3,000 inches	\$ _____	\$ _____
TOTAL ESTIMATED ANNUAL PRICE					\$ _____
Stump Only Grinding			Price per inch	\$ _____	

* Total price is calculated by multiplying the estimated total of diameter inches per category times the per inch price.

Emergency Storm Damage Provision

<u>Equipment & Operator</u>	<u>Cost Per Hour</u>
Aerial Bucket Truck	\$ _____
Log Loader/Clam	\$ _____
Chipper Unit	\$ _____
Rubber Tire End Loader	\$ _____
Crane	\$ _____
Stump Grinder	\$ _____
Chainsaw/Groundman	\$ _____

Non-Emergency Maintenance Pruning Provision

Manual Crew (climbers)

Classification of prune	Estimated DBH Inches	Cost per Inch DBH	Classification Total
I. High Branch Pruning – Includes removal of deadwood, hangers, canopy raising	600	\$	\$
II. Complete High Branch Pruning – Includes removal of deadwood, hangers, canopy raising, thinning	500	\$	\$
III. Ground Pruning – Includes canopy raising, some thinning	100	\$	\$

Mechanized Crew (aerial vehicles)

Classification of prune	Estimated DBH Inches	Cost per Inch DBH	Classification Total
I. High Branch Pruning – Includes removal of deadwood, hangers, canopy raising	600	\$	\$
II. Complete High Branch Pruning – Includes removal of deadwood, hangers, canopy raising, thinning	400	\$	\$

TOTAL COST \$ _____

Note – Minimum charge of 10” will apply to smaller trees. Any additional charges due to unusual or exceptional circumstances will only be accepted by approval of the City Forester prior to the work being done.

The undersigned Vendor agrees to start work within _____ days of notification by the City of Rockford of acceptance of bid.

Vendor _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Date _____