



Request for Qualifications (RFQ)#: 274-01142022ARP

Title: RFQ for HOME ARP Allocation Plan Consulting Services

Issue Date: January 14, 2022

Due Date: February 11, 2022
not later than 3:00 p.m. ET

LATE PROPOSALS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

Issuing Department: *Housing and Neighborhoods*

Direct all inquiries concerning this RFQ to:

John Niffenegger

Federal Programs Manager

Email: john.niffenegger@raleighnc.gov

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose

The City of Raleigh (COR) is soliciting proposals from qualified consulting firms with a documented track record of successfully researching, evaluating, facilitating and preparing comprehensive, long-term affordable housing plans for large or medium-sized units of local government with which to contract for the following services to assist in the preparation of the City's [HOME-ARP Allocation Plan](#).

- Prepare the City's HOME-ARP Allocation Plan, which will include at a minimum, all [requirements](#) as required by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
- Assess housing needs and priorities given current market conditions and projected growth trends for qualifying populations.
- Identify any gaps within the City's current shelter and housing inventory as well as the service delivery system.
- Describe how the City of Raleigh will distribute its HOME-ARP funds in accordance with the priority needs and gaps identified, including the method of soliciting applications for funding and/or selecting developers, service providers, subrecipients and/or contractors and whether the City will administer eligible activities directly.
- Develop and facilitate a community engagement strategy and process that includes a broad range of community stakeholders, advocacy groups, residents, and City staff. Coordinate and conduct public meetings, online outreach and focus groups capturing and responding substantively to all comments received throughout the process. The strategy should propose methods for engagement for the public to provide input to the consultant team, as well as to review and comment on the draft and final plan.

A detailed scope of services is provided in Section 4 of this solicitation.

All information related to this solicitation, including any addenda, will be posted to the North Carolina Interactive Purchasing System (IPS) at: <https://www.ips.state.nc.us/IPS/>.

1.2 Background

The City of Raleigh, the Capital City of North Carolina, remains one of the fastest growing areas in the country. A great economy, top educational institutions, and exceptional health care facilities are some of the characteristics that attract people to the triangle area. The mild climate, diverse work force and proximity to Research Triangle Park combine to make Raleigh a great place to live.

Raleigh is a 21st Century City of Innovation focusing on environmental, cultural, and economic sustainability. The City conserves and protects our environmental resources through best practice and cutting-edge conservation and stewardship, land use, infrastructure and building technologies. The City welcomes growth and diversity through policies and programs that will protect and enhance Raleigh’s existing neighborhoods, natural amenities, history, and cultural and human resources for future generations. The City leads to improve quality of life for neighborhoods and standard of living for all citizens. The City works with universities, colleges, citizens, and local partners to promote new technology, create new job opportunities, and encourage local businesses and entrepreneurs. The City enlists and prepares 21st Century staff with the skill sets to carry out the duties of the City through transparent civic engagement and by providing the very best customer service to our citizens.

As part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP), the City of Raleigh was awarded \$5,248,760 in HOME-ARP funds to assist individuals or households who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, and other vulnerable populations, by providing housing, rental assistance, supportive services, and non-congregate shelter, to reduce homelessness and increase housing stability across the country. In order to access these funds, the City must engage in consultation and public participation processes and develop a HOME-ARP allocation plan. The plan must describe how the City intends to distribute its HOME-ARP funds, including how it will use these funds to address the needs of HOME-ARP qualifying populations. The HOME-ARP allocation plan will be submitted to HUD as a substantial amendment to its Fiscal Year 2021 annual action plan for HUD review and acceptance.

1.3 Request for Qualifications (RFQ) Timeline

Provided below is a list of the anticipated schedule of events related to this solicitation. The City of Raleigh reserves the right to modify and/or adjust the following schedule to meet the needs of the service. All times shown are Eastern Time (EST):

RFQ Process	Date	Time
RFQ Advertisement Date	<i>January 14, 2022</i>	
Deadline for written questions	<i>January 28, 2022</i>	
City Response to questions (anticipated)	<i>February 1, 2022</i>	
Proposal Due Date and Time	<i>February 11, 2022</i>	<i>3:00 p.m. ET</i>
Evaluation Meeting (anticipated)	<i>February 16, 2022</i>	
Interview/ Demonstrations (if required)	<i>Week of February 21, 2022</i>	

1.4 Proposal Questions

It is the Proposer's responsibility to ensure that all addenda have been reviewed and considered in the preparation of its proposal. Requests for clarification and questions to this RFQ must be received by the City not later than the date shown above in Section 1.3, entitled "RFQ Timeline" for the submittal of written inquires. The firm's failure to request clarification and submit questions by the date in the RFQ Timeline above shall be considered to constitute the firm's acceptance of all City's terms and conditions and requirements. The City shall issue addenda reflecting questions and answers to this RFQ, if any, and shall be posted to North Carolina Interactive Purchasing System (IPS). No information, instruction or advice provided orally or informally by any City personnel, whether made in response to a question or otherwise in connection with this RFQ, shall be considered authoritative or binding. Respondents shall be entitled to rely *only* on written material contained in an Addendum to this RFQ
All questions related to this solicitation must be submitted in writing (via email) to the following individual:

Contact Name	Email Address
John Niffenegger	john.niffenegger@raleighnc.gov

Questions submitted via telephone will not be answered.

1.5 Proposal Submission Requirements and Contact Information

Proposals must follow the format as defined in Section 2 PROPOSALS, and be addressed and submitted as follows:

DELIVERED BY US POSTAL SERVICE	DELIVERED BY ALL OTHER MEANS
City of Raleigh ATTN: John Niffenegger 421 Fayetteville Street Suite 1200 Raleigh, NC 27601 RFQ No. & Title 274-01142022ARP	City of Raleigh ATTN: John Niffenegger 421 Fayetteville Street Suite 1200 Raleigh, NC 27601 RFQ No.& Title 274-01142022ARP

Proposals must be enclosed in an envelope or package and clearly marked with the name of the submitting company, the *RFQ number* and the *RFQ Title*. Proposers must submit:

- A. one (1) signed original;
- B. one (1) electronic version of the signed proposal.

The electronic version of the Proposal must be submitted as a viewable and printable Adobe Portable Document File (PDF) on a Flash Drive. Both hard copy and electronic versions must be received by the City on or before the RFQ due date and time provided in Section 1.3. Proposals received after the RFQ due date and time will not be considered and will be returned unopened to the return address on the submission envelope or package.

Any requirements in the RFQ that cannot be met must be indicated on Appendix V, "Exceptions to the RFQ" and submitted with proposal. Proposers must respond to the entire Request for Qualifications (RFQ). Any incomplete proposal may be eliminated from competition at the discretion of the City of Raleigh. The City reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any informality it deems in its best interest.

Proposals that arrive after the due date and time will not be accepted or considered for any reason whatsoever. If the Firm elects to mail in its response, the Firm must allow sufficient time to ensure the City's proper receipt of the package by the time specified in Section 1.3, "RFQ Timeline". Regardless of the delivery method, it is the responsibility of the Firm to ensure that their response arrives at the designated location specified in this Section by the due date and time specified in Section 1.3, "RFQ Timeline".

1.6 Rights to Submitted Material; Public Records Requirements

All proposals, responses, inquiries, or correspondence relating to or in reference to this RFQ, and all reports, charts, and other documentation submitted by Proposers (other than materials submitted as and qualifying as trade secrets under North Carolina law) shall become the property of the City when received and the entire proposal shall be subject to the public records laws of the State of North Carolina except where a proper trade secrets exception has been made by the Proposer in accordance with the procedures allowed by North Carolina law.

The City reserves the right to retain all proposals submitted and to use any ideas in a proposal regardless of whether that proposal is selected. Submission of a proposal indicates acceptance by the Proposer of the conditions contained in this Request for Qualifications.

If the City receives a request to disclose materials that have been labeled as a trade secret or confidential by the proposer, the City shall provide the proposer with notice of the request. Within five (5) calendar days of the receipt of this notice, the proposer must notify the City of whether or not it instructs the City to withhold the materials from public inspection and the proposer must seek, at its sole cost, appropriate judicial action to prevent the disclosure of the materials. If the proposer notifies the City to withhold materials from public inspection, said notice must also include a legal justification for why the withheld materials qualify for exemption from the North Carolina public records act. If such justification is not provided with the notice to withhold materials, the proposer acknowledges that the notice shall be void and deemed of no effect and that the City may release the information without penalty. Further, if the proposer does not take action to prevent the disclosure of the materials within this five (5) calendar day period, the City may release the information pursuant to the public records request without any penalty from or liability to the proposer.

By submitting a proposal to the City, the proposer accepts all terms and conditions of this section. Any exception to this section shall not be allowed and an attempt to except a proposal from this section will be deemed void and of no effect and may result in the proposal being disqualified from the selection process.

By submitting a proposal, each respondent to the RFQ agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the City and each of its officers, employees, and agents from all costs, damages, and expenses incurred in connection with the City refusing to disclose any material that the respondent has designated as a trade secret.

1.7 Communications

Questions must be submitted in writing to the individual designated in Section 1.1. prior to the deadline provided in Section 1.3. A proposer should not rely on any information provided by the City that is not provided as part of this RFQ, any addenda to this RFQ, or communications with the City representative identified in Section 1.1.

1.8 Lobbying

By responding to this solicitation, the firm certifies that it has not and will not pay any person or firm to influence or attempt to influence an officer or employee of the City or the State of North Carolina, or any elected official in connection with obtaining a contract as a result of this RFQ.

1.9 Conflicts of Interest

City of Raleigh contracts are controlled by three conflict of interest provisions.

First, federal procurement standards provide in 2 CFR 200.318 (c)(1),

No employee, officer, or agent may participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by a Federal award if he or she has a real or apparent conflict of interest. Such a conflict of interest would arise when the employee, officer, or agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or a firm which employs or is about to employ any of the parties indicated herein, has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a contract. The officers, employees, and agents of the non-Federal entity may neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors or parties to subcontracts.

Similarly, the North Carolina General Statutes provides a *criminal* statute for conflicts of interest in public contracting. N.C.G.S. § 14-234(a):

(1) No public officer or employee who is involved in making or administering a contract on behalf of a public agency may derive a direct benefit from the contract except as provided in this section, or as otherwise allowed by law. (2) A public officer or employee who will derive a direct benefit from a contract with the public agency he or she serves, but who is not involved in making or administering the contract, shall not attempt to influence any other person who is involved in making or administering the contract. (3) No public officer or employee may solicit or receive any gift, favor, reward, service, or promise of reward, including a promise of future employment, in exchange for recommending, influencing, or attempting to influence the award of a contract by the public agency he or she serves.

City of Raleigh Charter Section 3.9 regulates private transactions between the City and its officials and employees. The Charter states:

"No member of the City Council, official, or employee of the City of Raleigh shall be financially interested, or have any personal beneficial interest, either directly or indirectly, as agent, representative, or otherwise, in the purchase of, or contract for, or in furnishing any materials, equipment or supplies to the City of Raleigh, nor shall any official or employee of the City of Raleigh accept or receive, or agree to accept or receive, directly or indirectly, from any person, firm or corporation to whom any contract may be awarded or from whom any materials, equipment or supplies may be purchased by the City of Raleigh, by rebate, gift, or otherwise, any money or anything of value whatsoever, or any promise, obligation or contract for future reward or compensation, for recommending or procuring the uses of any such materials, equipment or supplies by the City of Raleigh; no member of the City Council, official or employee of the City of Raleigh shall for his own personal benefit operate, directly or indirectly, any concession in any building or on any lands of the City of Raleigh, nor shall any official or employee of the City of Raleigh bid for or be awarded any contract granting concessionary rights of any nature or kind from the City of Raleigh; it shall be unlawful for any member of the City Council, official or employee of the City of Raleigh to bid for or to purchase or to contract to purchase from the City of Raleigh any real estate, equipment, materials, or supplies of any nature or kind whatsoever, either directly or indirectly, at either public or private sale, either singly, or through or jointly with any other person."

1.10 Proposer Expenses

The City of Raleigh will not be responsible for any expenses incurred by any Proposer in the development of a response to this Request for Proposal or any other activities associated with this procurement including but not limited to any onsite (or otherwise) interviews and/or presentations, and/or supplemental information provided, submitted, or given to City of Raleigh and/or its representatives. Further, the City of Raleigh shall reserve the right to cancel the conveyance described herein prior to final approval by the City Council.

1.11 Proposer Acceptance

Submission of any proposal indicates a Proposer's acceptance of the conditions contained in this RFQ unless clearly and specifically noted otherwise on Appendix V, "Exceptions to RFQ" and submitted with proposal. Furthermore, the City of Raleigh is not bound to accept a proposal on the basis of lowest price, and further, the City of Raleigh has the sole discretion and reserves the right to cancel this RFQ, and to reject any and all proposals, to waive any and all informalities and/or irregularities, or to re-advertise with either the identical or revised specifications, if it is deemed to be in the City of Raleigh's best interests to do so. The City of Raleigh reserves the right to accept or reject any or all of the items in the proposal, and to award the contract in whole or in part and/or negotiate any or all items with individual Proposers if it is deemed in the City of Raleigh's best interest. Moreover, the City of Raleigh reserves the right to make no selection if proposals are deemed to be outside the fiscal constraint or not in the best interest of the City of Raleigh.

2 PROPOSALS

Responses must follow the format outlined below. The City may reject as non-responsive at its sole discretion any proposal that does not provide complete and/or adequate responses or departs in any substantial way from the required format.

2.1 Request for Qualifications Required Document Format

Responses should be divided using tabs to separate each section, listed sequentially as follows:

Tab 1: Cover Letter

Provide an introduction letter summarizing the unique proposal of your firm to meet the needs of this service requirement. This letter should be presented on the firm's official letterhead and signed by an authorized representative who has the authority to enter into a contract with the City on behalf of the firm. Additionally, include the name, address, telephone and email address of the individual who serves as the point of contact for this solicitation.

Tab 2: Corporate Background and Experience

Include background information on the firm and provide detailed information regarding the firm's experience preparing comparable plans for similar cities with populations over 250,000. Provide a list of all comparable contracts performed in the past 5 number of years, accompanied by at least three (3) references (contact persons, firm, telephone number and email address). Provide samples of three different reports, studies, presentations or other items which illustrate the Proposer's writing style and ability. A link to websites where the samples can be found is sufficient.

Include the total amount invoiced for each listed project, the length of the project, and list of those involved in the project who are also proposed for the subject project named in this solicitation. Failure to provide a list of all similar contracts in the specified period may result in the rejection of the firm's proposal. The evaluation team reserves the right to contact any or all listed references, and to contact other public entities regarding past performance on similar projects.

Tab 3: Project Understanding, Approach and Schedule

Provide a comprehensive narrative, outline, and/or graph demonstrating the firm's understanding and approach to accomplishing the tasks outlined in the Scope of Work section of this RFQ. A description of each task and deliverable and the schedule for accomplishing each shall be included.

Tab 4: Team Firm, Experience and Certifications

This section must include the proposed staffing, deployment and firm of personnel to be assigned to this project. The Proposer shall provide information as to the Proposals and experience of all executive, managerial, legal, and professional personnel to be assigned to this project, including resumes citing experience with similar projects and the responsibilities to be assigned to each person. A project-specific firm chart which clearly illustrates the roles, responsibilities, and the reporting relationships of each team member should be included.

Tab 5: Cost

Provide a schedule of costs for comparable work completed in other cities and hourly rates for staff that would be assigned to the City of Raleigh project if selected. Hourly rates shall be fully burdened to overhead and profit. Attach any additional pricing details. A cost proposal will be negotiated with the selected consultant.

2.2 RFQ Documents

This RFQ is comprised of the base RFQ document, any attachments, and any addenda released before Contract award. All attachments and addenda released for this RFQ in advance of any Contract award are incorporated herein by reference.

3 PROPOSAL EVALUATION

3.1 Proposal Evaluation Criteria

This is not a bid. There will not be a public opening. The Proposals received in response to this RFQ will be evaluated and ranked, by the Proposal Evaluation Committee in accordance with the process and evaluation criteria contained below. Responses will be evaluated in light of the material and substantiating evidence presented in the response, and not on the basis of what is inferred. After thoroughly reading and reviewing this RFQ, each Evaluation committee member shall conduct his or her independent evaluation of the proposals received and grade the responses on their merit in accordance with the evaluation criteria set forth in the following table.

The maximum interview/demonstration points a Proposer can receive is 5 points. The Proposer(s) selected for interviews/demonstrations under this section will be notified in writing of the date and time. The Proposers' interview/demonstrations shall be based solely upon information provided in each Proposer's original proposal. No new information may be presented.

Criteria	Scoring (points)
Compliance with the RFQ requirements; quality, clarity and completeness of services proposed in relation to the response to the scope of work. The Proposer shall provide a work plan that describes how they intend to provide the services described in the Scope of Work and how the Proposer can meet the needs of the City based on the proposed time frame.	0 – 15
Respondent's Proven, Knowledge, and Experience This includes and is not limited to following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality of Methodology/Technical Approach; does the methodology depict a logical approach to fulfilling the requirements of the RFQ • Understanding of the project as outlined in the RFQ 	0 – 40

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience in providing high quality services of similar type work in this RFQ, your organization’s experience as it pertains to providing services similar in size, complexity and scope to those required under this RFQ and in the manner required pursuant to this RFQ. • Qualifications of key personnel/management team. • Knowledge of best practices 	
Demonstrated experience with similar type work and references. Capability of the Proposer to undertake and support services as described by this Request for Proposals based on reputation and customer references regarding the Proposer’s performance for organizations with needs like the City of Raleigh’s, particularly in the government sector.	0 - 20
Reasonableness of hourly rates for services proposed.	0 - 20
Project schedule to include project deliverables and a detailed timeframe.	0 – 5
Total Possible Score Without Interview/Demonstration	0 – 100
Interview/Demonstration (if applicable)	0 – 5
Total Possible Score With Interview/Demonstration	0 - 105

3.2 Interview

A short-list of firms may be invited to interview to finalize the evaluation process.

3.3 Final Selection

Proposals will be evaluated and ranked according to the criteria and weighted values set forth in section 3.1. Either a final selection for recommendation will be made at this time or the short-list of firms will be invited to participate in Stage 2 of the evaluation process. If Stage 2 is implemented, each firm will be evaluated and assigned a score to determine the best firm for recommendation.

After which negotiations of a contract with the most qualified firm will commence. If negotiations are unsuccessful, the City will then pursue negotiations with the next most qualified firm. All Proposers will be notified of their standing immediately following the City’s decision.

The City shall not be bound or in any way obligated until both parties have executed a contract. The City also reserves the right to delay the award of a contract or to not award a contract.

3.4 Notice to Proposers Regarding RFQ Terms and Conditions

It shall be the Proposer’s responsibility to read the Instructions, the Contract Standard Terms and Conditions in Appendix III, all relevant exhibits, attachments, and any other components made a part of this RFQ and comply with all requirements and specifications herein. Proposers are also responsible for obtaining and complying with all Addenda and other changes that may be issued in connection with this RFQ.

4 SCOPE OF SERVICES

Awarded Contractor shall provide services, all as set forth in this RFQ and more particularly described in this Section 4.

The Consultant will work with staff from the City of Raleigh in the preparation of the deliverable as follows:

A. HOME-ARP Allocation Plan

It is expected that the selected consultant will work with City staff to create the City's HOME-ARP Allocation Plan. The document will provide a framework for distribution of HOME-ARP funds by the City of Raleigh, and at a minimum the plan must include the following:

- 1. Analysis of Existing Conditions – Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis**
 - a. Evaluate the size and demographic composition of the City's qualifying populations and assess their unmet needs. Identify any gaps within its current shelter and housing inventory as well as the service delivery system.
 - b. Identify the characteristics of housing associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness.
 - c. Identify priority needs for qualifying populations.
 - d. Explain how level of need and gaps in the City's shelter and housing inventory and service delivery systems was determined.

- 2. Proposal of HOME-ARP activities for the City of Raleigh**
 - a. Describe how the City of Raleigh will distribute HOME-ARP funds in accordance with its priority needs including the method of soliciting applications for funding and/or selecting developers, service providers, subrecipients and/or contractors and whether the City will administer eligible activities directly.
 - b. Indicate the amount of HOME-ARP planned for each eligible activity type.
 - c. Demonstrate that planned funding for nonprofit organization operating assistance, nonprofit capacity building, and administrative costs is within HOME-ARP limits.
 - d. Include narrative about how the characteristics of the City's shelter and housing inventory, service delivery system, and the needs identified in the City's gap analysis provided a rationale for the plan to fund eligible activities.
 - e. Estimate the number of affordable rental housing units for qualifying populations that the City will produce and describe a specific affordable housing production goal and how it will address the City's priority needs.
 - f. Identify whether the City intends to give preference to one or more qualifying populations or a subpopulation within one or more qualifying populations for any eligible activity or project.
 - g. If the City intends to use HOME-ARP funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily rental housing that is being rehabilitated with HOME-ARP funds, it must state its refinancing guidelines in accordance with [24 CFR 92.206\(b\)](#).

B. Community Engagement and Consultation

With regards to community engagement and consultation, the selected consultant will be expected to lead the in the community consultation and public participation process. At a minimum, this must include the following:

1. **Consultation:** Consult with agencies and service providers whose clientele include the HOME-ARP qualifying populations to identify unmet needs and gaps in housing or service delivery systems. The plan must describe the consultation, list organizations consulted, and summarize the feedback received from these entities. At a minimum, the consultation process should include:
 - a. The Wake County Continuum of Care (CoC);
 - b. Homeless and domestic violence service providers;
 - c. Veteran's groups;
 - d. Raleigh Housing Authority;
 - e. Public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations; and
 - f. Public or private organizations that address fair housing, civil rights, and the needs of persons with disabilities.
2. **Public Participation:** Provide for and encourage citizen participation in the development of the HOME-ARP allocation plan. At a minimum, this should process should:
 - a. Provide residents with reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on the proposed HOME-ARP allocation plan of no less than 15 calendar days.
 - b. Follow the City's adopted requirements for "reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment" for plan amendments in its current Citizen Participation Plan.
 - c. Hold a public hearing during the development of the HOME-ARP allocation plan prior to submitting the plan to HUD.
 - d. Follow applicable fair housing and civil rights requirements and procedures for effective communication, accessibility, and reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities and providing meaningful access to participation by limited English proficient (LEP) residents that are in the City's current Citizen Participation Plan.
 - e. Describe in the plan the public participation process, efforts made to broaden public participation, and a summary of public comments and recommendations accepted or not accepted and the reasons why.

C. Collected Data

All raw data collected as part of this project, be it in tabular or other form (e.g., shapefiles, field notes).

D. Final Plan Report

Visually appealing final plan to summarize all findings and deliverables, along with an executive summary that can be shared with non-technical audiences. The report should include maps, graphics, illustration tables and other supporting material. The

consultant team will lead this task with significant support from key staff and have the ability to deliver draft deliverables by June 1, 2022 and final documents by June 30, 2022.

APPENDIX I

PROPOSER QUESTIONNAIRE

The following questions must be answered, and data given must be clear and comprehensive. If necessary, questions may be answered on separate sheets. The Proposer may submit any additional information desired.

Company Name:		d/b/a (if applicable)	
Street / PO Box:			
City:		State:	Zip:
Phone:	Fax:	E-Mail:	
Website (if applicable):			
<input type="checkbox"/> Sole Proprietor <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Other			
Number of years in business under company's present name:			
Fed Tax ID #:		DUNS #	
Are you certified with the North Carolina Secretary of State to conduct business (if required)? (Check One) YES: <input type="checkbox"/> NO: <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable: <input type="checkbox"/>			
Are you properly licensed/certified by the Federal and/or State of North Carolina to perform the specified work? YES: <input type="checkbox"/> NO: <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable: <input type="checkbox"/> ATTACH COPY OF ALL APPLICABLE LICENSING/CERTIFICATION DOCUMENTS Are/will you be properly insured to perform the work? YES: <input type="checkbox"/> NO: <input type="checkbox"/>			
Contact for this Contract:		Title:	
Phone:	Fax:	E-Mail:	
Have you ever defaulted or failed on a contract? (If yes, attach details) YES: <input type="checkbox"/> NO: <input type="checkbox"/>			
List at least three (3) references for which you have provided these services (same scope/size) in the past three years - preferably government agencies. Do not include City of Raleigh as a reference to meet the requirement of listing at least (3) references. PROPOSERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR SENDING REFERENCE QUESTIONNAIRE (APPENDIX III) TO THEIR REFERENCES.			
1.	Company:		
	Contact Person:		Title:
	Phone:	Fax:	E-Mail:
Describe Scope of Work:			
2.	Company:		
	Contact Person:		Title:
	Phone:	Fax:	E-Mail:
Describe Scope of Work:			
3.	Company:		
	Contact Person:		Title:
	Phone:	Fax:	E-Mail:
Describe Scope of Work:			
4.	Company:		
	Contact Person:		Title:
	Phone:	Fax:	E-Mail:
Describe Scope of Work:			
5.	Company:		
	Contact Person:		Title:
	Phone:	Fax:	E-Mail:
Describe Scope of Work:			
The undersigned swears to the truth and accuracy of all statements and answers contained herein:			
Authorized Signature:			Date:

APPENDIX II

City of Raleigh

RFQ for Housing Consulting Services Reference Questionnaire

The City of Raleigh, as a part of the RFQ, requires proposing companies to submit a minimum of three (3) business references as required within this document. The purpose of these references is to document the experience relevant to the scope of services and aid in the evaluation process.

The Proposer is required to send the reference form (the following two pages) to each business reference listed on Proposer Questionnaire. The business reference, in turn, is requested to submit the Reference Form directly to the City of Raleigh Point of Contact identified on the Reference Questionnaire form for inclusion in the evaluation process. The form and information provided will become a part of the submitted proposal. The business reference may be contacted for validation of the response. It is the Proposer's responsibility to verify their references have been received by the City of Raleigh Point of Contact by the date indicated on the reference form.

City of Raleigh

**RFQ 274-01142022ARP for HOME ARP Allocation Plan Consulting Services
REFERENCE QUESTIONNAIRE**

(Name of Business Requesting Reference)

This form is being submitted to your company for completion as a business reference for the company listed above.

This form is to be returned to the City of Raleigh, John Niffenegger, via email to john.niffenegger@raleighnc.gov no later than 3:00 **p.m. ET, February 11, 2022** and **MUST NOT** be returned to the company requesting the reference.

For questions or concerns regarding this form, please contact the City of Raleigh, Point of Contact above.

Company Providing Reference

Contact Name and Title/Position _____

Contact Telephone Number _____

Contact Email Address _____

Questions:

1. In what capacity have you worked with this company in the past? If the company was under a contract, please acknowledge and explain briefly whether or not the contract was successful.

Comments:

2. How would you rate this company's knowledge and expertise?

3= Excellent

2= Satisfactory

1= Unsatisfactory

0= Unacceptable

Comments:

3. How would you rate the company's flexibility relative to changes in the scope and timelines?

3= Excellent

2= Satisfactory

1= Unsatisfactory

0= Unacceptable

Comments:

4. What is your level of satisfaction with hard-copy materials, e.g. reports, logs, etc. produced by the company?

3= Excellent

2= Satisfactory

1= Unsatisfactory

0= Unacceptable

Comments:

5. How would you rate the dynamics/interaction between the company and your staff?
 3= Excellent 2= Satisfactory 1= Unsatisfactory 0= Unacceptable

Comments:

6. Who were the company's principle representatives involved in providing your service and how would you rate them individually? Would you comment on the skills, knowledge, behaviors or other factors on which you based the rating?
(3= Excellent; 2= Satisfactory; 1= Unsatisfactory; 0= Unacceptable)

Name: _____	Rating: _____
Name: _____	Rating: _____
Name: _____	Rating: _____
Name: _____	Rating: _____

Comments:

7. With which aspect(s) of this company's services are you most satisfied?

Comments:

8. With which aspect(s) of this company's services are you least satisfied?

Comments:

9. Would you recommend this company's services to your organization again?

Comments:

**APPENDIX III
CONTRACT STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

The contract terms provided herein shall become a part of any contract issued as a result of this solicitation. Any exceptions to the contract terms must be stated in the submittal. Any submission of a proposal without objection to the contract terms indicates understanding and intention to comply with the contract terms. If there is a term or condition that the firm intends to negotiate, it must be stated in the proposal. The successful firm will not be entitled to any changes or modifications unless they were first stated in the proposal. The City of Raleigh reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to reject any or all submittal package(s) containing unreasonable objections to standard City of Raleigh contract provisions.

1. Compensation; Time of Payment

The standard City of Raleigh payment term is NET 30 days from the date of invoice. For prompt payment all invoices should be emailed to (accountspayable@raleighnc.gov) or mail to the City of Raleigh, Accounts Payable, PO Box 590, Raleigh, North Carolina 27602-0590. All invoices must include the Purchase Order Number. Invoices submitted without the correct purchase order number will result in delayed payment.

2. Notices

All notices, requests for payment, or other communications arising hereunder shall be sent to the following:

City of Raleigh
Attn: John Niffenegger
Telephone: 919-996-6961
P.O. Box 590
Raleigh, NC 27602

3. Non-Discrimination

To the extent permitted by North Carolina law, the Parties for themselves, their agents, officials, directors, officers, members, representatives, employees, and contractors agree not to discriminate in any manner or in any form based on actual or perceived age, mental or physical disability, sex, religion, creed, race, color, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, familial or marital status, economic status, veteran status or national origin in connection with this Contract or its performance.

The Parties agree to conform with the provisions and intent of Raleigh City Code §4-1004 in all matters related to this Contract. This provision is incorporated into the Contract for the benefit of the City of Raleigh and its residents and may be enforced by an action for specific performance, injunctive relief, or any other

remedy available at law or equity. This section shall be binding on the successors and assigns of all parties with reference to the subject matter of the Contract.

4. Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprise

The City of Raleigh prohibits discrimination in any manner against any person based on actual or perceived age, race, color, creed, national origin, sex, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, familial or marital status, religion, economic status, or veteran status. The City maintains an affirmative policy of fostering, promoting, and conducting business with women and minority owned business enterprises.

5. Assignment

Neither the City nor the Contractor will assign, sublet, or transfer their interest, duties, or obligations hereunder without the prior written consent of the other. Nothing herein shall be construed as creating any personal liability on the part of any officer or agent of any public body which may be a party hereto, nor shall it create any rights or benefits to parties other than the City and the Contractor, except such other rights as may be specifically called for herein.

6. Applicable Law

All matters relating to this Contract shall be governed by the laws of the State of North Carolina, without regard to its choice of law provisions, and venue for any action relating to this Contract shall be Wake County Civil Superior Court or the United States District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina, Western Division.

1. Insurance

Contractor agrees to maintain, on a primary basis and at its sole expense, at all times during the life of this Contract the following coverages and limits. The requirements contained herein, as well as City's review or acceptance of insurance maintained by Contractor is not intended to and shall not in any manner limit or qualify the liabilities or obligations assumed by Contractor under this Contract.

Commercial General Liability – Combined single limit of no less than \$1,000,000 each occurrence and \$2,000,000 aggregate. Coverage shall not contain any endorsement(s) excluding nor limiting Product/Completed Operations, Contractual Liability or Cross Liability.

Automobile Liability – Limits of no less than \$1,000,000 Combined Single Limit. Coverage shall include liability for Owned, Non-Owned and Hired automobiles. In the event Contractor does not own automobiles, Contractor agrees to maintain coverage for Hired and Non-Owned Auto Liability, which may be satisfied by way of endorsement to the Commercial General Liability policy or separate Auto Liability policy. Automobile coverage is only necessary if vehicles are used in the provision of services under this Contract and/or are brought on a COR site.

Worker's Compensation & Employers Liability – Contractor agrees to maintain Worker's Compensation Insurance in accordance with North Carolina General Statute Chapter 97 with statutory limits and employees liability of no less than \$1,000,000 each accident.

Additional Insured – Contractor agrees to endorse the City as an Additional insured on the Commercial General Liability, Auto Liability and Umbrella Liability if being used to meet the standard of the General Liability and Automobile Liability. The Additional Insured shall read '**City of Raleigh is named additional insured as their interest may appear**'.

Certificate of Insurance – Contractor agrees to provide COR a Certificate of Insurance evidencing that all coverages, limits and endorsements required herein are maintained and in full force and effect, and Certificates of Insurance shall provide a minimum thirty (30) day endeavor to notify, when available, by Contractor's insurer. If Contractor receives a non-renewal or cancellation notice from an insurance carrier affording coverage required herein, or receives notice that coverage no longer complies with the insurance requirements herein, Contractor agrees to notify the City within five (5) business days with a copy of the non-renewal or cancellation notice, or written specifics as to which coverage is no longer in compliance. **The Certificate Holder address should read:**

**City of Raleigh
Post Office Box 590
Raleigh, NC 27602-0590**

Umbrella or Excess Liability – Contractor may satisfy the minimum liability limits required above under an Umbrella or Excess Liability policy. There is no minimum Per Occurrence limit of liability under the Umbrella or Excess Liability, however, the Annual Aggregate limits shall not be less than the highest 'Each Occurrence' limit for required policies. Contractor agrees to endorse City of Raleigh as an 'Additional Insured' on the Umbrella or Excess Liability, unless the Certificate of Insurance states the Umbrella or Excess Liability provides coverage on a 'Follow-Form' basis.

Professional Liability – Limits of no less than \$1,000,000 each claim. This coverage is only necessary for professional services such as engineering, architecture or when otherwise required by the City.

All insurance companies must be authorized to do business in North Carolina and be acceptable to the City of Raleigh's Risk Manager.

13. Indemnity

Except to the extent caused by the sole negligence or willful misconduct of the City, the Engineer shall indemnify and hold and save the City, its officers, agents and employees, harmless from liability of any kind, including all claims, costs (including defense) and losses accruing or resulting to any other person, firm, or corporation furnishing or supplying work, services, materials, or supplies in

connection with the performance of this Contract, and from any and all claims, costs (including defense) and losses accruing or resulting to any person, firm, or corporation that may be injured or damaged by the Engineer in the performance of this Contract. This representation and warranty shall survive the termination or expiration of this Contract.

The Engineer shall indemnify and hold and save the City, its officers, agents and employees, harmless from liability of any kind, including claims, costs (including defense) and expenses, on account of any copyrighted material, patented or unpatented invention, articles, device or appliance manufactured or used in the performance of this Contract.

14. Intellectual Property

Any information, data, instruments, documents, studies, reports or deliverables given to, exposed to, or prepared or assembled by the Engineer under this Contract shall be kept as confidential proprietary information of the City and not divulged or made available to any individual or organization without the prior written approval of the City. Such information, data, instruments, documents, studies, reports or deliverables will be the sole property of the City and not the Engineer.

The Engineer shall maintain the right of reuse to any drawings or specifications provided or furnished by the Engineer. The City acknowledges that such drawings or specifications are not intended or represented to be suitable for reuse by the City or others on extensions of the project or on any other project.

All intellectual property, including, but not limited to, patentable inventions, patentable plans, copyrightable works, mask works, trademarks, service marks and trade secrets invented, developed, created or discovered in performance of this Contract shall be the property of the City.

Copyright in and to any copyrightable work, including, but not limited to, copy, art, negatives, photographs, designs, text, software, or documentation created as part of the Engineer's performance of this project shall vest in the City. Works of authorship and contributions to works of authorship created by the Engineer's performance of this project are hereby agreed to be 'works made for hire' within the meaning of 17 U.S.C. 201.

15. Force Majeure

Except as otherwise provided in any environmental laws, rules, regulations or ordinances applicable to the parties and the services performed under this Contract, neither party shall be deemed to be in default of its obligations hereunder if and so long as it is prevented from performing such obligations by an act of war, hostile foreign actions, nuclear explosion, earthquake, hurricane, tornado, or other catastrophic natural event or act of God. Either party to the Contract must take reasonable measures and implement reasonable protections when a weather event otherwise defined as a force majeure event is forecast to

be eligible to be excused from the performance otherwise required under this Contract by this provision.

16. Advertising

The Engineer shall not use the existence of this Contract, or the name of the City of Raleigh, as part of any advertising without the prior written approval of the City.

17. Cancellation

The City may terminate this Contract at any time by providing thirty (30) days written notice to the Engineer. In addition, if Engineer shall fail to fulfill in timely and proper manner the obligations under this Contract for any reason, including the voluntary or involuntary declaration of bankruptcy, the City shall have the right to terminate this Contract by giving written notice to the Engineer and termination will be effective upon receipt. Engineer shall cease performance immediately upon receipt of such notice.

In the event of early termination, Engineer shall be entitled to receive just and equitable compensation for costs incurred prior to receipt of notice of termination and for the satisfactory work completed as of the date of termination and delivered to the City. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in no event will the total amount due to Engineer under this section exceed the total amount due Engineer under this Contract. The Engineer shall not be relieved of liability to the City for damages sustained by the City by virtue of any breach of this Contract, and the City may withhold any payment due to the Engineer for the purpose of setoff until such time as the City can determine the exact amount of damages due the City because of the breach.

Payment of compensation specified in this Contract, its continuation or any renewal thereof, is dependent upon and subject to the allocation or appropriation of funds to the City for the purpose set forth in this Contract.

18. Laws/Safety Standards

The Engineer shall comply with all laws, ordinances, codes, rules, regulations, safety standards and licensing requirements that are applicable to the conduct of its business, including those of Federal, State, and local agencies having jurisdiction and/or authority.

Engineer must comply with *North Carolina Occupational Safety and Health Standards for General Industry, 29CFR 1910*. In addition, Engineer shall comply with all applicable occupational health and safety and environmental rules and regulations.

Engineer shall effectively manage their safety and health responsibilities including:

a. Accident Prevention

Prevent injuries and illnesses to their employees and others on or near their job site. Contractor managers and supervisors shall ensure personnel safety by strict adherence to established safety rules and procedures.

b. Environmental Protection

Protect the environment on, near, and around their work site by compliance with all applicable environmental regulations.

c. Employee Education and Training

Provide education and training to all contractors employees before they are exposed to potential workplace or other hazards as required by specific OSHA Standards.

19. Applicability of North Carolina Public Records Law

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Contract, this Contract and all materials submitted to the City by the Engineer are subject to the public records laws of the State of North Carolina and it is the responsibility of the Engineer to properly designate materials that may be protected from disclosure as trade secrets under North Carolina law as such and in the form required by law prior to the submission of such materials to the City. Engineer understands and agrees that the City may take any and all actions necessary to comply with federal, state, and local laws and/or judicial orders and such actions will not constitute a breach of the terms of this Contract. To the extent that any other provisions of this Contract conflict with this paragraph, the provisions of this section shall control.

20. Miscellaneous

The Engineer shall be responsible for the proper custody and care of any property furnished or purchased by the City for use in connection with the performance of this Contract, and will reimburse the City for the replacement value of its loss or damage.

The Engineer shall be considered to be an independent contractor and as such shall be wholly responsible for the work to be performed and for the supervision of its employees. Nothing herein is intended or will be construed to establish any agency, partnership, or joint venture. Engineer represents that it has, or will secure at its own expense, all personnel required in performing the services under this Contract. Such employees shall not be employees of or have any individual contractual relationship with the City.

This Contract may be amended only by written agreement of the parties executed by their authorized representatives.

21. Right of Audit and Examination of Records

- a. The City may conduct an audit of any services performed and fees paid subject to this Contract. The City, or its designee, may perform such an audit throughout

the contract period and for three (3) years after termination thereof or longer if otherwise required by law.

- b. The Contractor and its agents shall maintain all books, documents, papers, accounting records, contract records and such other evidence as may be appropriate to substantiate costs incurred under this Contract. The City, or its designee, shall have the right to, including but not limited to: review and copy records; interview current and former employees; conduct such other investigation to verify compliance with contract terms; and conduct such other investigation to substantiate costs incurred by this Contract.
- c. "Records" shall be defined as data of every kind and character, including but not limited to books, documents, papers, accounting records, contract documents, information, and materials that, in the City's sole discretion, relate to matters, rights, duties or obligations of this Contract.
- d. Records and employees shall be available during normal business hours upon advanced written notice. Electronic mail shall constitute written notice for purposes of this section.
- e. Contractor shall provide the City or its designee reasonable access to facilities and adequate and appropriate workspace for the conduct of audits.
- f. The rights established under this section shall survive the termination of the Contract, and shall not be deleted, circumvented, limited, confined, or restricted by contract or any other section, clause, addendum, attachment, or the subsequent amendment of this Contract.
- g. The Contractor shall reimburse the City for any overcharges identified by the audit within ninety (90) days of written notice of the City's findings.

22. E – Verify

Contractor shall comply with E-Verify, the federal E-Verify program operated by the United States Department of Homeland Security and other federal agencies, or any successor or equivalent program used to verify the work authorization of newly hired employees pursuant to federal law and as in accordance with N.C.G.S. §64-25 et seq. In addition, to the best of Contractor's knowledge, any subcontractor employed by Contractor as a part of this contract shall be in compliance with the requirements of E-Verify and N.C.G.S. §64-25 et seq.

23. Iran Divestment Act Certification

Contractor certifies that, as of the date listed below, it is not on the Final Divestment List as created by the State Treasurer pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 147-86.55, *et seq.* In compliance with the requirements of the Iran Divestment Act and N.C.G.S. § 147-86.59, Contractor shall not utilize in the performance of the contract any subcontractor that is identified on the Final Divestment List.

24. Companies Boycotting Israel Divestment Act Certification

Contractor certifies that it has not been designated by the North Carolina State Treasurer as a company engaged in the boycott of Israel pursuant to N.C.G.S. 147-86.81.

[REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]

APPENDIX IV EXCEPTIONS TO RFQ

Check one: NO EXCEPTIONS, PROPOSER COMPLIES WITH ALL DOCUMENTS IN RFQ. EXCEPTIONS ARE LISTED BELOW:

#	RFQ Page #, Section #, Appendix #	Exceptions [Describe nature of Exception]	Explain why this is an issue	Proposed Alternative	Indicate if exception is negotiable (N) or non-negotiable (NN)
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					

FAILURE TO IDENTIFY ANY EXCEPTIONS WILL INDICATE ACCEPTANCE OF ALL TERMS AND CONDITIONS, AND REQUIREMENTS OF THE RFQ AND ANY CORRESPONDING ADDENDUM ISSUED. THE CITY, AT ITS SOLE DISCRETION, MAY MODIFY OR REJECT ANY EXCEPTION OR PROPOSED CHANGE.

Firm:	Authorized Signature	Title:
Printed Name of Signer		Date: