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## INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

### 1. Bid Preparation and Submission

- a. Bidders are expected to examine the specifications, drawings, all instructions and, the construction site. Failure to do so will be at the bidders' risk.
- b. All bids must be submitted on the forms provided by the municipality. Bidders shall furnish all the information required by the solicitation. Bids must be signed and the bidders name typed or printed on the bid sheet and each continuation sheet which requires the entry of information by the bidder. Erasures or other changes must be initialed by the person signing the bid. Bids signed by an agent shall be accompanied by evidence of the agent's authority. (Bidders should retain a copy of their bid for their own records.)
- c. All bids shall be sealed in an envelope which shall be clearly marked with the words "Bid Document," the Invitation to Bid number, any

project or other identifying number, the bidder's name, and the date and time for receipt of bids.

- d. This solicitation requires bidding on all items, failure to do so will disqualify the bid.
- e. Unless expressly authorized elsewhere in this solicitation, alternate bids will not be considered.
- f. Unless expressly authorized elsewhere in this solicitation, bids submitted by telegraph, facsimile (fax) machines, or electronically via the internet or email will not be considered.
- g. All blank spaces under the page(s) headed "Bid Form" must be filled in with ink or typewriter in both words and figures indicating the unit price for each respective bid item. The bid total shall also be entered in words and figures.
- h. In case of a discrepancy between a unit price written in words and one entered in figures, the price written in words shall govern.
- i. In case of a discrepancy between the bid total written in words and that entered as a figure, the adjusted figure shall govern.
- j. The estimated quantities are not guaranteed and can be adjusted as needed during the project, but are given as a basis for the comparison of bids.
- k. Electronic Bids are not permitted for Local Transportation Projects at this time.

## **2. Explanation and Interpretation to Prospective Bidders**

- a. Any prospective bidder desiring an explanation or interpretation of the solicitation, specification, drawings, etc., must request it at least 10 days before the scheduled time for bid opening. Requests may be oral or written. Oral requests must be confirmed in writing. The only oral clarifications that will be provided will be those clearly related to solicitation procedures, i.e., not substantive technical information. No other oral explanation or interpretation will be provided. Any information given to a prospective bidder concerning this solicitation will be furnished promptly to all other prospective bidders as a written addendum to the solicitation, if that information is necessary in submitting bids, or if lack of it would be prejudicial to other prospective bidders.

- b. Any information obtained by, or provided to, a bidder other than by formal addendum to the solicitation shall not constitute a change to the solicitation.

### **3. Addendum to Invitation for Bids**

- a. If this solicitation is amended, then all terms and conditions which are not modified remain unchanged.
- b. Bidders shall acknowledge receipt of any addendum to this solicitation by identifying the addendum number and date on the bid form. Bids which fail to acknowledge the bidders receipt of any addendum will result in the rejection of the bid if the addendum (addenda) contained information which substantively changed the municipality's requirements.
- c. Addenda will be on file in the offices of the Municipality at least 5 days before the bid opening.

### **4. Responsibility of Prospective Contractor**

- a. All prospective contractors shall be pre-qualified under the appropriate work category by the Vermont Agency of Transportation, Contract Administration. For this project a current annual prequalification is necessary. The contact for pre-qualification is Jon Winter, Tel: (802) 828 2643. Please note that applications for pre-qualification must be made at least 10 working days prior to the bid opening.
- b. The VERMONT AGENCY OF TRANSPORTATION "POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR PREQUALIFICATION, BIDDING, AND AWARD OF CONTRACTS", latest edition, Sections 1-6 and 9 are hereby incorporated in these specifications and the contract by reference. Sections 1 through 6 shall not be subject to the changes to the definitions in the Special Provisions.
- c. The Method of Measurement and Basis of Payment for all contract items shall follow the Vermont Agency of Transportation's ("VTrans") 2011 Standard Specification for Construction, unless modified in these Contract Documents.
- d. If a bidder submits a unit bid price of zero for a contract bid item, the bid will be declared informal.

- e. A bidder may submit a unit bid price that is obviously below the cost of the item. If the Municipality awards and enters into a contract with a Bidder that has submitted a unit bid price that is obviously below cost, the contractor shall be obligated to perform the work under such item as indicated in the contract documents and/or as directed by the Engineer.
- f. When "Optional Bid Items" are indicated in the proposal bidders shall bid on only one pay item in each group of options, leaving the other pay items in the group without a bid price. If a bidder enters more than one unit price bid in a group of options, only the lowest total price will be considered as the basis of calculation for determining the low bidder and used in the contract.
- g. When "Alternate Bid Items" are indicated in the Proposal bidders must bid on all pay items in each set of "Alternate Bid Items". Failure to bid on all of the "Alternate Bid Items" in the proposal may result in rejection of the bid.
- h. When the schedule of items for a contract contains one or more pay items which have a quantity of one (1) and a unit price and total price entered, the Municipality has set a unit price in the event that such item is used. If such item is determined to be needed by the Engineer, the work will be performed by the contractor according to the contract documents at the unit price listed.
- i. When it is indicated in the contract documents that payment or costs of work and/or materials are incidental to one or more other contract items (but not to specific other items), such costs shall be included by the bidder in the price bid for all other contract items.

## **5. Errors and/or Inconsistencies in Contract Documents**

- a. By submitting a bid, a prospective bidder/contractor certifies that it shall assert no claim, cause of action, litigation, or defense against the Municipality unless notice was provided to the Municipality in writing of any error or inconsistency discovered in the plans, proposal, specifications, and/or contract documents immediately upon discovery of such error or inconsistency.

## **6. Availability of Lands for Work, Etc.**

- a. The lands upon which the Work is to be performed, rights of way and easement for access thereto and other lands designated for use by the contractor in performing the Work are identified in the contract

documents. All additional lands and access thereto required for temporary construction facilities, construction equipment or storage of materials and equipment to be incorporated in the work are to be obtained and paid for by the Contractor. Easements for permanent structures or permanent changes in the existing facilities are to be obtained and paid for by the Municipality unless otherwise provided for in the contract documents.

## **7. Familiarity with Laws, Ordinances and Regulations**

- a. By submitting a bid an entity certifies that it is familiar with all Federal, State and local laws, ordinances and regulations which affect in any way the materials, equipment, haul roads used in or upon the work, the conduct of the work, and the persons engaged or employed in the performance of the work to be performed pursuant to the contract.
- b. By submitting a bid an entity certifies that it shall forthwith report in writing to the Municipality any provision in the plans, proposal, specifications or proposed contract that the bidder/contractor believes is in conflict with or inconsistent with any Federal, State or local law, ordinance, or regulation.
- c. By submitting a bid a prospective Bidder certifies that if, during its investigation of the work in the process of preparing its bid, it discovers or encounters subsurface or latent physical conditions at a project site differing materially from those ordinarily encountered and generally recognized as inherent in the work provided for in the contract, it shall notify in writing the Municipality of the specific differing conditions immediately upon discovering or encountering the differing site conditions.
- d. An entity further certifies that if it fails to notify the Municipality of any differing site conditions as described above, it shall waive any and all rights that it might have to additional compensation from the Municipality for additional work as a result of the differing site conditions and that it shall not bring a claim for additional compensation because of differing site conditions.
- e. By submitting a bid a prospective bidder/contractor certifies that no claim or defense of ignorance or misunderstanding concerning Federal, State or local laws, ordinances and/or regulations will be employed by a bidder/contractor or considered by the Municipality in claims, litigation, alternative dispute resolution procedures, or other matters concerning the contract for which the bid is submitted.

**8. Late Submissions, Modifications, and Withdrawal of Bids**

- a. Any bid received at the place designated in the solicitation after the exact time specified for receipt will not be considered.
- b. Any modification or withdrawal of a bid is subject to the same conditions as in paragraph (a.) of this provision.
- c. The only acceptable evidence to establish the time of receipt at the Municipality is the time/date stamp of the Municipality on the proposal wrapper, or other documentary evidence of receipt maintained by the municipality.
- d. Bids may be withdrawn by written notice, or if authorized by this solicitation, by telegram (including mailgram) or facsimile machine transmission received at any time before the exact time set for opening of bids: provided that written confirmation of telegraphic or facsimile withdrawals over the signature of the bidder is mailed and postmarked prior to the specified bid opening time. A bid may be withdrawn in person by a bidder or its authorized agent if , before the exact time set for opening of bids, the identity of the person requesting withdrawal is established and the person signs a receipt for the bid.

**9. Bid Opening**

All bids received by the date and time specified in the solicitation will be publicly opened and total bid amounts read aloud. The time and place of opening will be as specified in the solicitation. Bidders and other interested persons may be present. In the event of unforeseen circumstances (severe weather, etc.) the Municipality reserves the right to postpone the reading of the bids for that contract. All bids for a contract will be opened at the same time and location at a later date.

**10. Protests**

- a. This Section sets forth the exclusive protest remedies available with respect to this solicitation. Each Bidder, by submitting its bid, expressly recognizes the limitation on its rights to protest contained herein, expressly waives all other rights and remedies and agrees that the decision on any protest, as provided herein, shall be final and conclusive unless wholly arbitrary. These provisions are included in this solicitation expressly in consideration for such waiver and agreement by the Bidders. Such waiver and agreement by each Bidder are also consideration to each other Bidder for making the same waiver and agreement.

- b. A Bidder may protest any determination regarding the proposed award of a Contract by filing a notice of protest by hand delivery or courier to the Sharon Selectboard. Such notice shall be provided: (a) no earlier than the day of Sharon Selectboard issuance of the Notice of Award; and (b) no later than five (5) business days after the Town Sharon issuance of the Notice of Award. The notice of protest shall specifically state the grounds of the protest.
- c. Within seven (7) calendar days of the notice of protest the protesting Bidder must file with the Municipality a detailed statement of the grounds, legal authorities and facts, including all documents and evidentiary statements, in support of the protest. Evidentiary statements, if any, shall be submitted under penalty of perjury. The protesting Bidder shall have the burden of proving its protest by clear and convincing evidence.
- d. Failure to file a notice of protest or a detailed statement within the applicable period shall constitute an unconditional waiver of the right to protest the evaluation or qualified process and decisions there under.
- e. Unless otherwise required by law, no evidentiary hearing or oral argument shall be provided, except the Sharon Selectboard, in its sole discretion, may decide to permit a hearing or argument if it determines that such hearing or argument is necessary for the protection of the public interest. The Sharon Selectboard shall issue a written decision regarding the protest within thirty (30) calendar days after it receives the detailed statement of protest. Such decision shall be final and conclusive.
- f. If the Sharon Selectboard concludes that the Bidder submitting the protest has established a basis for protest, the Sharon Selectboard will determine what remedial steps, if any, are necessary or appropriate to address the issues raised in the protest. Such steps may include, without limitation, withdrawing or revising the decisions, issuing a new solicitation or taking other appropriate actions.

## **11. Rejection of Proposals**

- a. The Municipality may declare a Proposal "Informal" and hence rejected if the proposal shows any alteration of form, omissions or additions not called for in the proposal, lacks proper signatures, is a conditional bid, has alternate bids unless required in the proposal, has irregularities of any kind, has changes to the printed content, is submitted on a form not furnished by the Municipality, is incomplete, fails to acknowledge receipt of one or more addendums, or includes a clause in which the bidder reserves a right to accept or reject the contract award.

- b. The Municipality may reject a proposal at the time of bid opening or following analysis to confirm the proposal.
- c. The Municipality may reject any or all proposals, waive any or all technicalities, and/or advertise for new proposals if the municipality, in consultation with VTrans, determines that the best interests of the Municipality, or the awarding authority, will be served.
- d. The Municipality will reject a proposal submitted without a completed Debarment and Non-Collusion Affidavit.
- e. The Municipality will reject a proposal submitted without a signed Contractors Equal Employment Certification Form.
- f. The Municipality will reject a proposal submitted without a Bid Bond.
- g. The Municipality will reject bids which fail to acknowledge the bidder's receipt of any addendum if the addendum (addenda) contained information which substantively changed the municipality's requirements.
- h. The Municipality will decide whether any bid prices are unbalanced above or below a reasonable cost analysis value as determined by its Municipal Project Manager. Proposals in which bid prices are unbalanced, mathematically and/or materially, may be rejected at the sole discretion of the Municipality. For purposes of this subsection "mathematically unbalanced bid" and "materially unbalanced bid" shall have the same meaning as in 23 CFR Part 635 – Construction and Maintenance.
- i. Prospective bidders may be disqualified for various reasons including (a) Submission of more than one proposal for the same work by an entity under the same or different names, (b) Evidence of collusion among bidders, or (c) Any other cause for suspension or debarment as detailed in the Agency's policy and Procedures on Debarment, Code of Vermont Rules (CVR), Volume 8A, 14 010 004, pages 1-10.

## **12. Contract Award**

- a. The municipality will evaluate bids in response to this solicitation without discussions and will award a contract to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder whose bid, conforming to the solicitation, will be most advantageous to the municipality considering only price and any price related factors specified in the solicitation.



- b. Opened proposals will be considered and submitted bids confirmed on the basis of the summation of the products of the quantities shown in each proposal's Schedule of Items multiplied by the unit prices bid. In the event of a discrepancy between the written bid amount and the alpha numeric figure, the written amount shall govern. In the event of a discrepancy between a unit price and the calculated extension, the product based on the unit price bid and the mathematically correct summation of the products shall govern.
- c. The municipality may reject any and all bids, waive any or all technicalities, and/or advertise for new proposals if the municipality, in consultation with VTrans, determines that the best interests of the municipality will be served.
- d. The municipality may reject any bid as nonresponsive if it is materially unbalanced as to the prices for the various items of work to be performed. A bid is materially unbalanced when it is based on prices significantly less than cost for some work and prices which are significantly overstated for other work.
- e. A written award shall be furnished to the successful bidder within the period for acceptance specified in the bid and shall result in a binding contract without further action by either party.
- f. Prior to signing a construction contract, the successful bidder must submit a current Certificate of Good Standing from the Vermont Secretary of State's office.

### **13. Bid Guarantee**

- a. All bids must be accompanied by a negotiable bid guarantee which shall not be less than five percent (5%) of the amount of the bid. The bid guarantee may be a certified check, bank draft, U.S. Government Bonds at par value, or a bid bond secured by a surety company acceptable to the U.S. Government and authorized to do business in the State of Vermont. Certified checks and bank drafts must be made payable to the order of the municipality. The bid guarantee shall insure the execution of the contract and the furnishing of a method of assurance of completion by the successful bidder as required by the solicitation. Failure to submit a bid guarantee with the bid shall result in rejection of the bid. Proposal guarantees of the two lowest bidders that have submitted proposals that comply with all the provisions required to render them formal will be retained until the contract and bonds have been signed by all parties. Bid guarantees submitted by

the remaining unsuccessful bidders will be returned as soon as practicable after bid opening. Should no award be made within thirty-one calendar days following the opening of bids, thirty-two if the thirty-first day is a state holiday, all proposals may be rejected and all guarantees may be returned.

#### **14. Contract Bonds**

- a. A successful bidder entering into a contract for any portion of the work included in a proposal shall provide the Town sufficient surety in the form of; 1) a labor and materials bond, and 2) a compliance bond, both as required by 19 V.S.A. Section 10(8) and (9).
- b. Each bond shall be in a sum equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the contract awarded.
- c. The labor and materials bond shall guarantee the payment in full of all bills and accounts for materials and labor used in the work as well as other obligations incurred in carrying out the terms of the contract.
- d. The compliance bond shall guarantee the faithful performance and completion of the work to be done under the contract as well as compliance with all provisions of the contract.
- e. The form of the bond shall be that provided by the Municipality, and the surety shall be acceptable to the State. The bonds shall be procured from an insurance company registered and licensed to do business in the State of Vermont.

#### **15. Signing the Contract**

- a. The entity to which the Contract has been awarded shall sign the contract documents and return them the Municipality within 30 calendar days from the date of the Notice of Award. No contract shall be considered effective until it has been fully executed by all parties.
- b. Failure to comply with any of the requirements of these provisions relative to signing the contract or failure to furnish the required surety within fifteen (15) calendar days after notice of award shall be just cause for the annulment of the award or of the contract and/or forfeiture of the proposal guarantee/bid bond. Further, if the award or the contract is annulled, or if the contract is not awarded due to in(action) of the lowest responsible bidder that has submitted a proposal that complies with all the provisions required to make it formal, the proposal guaranty accompanying the proposal shall become the property of the Municipality, not as a penalty but as liquidated damages.

- c. If the award or the contract is annulled, the Municipality may award the contract to the next lowest responsible bidder that has submitted a proposal that complies with all the provisions required to make it formal or advertise a new request for bids for the contract(s).
- d. Failure by the contractor to sign the contract within the time provided by this Subsection shall not be reason for an extension of the contract completion date.

**16. Taxes and Insurance Requirements**

Taxes and insurance for this project shall be in conformance with Section 103 of the VTrans 2011 Standard Specifications for Construction.. For this project the following limits for Commercial Liability and Automobile coverage apply:

Commercial Liability:

- \$1,500,000 Each Occurrence
- \$2,000,000 General Aggregate applying, in total, to this project only
- \$2,000,000 Products/completed Operations Aggregate
- \$250,000 Fire Damage Legal Liability

Automobile Liability:

- Bodily Injury \$1,000,000 Each Person
- \$1,000,000 Each Occurrence
- Property Damage \$500,000 Each Occurrence
- OR
- Combined Single Limit \$1,500,000 Each Occurrence

**17. Prompt Pay Compliance**

- a. Vermont’s Prompt Pay Statute requires payment from primes to subs within 7 days of primes receiving payment. Vermont State Statutes Annotated, Title 9, §4003 provides: “Notwithstanding any contrary agreement, when a subcontractor has performed in accordance with the provisions of its contract, a contractor shall pay a subcontractor, and each subcontractor shall in turn pay its subcontractors, the full or proportional amount received for each such subcontractor’s work and materials based on work completed or service provided under the subcontractor, seven days after receipt of each progress or final payment or seven days after receipt of the subcontractor’s invoice, whichever is later.”

**18. Preconstruction Conference**

- a. After award of a contract under this solicitation and prior to the start of work, the successful bidder will be required to attend a preconstruction conference with representatives of the Municipality, Design and/or Resident Engineer, Municipal Project Manager (MPM), and the VTrans Project Supervisor, and other interested parties convened by the Municipality's engineer/representative. The conference will serve to acquaint the participants with the general plan of the construction operation and all other requirements of the contract. The municipality will provide the successful bidder with the date, time and place of the conference. Note: If the specific material testing and certification requirements are not included elsewhere in the contract documents, they will be provided by the Design Consultant to the contractor at the preconstruction conference

## **19. Waste Borrow and Staging Areas**

- a. The opening and use of offsite waste, borrow and staging areas shall follow the provisions of Section 105.25 of the VTrans Standard Specifications for Construction, 2011 Edition.
- b. The Contractor and/or property owner shall obtain all necessary permits and clearances prior to using off site waste, borrow or staging areas. In addition all off site waste borrow and staging areas must be reviewed and approved by the VTrans Environmental Section prior to use. Application should be made at least 21 calendar days prior to planned utilization. No work will be performed at offsite waste borrow or staging areas without written approval of the Engineer. The forms for either documenting an exempt site or applying for review of a site may be found on the VTrans web site at: <http://vtrans.vermont.gov/working/offsite-activity>

## **20. DBE Requirements**

- a. There are to be no mandatory Contract goals for DBE compliance on this project.

## **21. Contaminated Soils**

- a. If contaminated soils are encountered during the course of construction, the Contractor is directed to contact: Mr. Andy Shively, Hazardous Material and Waste Coordinator, of the Vermont Agency of Transportation at (802) 229-8740.

## **22. Contract Documents**

The following documents are included in this proposal and are effective for this contract. Proposal holders are reminded to check the contents of this proposal against the following index. In the event that you suspect or determine the proposal is incomplete, notify Scott Woodward, Selectboard Town of Sharon (802-763-8268 x 4

- Invitation for Bids
- Instruction to Bidders
- Bid Proposal Form
- Special Provisions
- VTrans 2011 Standard Specifications for Construction
- Contractors EEO Certification Form CA-109 – Appendix A
- Debarment & Non-Collusion Affidavit CA-91 – Appendix B
- Required Contract Provisions for Federal-Aid Construction, FHWA Form 1273 – Appendix C
- Standard Federal EEO Specifications, (Executive Order 11246) – Appendix D
- Certification of Federal Aid Contracts CA-163 – Appendix E
- Vermont Minimum Labor & Truck Rates – Appendix F
- Vermont Agency of Transportation Contractor Workforce Reporting Requirements CA-26A – Appendix G
- Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Policy Contract Requirements – Appendix H
- General Special Provisions for All Projects dated xx, xx, xxx  
CHECK FOR LATEST VERSION ON VTRANS WEB SITE.
- Example Performance and Payment Bond Forms – Appendix J
- Project Change Order Form – Appendix K
- Work Zone Safety and Mobility Guidance Document –Appendix L
- US Department of Labor Davis-Bacon Rates

### **SPECIAL PROVISIONS**

In case of discrepancy, precedence of the Contract Documents will follow be determined by Section 105.05 of the latest edition of the VTrans Standard Specifications for Construction.

**STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS.** The provisions of the most current VTrans STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION, as modified herein, shall apply to this Contract.

**CONTRACT COMPLETION DATE.** This Contract shall be completed on or before December 22, 2017.

**UTILITIES.** The Contractor is advised to use caution when working around aerial or underground utilities to protect the facilities from damage.

Employees or agents of utility companies are to be allowed free and full access within the project limits with the tools, materials, and equipment necessary to install, operate, maintain, place, replace, relocate, and remove their facilities.

There will be no extra compensation paid to the Contractor for any inconvenience caused by working around and with utilities.

Act No. 86 of 1987 (30 VSA Chapter 86) ("Dig Safe") requires that notice be given prior to making an excavation. It is suggested that the Permit Holder or his/her contractor telephone 1-888-344-7233 at least 48 hours before, and not more than 30 days before, beginning any excavation at any location.

Should the Contractor desire additional adjustments of the utility facilities for his/her convenience, proper arrangements shall be made in conformance with Subsection 105.07 of the Standard Specifications for Construction.

**NOTICE TO BIDDERS.** All temporary construction signs shall meet the following requirements:

- A. All sign stands and post installation shall be National Cooperative Highway Research Program Report (NCHRP) 350 compliant.
- B. As a minimum, roll up sign material shall have ASTM D 4956-01 Type VI fluorescent orange retroreflective sheeting.
- C. All post-mounted signs and solid substrate portable signs shall have ASTM D 4956-01 Type VII, Type VIII, or Type IX fluorescent orange retroreflective sheeting.

- D. All retroreflective sheeting on traffic cones, barricades, and drums shall be at a minimum ASTM Type III sheeting.
- E. All stationary signs shall be mounted on two 3 lb/ft flanged channel posts or 2 inch square steel inserted in 2 ¼" galvanized square steel anchors. No sign posts shall extend over the top edge of sign installed on said posts.
- F. Prior to placing temporary work zone signs on the project, the Contractor must furnish for the Engineer's approval a detail for temporary work zone signs on steel posts showing stubs projecting a maximum of 4 inches above ground level and bolts for sign post.
- G. Construction signs shall be installed so as to not interfere with nor obstruct the view of existing traffic control devices, stopping sight distance, and corner sight distance from drives and town highways.
- H. Speed zones, if used, should be a maximum of 10 mph below existing posted speeds. Temporary speed limit certificates must be approved by the Town of Sharon Selectboard.

**NOTICE TO BIDDERS.** All retroreflective sheeting on permanent signs (signs to remain after the project is completed) shall be at a minimum ASTM Type III sheeting, unless otherwise shown on the Plans.

**HIGHWAY PARKING RESTRICTIONS.** Only such trucks and equipment as are necessary for the construction of this project will be permitted to stop or park on the shoulders or right-of-way of the highway. All trucks or equipment so stopped or parked shall be at least 4 feet from the edge of the thru traffic lanes. Parking or stopping on the traveled portion of the roadway will not be permitted unless authorized by the Engineer to meet field conditions.

Private automobiles or workers will not be permitted to stop or park on the shoulders or right-of-way of the highway.

Each of the Contractor's trucks or equipment used for the construction of this project and permitted to park or stop as provided above shall be equipped with flashing light signals on the front and rear and the signals shall be operating at all times when parked or stopped on the highway unless otherwise authorized by the Engineer.

The flashing light signals shall be visibly distinct from and physically separate from the hazard warning system required by Federal and State motor vehicle laws and regulations. At least one of these flashing light signals shall be visible to traffic approaching from any angle at all times.

Qualified traffic control personnel shall be employed whenever the Contractor's vehicles or equipment (including that which belongs to the individual workers) enter or leave the traffic flow. All movement, in or out of the traffic flow, shall be with the flow of traffic.

## **SECTION 101 – DEFINITIONS**

**101.02, DEFINITIONS**, are hereby modified by deleting the existing following definitions and replacing as follows:

**ACTUAL COMPLETION DATE** – Date noted in the Completion and Acceptance memorandum on which designated responsible Municipal personnel have reviewed the project and determined that all Contract work is complete and all Contract requirements have been met, generally considered to be the last day the Contractor performed physical work on any contract item.

**AGENCY** – Wherever the word Agency appears on the plans, in any specification, or in the contract, it shall be read as, and shall mean; the Town of Pomfret, except when referenced to documents or publications.

**BOARD** – Wherever the term Board or Transportation Board appears on the plans, in any specification, or in the contract, it shall be read as, and shall mean; the Transportation Board of the State of Vermont or its successor.

**CALENDAR DAY** – Any day shown on the calendar, beginning and ending at midnight.

**CHANGE ORDER** – A document recommended by the Engineer, signed by the Contractor and the Municipality, and approved by the Agency of Transportation authorizing changes in the plans or quantities or both, establishing the basis of payment and time adjustments for the Work affected by the changes.

**CHIEF OF CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION** – Wherever the term Chief of Contract administration appears on the plans, in any specification, or in the contract, it shall be read as, and shall mean, the Municipal Project Manager.

**CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER** – Wherever the term Construction Engineer appears on the plans, in any specification, or in the contract, it shall be read as, and shall mean; the Municipal Project Manager and/or Full Time Employee in Responsible Charge.

**COMPLETION** – Completion of the project occurs when the Contractor has completed all work required by the Contract and has satisfactorily executed and delivered to the Engineer all documents, certificates and proofs of compliance required by the contract.



**CONTRACT** – The written agreement between the Municipality and a contractor setting out the obligations of the parties to the contract for the performance of the work described therein.

**CONTRACT BOND(S)** – The approved forms of security signed and furnished by the contractor and the contractor's surety or sureties, guaranteeing signatures on the contract, performance of and compliance with the contract, and the payment of all legal debts pertaining to the construction of the contracted project.

**CONTRACTOR(S)** – An entity that has Annual Prequalification status and/or an entity that has a contract with the Municipality to perform construction work, including but not limited to an individual, partnership, firm, organization, association, corporation, or joint venture; a representative, trustee, or receiver of a contractor appointed by any court of competent jurisdiction.

**DIRECTOR OF PROJECT DEVELOPMENT** – Wherever the terms Director of Project Development, director of Engineering and Construction, Director of Construction and Maintenance, Director, or Chief Engineer appear on the plans, in any specification, or in the Contract, they shall be read as and shall mean; the Chief Engineer of the Agency of Transportation.

**DIRECTOR OF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT** – Wherever the term Director of Program Development appears on the plans, in any specification, or in the contract it shall read as , and shall mean; The Chief Engineer of the Agency of Transportation.

**ENGINEER** – Wherever the term Engineer appears on the plans, in any specification, or in the contract, it shall be read as, and shall mean; the Resident Engineer (RE).

**FINAL ACCEPTANCE DATE** – Wherever the term Final Acceptance Date appears on the plans, in any specification, or in the Contract, it shall mean the date that the Municipality signs the Final Completion Certificate.

**GENERAL SPECIAL PROVISIONS** – Approved additions and revisions to the Standard Specifications for Construction.

**MATERIALS AND RESEARCH ENGINEER** – Whenever the term Materials and Research Engineer appears on the plans, in any specification, or in the Contract, it shall be read as, and shall mean; VTRANS DISTRICT 4 Project Manager.

**PROPOSAL FORM** – Whenever the term Proposal Form appears on the plans, in any specification, or in the Contract it shall be read as, and shall mean; the BID FORM unless specifically referenced otherwise in these Special Provisions.

**REGIONAL CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER** – Whenever the term Regional Construction Engineer appears on the plans, in any specification, or in the contract, it shall be read as, and shall mean; the VTRAMS District 4 Project Manager.

**RESIDENT ENGINEER** – An entity employed by the Municipality to perform supervisory duties including the oversight of testing services on the project. The Resident Engineer shall be Designated Local Public Official.

**SECRETARY** – Wherever the term Secretary appears on the plans, in any specification, or in the contract it shall be read as, and shall mean; the Pomfret Selectboard.

**SPECIAL PROVISIONS** – Additions and revisions to the Standard Specifications for Construction, Supplemental Specifications, General Special Provisions, Plans, or other documents that are part of a particular contract.

**SPECIFICATIONS** – The compilation of provisions and requirements for the performance of prescribed work including the Standard Specifications for Construction, Supplemental Specifications, General Special Provisions, Special Provisions, Plans, and other documents that are part of a particular contract.

**STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS** – The Vermont Agency of Transportation book entitled Standard Specifications For Construction and the specifications included therein, as approved for general and repetitive use and application in Agency/Municipal projects.

**STATE** – Wherever the term State appears on the plans, in any specification, or in the contract, it shall be read as, and shall mean; the Town of Pomfret Selectboard.

**SURETY** – An individual or legal entity acceptable to the Town executing the bond or bonds furnished by the bidder or contractor.

**WORK** – The furnishing of all labor, materials, equipment, and incidentals necessary or convenient to the successful completion of a project and the carrying out of all duties and obligations imposed by a contract.

**WORKING DAY** – A calendar day during which normal construction operations could proceed for a major part of the daylight hours, and specifically excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and those days of the standard work week on which holidays are celebrated.

**ADD TO DEFINITION LIST IN 101.02, DEFINITIONS, the following definitions:**

**ADDENDUM (addenda)** – Contract revisions developed after advertisement and before opening bids.

**ADVERTISEMENT** – A public announcement, inviting bids for work to be performed or materials to be furnished.

**AGREEMENT** – The written instrument which is evidence of the agreement between the Municipality and the Contractor.

**AWARD** – The formal acceptance by the Municipality of a proposal.

**BID** – The offer of a Bidder submitted on the prescribed form setting forth the prices for the Work to be performed.

**BID BOND** – A proposal guarantee as outlined in the Instructions to Bidders for Contracts.

**BIDDER** – The individual, partnership, firm, corporation, or any combination thereof, or joint venture, submitting a Bid in accordance with the bidding requirements.

**CONTRACT TIME** – The time allowed for completion of the contract including authorized time extensions.

**INCIDENTAL AND INCIDENTAL ITEM** – These terms are used to indicate work for which no direct payment will be made. Such work is considered to be incidental to items having contract prices, and the bid prices submitted by the contractor shall be sufficient to absorb the cost of all work designated as incidental or as incidental items.

**INVITATION FOR BIDS** – An advertisement for receiving proposals for all work and/or materials on which bids are invited from prospective contractors.

**MUNICIPAL PROJECT MANAGER** – A person or firm employed or appointed by the Municipality to provide administrative services for the project.

**NOTICE OF AWARD** – The written notice of the acceptance of the Bid from the Owner to the successful Bidder.

**OWNER** – Town of Pomfret, VT.

**PREQUALIFICATION:**

**Annual Prequalification** – The Agency of Transportation process by which an entity is generally approved to bid on contracts advertised by the

Local Project Sponsor. Depending on the project size annual prequalification may be the only prequalification necessary.

**Contract Specific Prequalification** – The process by which an entity is approved to bid on a specific contract determined by the Municipality to be of a size or scope to warrant more than an Annual Prequalification.

**PREQUALIFICATION ADMINISTRATOR** – An Agency of Transportation employee charged with administration of the prequalification process for the Prequalification Committee.

**PROPOSAL** – The offer of a bidder, on the prescribed form, to perform work and/or provide materials at the price quoted in the offer.

**PROPOSAL FORM** – The prescribed form on which the Municipality requires the Bid be submitted.

**PROPOSAL GUARANTEE** – The security furnished with a bid to ensure that the bidder will enter into a contract if the bidder's proposal is accepted by the Municipality.

**SUBCONTRACTOR** – An individual or legal entity to which the contractor sublets a part of the work included in the contract.

**TESTING FIRM** – An independent firm employed by the Municipality or Resident Engineer to perform all sampling and testing of materials as specified in the Contract Documents.

## **SECTION 105 CONTROL OF THE WORK**

**105.09 CONSTRUCTION STAKES, Part (a) Initial Layout, (b) Layout of Subgrade and (c) Permanent Marking Layout** delete these paragraphs in their entirety and replace with the following:

Horizontal and vertical control information for the project is shown on the project plans or shall be based on existing conditions. The information is sufficient to enable the Contractor to stake the project. The Contractor shall perform all staking requirements for the proposed work. The Contractor will be responsible for the accuracy and preservation of the staking.

**105.20 CLAIMS FOR ADJUSTMENT** , ( c) **Claims Procedure**; Delete the second, third and fourth sentence and replace with the following:

Claims must be evaluated first by the Engineer and then by the Municipal Project Manager. Should a claim be ruled in favor of the Contractor, it will be allowed, in whole or in part, and paid as provided in the Contract. Should a claim be denied in whole or in part by the Municipal Project Manager the Contractor may appeal to the governing body of the project sponsor. Should a claim be denied in whole or in part by the governing body of the project sponsor, the Contractor may appeal to the Chief Engineer.

(d) Claims Documentation Requirements; In the first sentence, replace Construction Engineer with Municipal Project Manager.

## **SECTION 106 – CONTROL OF MATERIAL**

**106.03 SAMPLES AND TESTS**, Add the following two paragraphs to the beginning:

A qualified independent testing firm hired directly by the Municipality *or* indirectly by the Municipality through its Resident Engineer shall be responsible for all acceptance sampling and testing of materials and completed work.

The Contractor shall be responsible for their Quality Control. The cost of their Quality Control shall be considered incidental to the payment items in the bid. Any sampling, testing, retesting, and submission of reports and certifications by the Contractor as required by the contract documents and plans shall be considered incidental to the payment items in the bid.

Change the last word in the first paragraph from Agency to Municipality.

Delete the first sentence of the second paragraph and replace with the following:

Samples will be taken and testing performed by qualified personnel of the testing firm in accordance with the requirements of the latest edition of the Vermont Agency of Transportation's Quality Assurance Program and Material Sampling Manual for level 3.

Modify the last sentence of the third paragraph to read as follows:

Copies of all test results shall be forwarded directly to the Resident Engineer and the Contractor by the testing firm.

