

INVITATION TO SUBMIT

PROPOSAL

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS - RFP NO.: 21-0090-7

**ANNUAL CONTRACT FOR INVESTMENT BROKER/DEALER SERVICES FOR
CHATHAM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE**

PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE: N/A

PROPOSALS RECEIVED BY: 5:00 P.M., AUGUST 10, 2021

THE COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

CHESTER A. ELLIS, CHAIRMAN

COMMISSIONER HELEN J. STONE

COMMISSIONER TANYA MILTON

COMMISSIONER LARRY RIVERS

COMMISSIONER AARON WHITELY

COMMISSIONER BOBBY LOCKETT

COMMISSIONER DEAN KICKLIGHTER

COMMISSIONER PATRICK J. FARRELL

COMMISSIONER KENNETH A. ADAMS

R. JONATHAN HART, COUNTY ATTORNEY

CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

DOCUMENT CHECK LIST

The following documents, when marked, are contained in and made a part of this Package or are required to be submitted with the qualification proposal. It is the responsibility of the Proposer to read, complete and sign, where indicated, and return these documents with his/her qualification proposal. FAILURE TO DO SO MAY BE CAUSE FOR DISQUALIFICATION.

X GENERAL INFORMATION

X PROPOSAL

X SCOPE OF SERVICES

X LEGAL NOTICE

X ATTACHMENTS: A. DRUG FREE WORKPLACE; B. NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT; C. DISCLOSURE OF RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT; D. CONTRACTOR & SUBCONTRACTOR AFFIDAVIT AND AGREEMENT E. BIDDER'S CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, INELIGIBILITY AND VOLUNTARY EXCLUSION; F. M/WBE COMPLIANCE REPORT; G. SAVE AFFIDAVIT; H. LOBBYING AFFIDAVIT.

The undersigned bidder certifies that he/she has received the above listed and marked documents and acknowledges that his/her failure to return each, completed and signed as required, may be cause for disqualifying his/her bid.

BY: _____ DATE: _____
SIGNATURE: DATE:

TITLE:

COMPANY:

ACKNOWLEDGE RECIEPT OF ADDENDUM(S) _____

Chatham County has established goals to increase participation of minority and woman owned businesses. In order to accurately document participation, businesses submitting bids or proposals are encouraged to report ownership status. A minority or woman owned business is defined as a business with 51% or greater minority or female ownership. Please check ownership status as applicable:

African-American _____ Asian American _____ Hispanic _____

Native American or Alaskan Indian _____ Female _____

**CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA
OFFICE OF THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR
1117 EISENHOWER DRIVE, SUITE C
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31406
(912) 790-1623**

DATE: July 8, 2021

RFP NO.: 21-0090-7

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

This is an invitation to submit a proposal to supply Chatham County with services as indicated herein. Sealed proposals will be received at the Office of the Purchasing Director, **1117 EISENHOWER DRIVE, SUITE C, and SAVANNAH, GEORGIA** up to **5:00 P.M., August 10, 2021**. The Purchasing Director reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive formalities.

Instructions for preparation and submission of a qualification proposal are contained in the Request for Proposal package. Please note that specific forms for submission of a proposal are required. Proposals must be typed or printed in ink

Any changes to the conditions and specifications must be in the form of a written addendum to be valid; therefore, the Purchasing Director will issue a written addendum to document approved changes.

Chatham County has an equal opportunity procurement policy. Chatham County seeks to ensure that all segments of the business community have access to providing services needed by County programs. The County affirmatively works to encourage utilization of disadvantaged and minority business enterprises in our procurement activities. The County provides equal opportunity for all businesses and does not discriminate against any persons or businesses regardless of race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin or handicap. The County expects its contractors to make maximum feasible use of minority businesses and qualified minority employees. The terms "disadvantaged business", "minority business enterprise", and "minority person" are more specifically defined and explained in the Chatham County Purchasing Ordinance.

All firms requesting to do business with Chatham County **must register** on-line at <http://purchasing.chathamcounty.org>. The County's Purchasing Division is interested in fostering participation by all qualified business persons offering commodities and services. For additional information please contact Purchasing and Contracting at 912-790-1620.

**SECTION I
INSTRUCTIONS TO PROPOSERS**

- 1.1 PURPOSE:** The purpose of this document is to provide general and specific information for use in submitting a qualification proposal to supply Chatham County with services as described herein. All proposals are governed by the Code of Chatham County, Chapter 4, Article IV, and the laws of the State of Georgia.

1.2 HOW TO PREPARE PROPOSALS: All proposals shall be:

- A. Typewritten or completed with pen and ink, signed by the business owner or authorized representative, with all erasures or corrections initialed and dated by the official signing the proposal. ALL SIGNATURE SPACES MUST BE SIGNED.

Proposers are encouraged to review carefully all provisions and attachments of this document prior to submission. Each proposal constitutes an offer and may not be withdrawn except as provided herein.

1.3 HOW TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS: All proposals shall be:

- A. **Submitted in sealed opaque envelopes, plainly marked with the proposal number and title, date and time for submission, and company name.**
- B. Mailed or delivered as follows in sufficient time to ensure receipt by the Purchasing Director on or before the time and date specified above.
- a. **Mailing Address: Purchasing Director, 1117 Eisenhower Drive, Suite C, Savannah, Georgia 31406.**
- b. **Hand Delivery: Purchasing Director, 1117 Eisenhower Drive, Suite C, Savannah, Georgia.**

PROPOSALS NOT RECEIVED BY THE TIME AND DATE SPECIFIED WILL NOT BE OPENED OR CONSIDERED.

1.4 HOW TO SUBMIT AN OBJECTION: Objections from Offerers to this Request for Proposals and/or these specifications should be brought to the attention of the County Purchasing Director in the following manner:

- A. When a pre-proposal conference is scheduled, the Proposer may object in writing any time prior to or at the pre-proposal conference.
- B. When a pre-proposal conference is not scheduled, the Proposer shall object in writing not less than five (5) days prior to the Date for submission.
- C. The objections contemplated must pertain both to form and substance of the Request for Proposal documents. Failure to object in accordance with the above procedure will constitute a waiver on the part of the business to protest this Request for Proposal.

1.5 ERRORS IN PROPOSALS: Proposers or their authorized representatives are expected to fully inform themselves as to the conditions, requirements, and specifications before submitting proposals. Failure to do so will be at the Proposer's own risk.

- 1.6 STANDARDS FOR ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSERS FOR CONTRACT AWARD:** The County reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals and to waive any irregularities or technicalities in Proposals received whenever such rejection or waiver is in the best interest of the County. The County reserves the right to reject the Offer of a Proposer who has previously failed to perform properly or complete on time contracts of a similar nature, whom investigation shows is not in a position to perform the contract.
- 1.7 PROPOSER:** Whenever the term "Proposer" is used it shall encompass the "person", "business", "firm", or other party submitting a proposal to Chatham County in such capacity before a contract has been entered into between such party and the County.
- 1.8 COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS:** The Proposer shall obtain and maintain all licenses, permits, liability insurance, workman's compensation insurance and comply with any and all other standards or regulations required by Federal, State or County statute, ordinances and rules during the performance of any contract between the Proposer and the County. Any such requirement specifically set forth in any contract document between the Proposer and the County shall be supplementary to this section and not in substitution thereof.
- 1.9 CONTRACTOR:** Contractor or subcontractor means any person, firm, or business having a contract with Chatham County. The Contractor of goods, material, equipment or services certifies that the firm will follow equal employment opportunity practices in connection with the awarded contract as more fully specified in the contract documents.
- 1.10 LOCAL PREFERENCE:** The Contractor agrees to follow the local preference guidelines as specified in the contract documents, which state "The CONTRACTOR hereby agrees, as part of the consideration to Chatham County for making this Contract, that the CONTRACTOR in the carrying out of this contract will give the citizens of Chatham County preference for employment to perform all labor required by this contract; that the rate of wages to be paid shall not be less than legally required; and that in the purchase of materials to be used in the Work of the Project, preference shall be given to sources from within Chatham County to the maximum extent possible. The CONTRACTOR will cause the forgoing provisions to be inserted in all subcontracts so that provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor."
- 1.11 DEBARRED FIRMS AND PENDING LITIGATION:** Any potential proposer/firm listed on the Federal or State of Georgia Excluded Parties Listing (Barred from doing business) **will not** be considered for contract award. It is the proposer's responsibility to inform the County should the proposer/firm be placed on the Federal or State of Georgia Excluded Parties Listing during the proposal process. Proposers **shall disclose** any record of pending criminal violations (Indictment) and/or convictions, pending lawsuits, etc., and any actions that may be a conflict of interest occurring within the past five (5) years. Any proposer/firm previously defaulting or terminating a contract with the County will not be considered. Successful proposers with whom the County enters into a contract with for goods or services will notify the County if they become debarred during the course of the

contract.

** All bidders or proposers are to read and complete the Disclosure of Responsibility Statement enclosed as an Attachment to be returned with response. Failure to do so may result in your solicitation response being rejected as non-responsive.

Bidder acknowledges that in performing contract work for the Board, bidder shall not utilize any firms that have been a party to any of the above actions. If bidder has engaged any firm to work on this contract or project that is later debarred, Bidder shall sever its relationship with that firm with respect to Board contract.

- 1.13 PERFORMANCE EVALUATION:** On April 11, 2008, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners approved a change to the County Purchasing Ordinance requiring Contractor/Consultant Performance Evaluations, at a minimum, annually, prior to contract anniversary date.

Should Contractor/Consultant performance be unsatisfactory, the appointed County Project Manager for the contract may prepare a Contractor/Consultant Complaint Form or a Performance Evaluation to the County Purchasing Director.

SECTION II PROPOSAL CONDITIONS

- 2.1 SPECIFICATIONS:** Any obvious error or omission in specifications shall not inure to the benefit of the bidder but shall put the Proposer on notice to inquire of or identify the same to the County.
- 2.2 MULTIPLE PROPOSALS:** No Proposer will be allowed to submit more than one offer. Any alternate proposals must be brought to the Purchasing Director's attention during the Pre-proposal Conference or submitted in writing at least five (5) days preceding the date for submission of proposals.
- 2.3 OFFERS TO BE FIRM:** The Proposer warrants that terms and conditions quoted in his offer will be firm for acceptance for a period of sixty (60) days from bid date submitted, unless otherwise stated in the proposal. When requested to provide a fee proposal, fees quoted must also be firm for a sixty day period.
- 2.4 COMPLETENESS:** All information required by the Request for Proposals must be completed and submitted to constitute a proper proposal.
- 2.5 LIABILITY PROVISIONS:** Where Proposers are required to enter or go into Chatham County property to take measurements or gather other information in order to prepare the proposal as requested by the County, the Proposer shall be liable for any injury, damage or loss occasioned by negligence of the Proposer, his agent, or any person the Proposer has designated to prepare the Offer and shall indemnify and hold harmless Chatham County

from any liability arising therefrom. The contract document specifies the liability provisions required of the successful Proposer in order to be awarded a contract with Chatham County.

2.6 CERTIFICATION OF INDEPENDENT PRICE DETERMINATION: By submission of this Offer, the Proposer certifies, and in the case of a joint offer each party thereto certifies as to its own organization, that in connection with this procurement:

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

2.7 AWARD OF CONTRACT: The contract, if awarded, will be awarded to that responsible Proposer whose proposal will be most advantageous to Chatham County, price and other factors considered. The Board of Commissioners will make the determination as to which proposal best serves the interest of Chatham County.

2.8 PROCUREMENT PROTESTS: Objections and protests to any portion of the procurement process or actions of the County staff may be filed with the Purchasing Director for review and resolution. The Chatham County Purchasing Ordinance – Part 9 – Vendor Disputes shall govern the review and resolution of all protests.

2.9 QUALIFICATION OF BUSINESS (RESPONSIBLE PROPOSER): A responsible Proposer is defined as one who meets, or by the date of the acceptance can meet, all requirements for licensing, insurance, and service contained within this Request for Proposals. Chatham County has the right to require any or all Proposers to submit documentation of the ability to perform the service requested.

Chatham County has the right to disqualify the proposal of any Proposer as being unresponsive or irresponsible whenever such Proposer cannot document the ability to deliver the requested service.

2.10 COUNTY TAX CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENT: A current Chatham County or municipal business license (within the State of Georgia) is required unless otherwise specified. A firm need not have a Chatham County Business License prior to submitting a proposal. However, a license must be obtained by the successful vendor prior to award of contract.

Please contact the Chatham County Department of Building Safety and Regulatory Services at (912) 201-4300 for additional information.

NOTE: No contract shall be awarded unless all real and personal property taxes have been paid by the successful contractor and/or subcontractors as adopted by the Board of Commissioners on 8 April 1994.

- 2.11 INSURANCE PROVISIONS, GENERAL:** The selected CONTRACTOR shall be required to procure and maintain for the duration of the contract insurance against claims for injuries to persons or damages to property which may arise from or in connection with the performance of the work hereunder by the Contractor, his agents, representatives, employees or subcontractors. The cost of such insurance shall be included in the Bid. It is every Contractor's responsibility to provide the County Purchasing and Contracting Division current and up-to-date Certificates of Insurance and Declaration Sheets for multiple year contracts before the end of each term. **Failure to do so may be cause for termination of contract.**

2.11.1 General Information that shall appear on a Certificate of Insurance:

- I. Name of the Producer (Contractor's insurance Broker/Agent).
- II. Companies affording coverage (there may be several).
- III. Name and Address of the Insured (this should be the Company or Parent of the firm Chatham County is contracting with).
- IV. Summary of all current insurance for the insured (includes effective dates of coverage).
- V. A brief description of the operations to be performed, the specific job to be performed, or contract number.
- VI. Certificate Holder (This is to always include Chatham County).

Chatham County as an "Additional Insured": Chatham County invokes the defense of "sovereign immunity." In order not to jeopardize the use of this defense, the County **is not** to be included as an "Additional Insured" on insurance contracts.

2.11.2 Minimum Limits of Insurance to be maintained for the duration of the contract:

- A. **Commercial General Liability:** Provides protection against bodily injury and property damage claims arising from operations of a Contractor or Tenant. This policy coverage includes: premises and operations, use of independent contractors, products/completed operations, personal injury, contractual, broad form property damage, and underground, explosion and collapse hazards. Minimum limits: \$1,000,000 bodily injury and property damage per occurrence and annual aggregate.
- B. **Worker's Compensation and Employer's Liability:** Provides statutory protection against bodily injury, sickness or disease sustained by employees of the

Contractor while performing within the scope of their duties. Employer's Liability coverage is usually included in Worker's Compensation policies, and insures common law claims of injured employees made in lieu of or in addition to a Worker's Compensation claim. Minimum limits: \$500,000 for each accident, disease policy limit, each employee and Statutory Worker's Compensation limit.

- C. **Business Automobile Liability:** Coverage insures against liability claims arising out of the Contractor's use of automobiles. Minimum limit: \$1,000,000 combined single limit per accident for bodily injury and property damage. Coverage should be written on an "Any Auto" basis.

2.11.3 Special Requirements:

- A. **Claims-Made Coverage:** The limits of liability shall remain the same as the occurrence basis, however, the Retroactive date shall be prior to the coincident with the date of any contract, and the Certificate of Insurance shall state the coverage is claims-made. The Retroactive date shall also be specifically stated on the Certificate of Insurance.
- B. **Extended Reporting Periods:** The Contractor shall provide the County with a notice of the election to initiate any Supplemental Extended Reporting Period and the reason(s) for invoking this option.
- C. **Reporting Provisions:** Any failure to comply with reporting provisions of the policies shall not affect coverage provided in relation to this request.
- D. **Cancellation:** Each insurance policy that applies to this request shall be endorsed to state that it shall not be suspended, voided, or canceled, except after thirty (30) days prior to written notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, has been given to the County.
- E. **Proof of Insurance:** Chatham County shall be furnished with certificates of insurance and with original endorsements affecting coverage required by this request. The certificates and endorsements are to be signed by a person authorized by the insurer to bind coverage on its behalf. All certificates of insurance are to be submitted prior to, and approved by, the County before services are rendered. The Contractor must ensure Certificate of Insurance are updated for the entire term of the County.
- F. **Insurer Acceptability:** Insurance is to be placed with an insurer having an A.M. Best's rating of A and a five (5) year average financial rating of not less than V. If an insurer does not qualify for averaging on a five year basis, the current total Best's rating will be used to evaluate insurer acceptability.

- G. **Lapse in Coverage:** A lapse in coverage shall constitute grounds for contract termination by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners.
- H. **Deductibles and Self-Insured Retention:** Any deductibles or self-insured retention must be declared to, and approved by, the County. At the option of the County, either: the insurer shall reduce or eliminate such deductibles or self-insured retention as related to the County, its officials, officers, employees, and volunteers; or the Contractor shall procure a bond guaranteeing payment of related suits, losses, claims, and related investigation, claim administration and defense expenses.

2.11.4 Additional Coverage for Specific Procurement Projects:

Professional Liability: Insure errors or omission on behalf of architects, engineers, attorneys, medical professionals, and consultants.

<u>Minimum Limits:</u>	\$1 million per claim/occurrence.
<u>Coverage Requirement:</u>	If “claims-made,” retroactive date must precede or coincide with the contract effective date or the date of the Notice to Proceed. The professional must state if “tail” coverage has been purchased and the duration of the coverage.

2.12 INDEMNIFICATION: The PROPOSER agrees to protect, defend, indemnify, and hold harmless Chatham County, Georgia, its commissioners, officers, agents, and employees from and against any and all liability, damages, claims, suits, liens, and judgments, of whatever nature, including claims for contribution and/or indemnification, for injuries to or death of any person or persons, or damage to the property or other rights of any person or persons caused by the PROPOSER or its subproposers. The PROPOSER’s obligation to protect, defend, indemnify, and hold harmless, as set forth herein above shall include, but not be limited to, any matter arising out of any actual or alleged infringement of any patent, trademark, copyright, or service mark, or any actual or alleged unfair competition, disparagement of product or service, or other business tort of any type whatsoever, or any actual or alleged violation of trade regulations. PROPOSER further agrees to investigate, handle, respond to, provide defense for, and to protect, defend, indemnify, and hold harmless Chatham County, Georgia, at his sole expense, and agrees to bear all other costs and expenses related thereto, even if such claims, suits, etc., are groundless, false, or fraudulent, including any and all claims or liability for compensation under the Worker’s Compensation Act arising out of injuries sustained by any employee of the PROPOSER or his subcontractors or anyone directly or indirectly employed by any of them.

The PROPOSER’s obligation to indemnify Chatham County under this Section shall not be limited in any way by the agreed-upon contract price, or to the scope and amount of coverage provided by any insurance maintained by the PROPOSER.

- 2.13 COMPLIANCE WITH SPECIFICATION - TERMS AND CONDITIONS:** The Request for Proposals, Legal Advertisement, General Conditions and Instructions to Proposers, Specifications, Special Conditions, Proposers Offer, Addendum, and/or any other pertinent documents form a part of the Offeror's proposal and by reference are made a part hereof.
- 2.14 SIGNED RESPONSE CONSIDERED AN OFFER:** The signed Response shall be considered an offer on the part of the Proposer, which offer shall be deemed accepted upon approval by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, Purchasing Director or his designee. In case of a default on the part of the Proponent after such acceptance, Chatham County may take such action as it deems appropriate, including legal action for damages or lack of required performance.
- 2.15 NOTICE TO PROCEED:** The successful proposer shall not commence work under this Request for Proposal until a written contract is awarded and a Notice to Proceed is issued by the Purchasing Director or his designee. If the successful Proposer does commence any work or deliver items prior to receiving official notification, he does so at his own risk.
- 2.16 PAYMENT TO CONTRACTORS:** Instructions for invoicing the County for service delivered to the County are specified in the contract document.
- A. Questions regarding payment may be directed to the Finance Department at (912) 652-7905 or the County's Project Manager as specified in the contract documents.
 - B. Contractors will be paid the agreed upon compensation upon satisfactory progress or completion of the work as more fully described in the contract document.
 - C. Upon completion of the work, the Contractor will provide the County with an affidavit certifying all suppliers, persons or businesses employed by the Contractor for the work performed for the County have been paid in full.
 - D. Chatham County is a tax exempt entity. Every contractor, vendor, business or person under contract with Chatham County is required by Georgia law to pay State sales or use taxes for products purchased in Georgia or transported into Georgia and sold to Chatham County by contract. Please consult the State of Georgia, Department of Revenue, Sales and Use Tax Unit in Atlanta (404) 656-4065 for additional information.
- 2.17 LICENSES, PERMITS, AND TAXES:** The price or prices for the service shall include full compensation for all fees that the proponent is or may be required to pay. Chatham County is Tax Exempt. A Tax Exemption Certificate will be provided by the Purchasing & Contracting Office upon request (912) 790-1623.
- 2.18 MINORITY – WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PARTICIPATION:** It is the

desire of the County Board of Commissioners to increase the participation of minority (MBE) and women-owned (WBE) business in its contracting and procurement programs. The County is committed to a policy of equitable participation for these firms by setting goals for each contract. Bidder/proposers are requested to include in their proposals a narrative describing their past accomplishment and intended actions in this area. If bidder/proposers are considering minority or women owned enterprise participation in their proposal, those firms, and their specific duties must be identified in their proposal along with the percentage(s) and dollar amount awarded to the M/WBE firm. Proposers may also provide demographic information regarding their employees to show their commitment to equal opportunity. If a bidder/proposer is considered for award, he/she will be asked to meet with the County Staff so that the intended MBE/WBE participation goals can be formalized and included in the subsequent contact.

If the awarded contractor/vendor is claiming minority status, the contractor/vendor shall apply for certification by Chatham County, Georgia to the Office of Minority Business Coordinator. The Minority Business Coordinator will provide documentation of application status once approved or disapproved by Chatham County. Certification by any other government entity is acceptable if current copy of the certification is provided with this solicitation. For additional information concerning Chatham County's M/WBE Coordinator, please contact Connell Heyward, at (912) 652-7860 or cheyward@chathamcounty.org.

The undersigned proposer certifies that he/she has carefully read the preceding list of instructions and all other data applicable hereto and made a part of this invitation; and, further certifies that the prices shown in his/her proposal are in accordance with all documents contained in this Request for Proposals package, and that any exception taken thereto may disqualify his/her proposal.

This is to certify that I, the undersigned Proposer, have read the instructions to Proposer and agree to be bound by the provisions of the same.

This _____ day of _____, 20____.
BY

SIGNATURE

DATE

COMPANY

TITLE

TELEPHONE NUMBER

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

SPECIFIC CONDITIONS SECTION III

- 3.1 DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:** Chatham County is seeking firms or financial institutions and/or broker/dealers interested in providing investment brokerage services as additional brokers/dealers to the County on an “on going” and “as needed” basis. It is the County’s intent to select multiple brokers from this single solicitation. As a result of this solicitation and the previous solicitation, the County will have a list of up to nine (9) qualified firms to provide written quotations on an “as requested” basis to the Finance Director. Any firm that is currently under contract with Chatham County for investment brokerage services need not submit to this solicitation.

Each transaction will be awarded to the firm that offers the best written quotation. All financial and investment transactions will be handled in accordance with trade and dollar threshold requirements and will comply with all Chatham County Investment Policy requirements.

- 3.2 METHODOLOGY:** The procurement described herein may be conducted in a two-step process.

STEP ONE- ACCEPTANCE AND EVALUATION OF QUALIFICATION

PROPOSALS: All technical requirements, unless otherwise specified, must be met by the proponent or such proposal may be disqualified as being non-responsive. Proposals that are deemed to be incomplete as to substance and content may be returned without consideration. A shortlist of qualified firms will be developed and ranked.

STEP TWO-INTERVIEWS: The evaluation committee **may** request an interview with each finalist firm. If interviews are conducted, they will be scored. It will be at the discretion of the evaluation committee on the number of firms that will interview/present.

- 3.3 PROPOSAL DEADLINE:** The response to this ‘Request for Proposal’ must be received by the Purchasing Division no later than **5:00 P.M., August 10, 2021.** Any proposal received after the time stipulated may be rejected and returned unopened to the proponent. It is emphasized that late proposals will be rejected

For good and sufficient reason, up to 24 hours before the advertised deadline, the County may extend the response schedule. An addendum will be issued setting forth the new date and time.

- 3.4 WITHDRAWAL OF PROPOSAL:** Any proposal submitted before the deadline may be withdrawn by written request received by the County before the time fixed for receipt of proposals. Withdrawal of any proposal will not prejudice the right of a proponent to submit a new or amended proposal as long as Chatham County receives it by the deadline as provided herein.

- 3.5 CONFIDENTIALITY OF DOCUMENTS:** Upon receipt of a proposal by the County,

the proposal shall become the property of the County without compensation to the proponent, for disposition or usage by the County at its discretion (except for as provided by Georgia law for proprietary information). The details of the proposal documents will remain confidential until final award or rejection of proposals and/or protected under the restraints of law. Only final points and ranking of proposals will be openly disclosed prior to approval by the Board of Commissioners. Proponent shall have no contact with any Department Representative or Evaluation Committee Member during and after the evaluation process. Any information contained in the proposal that is considered by the Proponent as “proprietary” to remain confidential shall be clearly identified and justified.

3.6 CONE OF SILENCE: Lobbying of Procurement Evaluation Committee members, County Government employees, and elected officials regarding this product or service solicitation, Invitation to Bid (ITB) or Request for Proposal (RFP) or contract by any member of a proposer’s staff, or those people employed by any legal entity affiliated with an organization that is responding to the solicitation is strictly prohibited. Negative campaigning through the mass media about the current service delivery is strictly prohibited. Such actions may cause your proposal to be rejected.

3.7 FORMAT OF RESPONSES: To be considered, proponents must submit a complete response to be considered, proponents must submit a complete response to the Request for Proposal. The format provided in this Section is not negotiable. To assure a uniform review process and obtain the maximum degree of comparability, each proposal shall include the following content and shall be presented in the following order:

- A. Executive Summary
- B. Qualifications
- C. Experience and Capabilities.
- D. Project Understanding and Methodology.
- E. M/WBE Participation
- F. References
- G. Other Relevant Facts/Information.
- H. Required Document Attachments

Each proposal must be submitted in one (1) original and four (4) copies and one electronic version of your RFP on thumb drive or CD to:

Ms. Robin L. Maurer, Asst. Purchasing Director
Chatham County Purchasing Department
1117 Eisenhower Drive - Suite C
Savannah, GA 31406
(912) 790-1623

3.8 COMPENSATION: The County has attempted in SECTION V to provide as much information about the project as possible to enable firms to structure their offer.

- 3.9 REJECTING PROPOSALS:** The County reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and is not bound to accept any proposal if that proposal is contrary to the best interest of Chatham County. Similarly, the County is not bound to accept the lowest dollar proposal if the offer is not considered in the County's best interest.
- 3.10 COST TO PREPARE RESPONSES:** The County assumes no responsibility or obligation to the respondents and will make no payment for any costs associated with the preparation or submission of the proposal.
- 3.11 INQUIRIES:** Direct any questions related to this RFP to Ms. Robin Maurer, Asst. Purchasing Director, and submit all questions in writing. Include the RFP number, page, and paragraph number as a reference to each question. If you choose to mail your questions, do not place the RFP number on the outside of the envelope. *DEADLINE FOR ALL QUESTIONS IS one week prior to due date.* All questions shall be delivered by hand, mail, fax or e-mailed as follows:

Chatham County Purchasing and Contracting Division
Attn: Robin Maurer, Asst. Purchasing Director
1117 Eisenhower Drive, Suite C
Savannah, GA 31406
(912) 790-1627 (FAX)
rlmaurer@chathamcounty.org

THE ONLY OFFICIAL ANSWER OR POSITION OF CHATHAM COUNTY WILL BE THE ONE STATED IN WRITING.

- 3.12 METHOD OF SOURCE SELECTION:** Chatham County is using the Competitive Sealed Proposal method of source selection, as authorized by Part 3 of the Chatham County Purchasing Ordinance for this procurement.

An award, if made, will be made to the responsible offeror whose proposal is most advantageous to Chatham County, taking into consideration price and other factors set forth in this Request for Proposal (RFP). The County will not use any other factors or criteria in the evaluation of the proposals received.

- 3.13 EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:** During the performance of this contract, the COMPANY agrees as follows:

The COMPANY will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, sex, age, national origin, place of birth, physical handicap, or marital status.

SECTION IV SPECIAL CONDITIONS

- 4.1 PENDING LITIGATION:** Proposals will not be accepted from any company, firm, person, or party, parent subsidiary, against which Chatham County has an outstanding claim, or a financial dispute relating to prior contract performance. If the County, at any time, discovers such a dispute during any point of evaluation, the proposal will not be considered further.
- 4.2 EVALUATION FACTORS:** Factors such as proponents overall capability, specialized experience, reputation, past performance on similar projects, technical competence, financial stability, ability to meet program goals, delivery under the contract terms, and fee schedule will be considered in the award recommendation. Commitment in the level of MBE/WBE firms, consultants and employees will also be considered in the evaluation of proposals.
- 4.3 SELECTION PROCESS:** *Proposals will be evaluated initially on the basis of the written document. Thus, the proposal must be complete, concise and clear as to the intent of the respondent.* Further evaluation may include an oral presentation, which will be scheduled after receipt of the written proposal and approval of the shortlist.
- 4.4 CONTRACT:** The term of the contract will be for one (1) year with renewal options for four (4) additional one (1) year terms.
- 4.5 PROPOSALS MUST BE RESPONSIVE TO:**
- 4.5.1 ***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:*** The Executive Summary of the Proposal shall be limited to three (3) single-spaced typewritten pages. The purpose of the Executive Summary is to provide a high-level description of the offeror's ability to meet the requirements of the qualifications RFP.
- 4.5.2 ***QUALIFICATIONS: TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS 25 (SECTION B)*** State the full name, address, and telephone number of your organization and include:
- A. The name, title, address, and telephone number of the person (s) who will be assigned to perform service under the proposal. State who will be the qualified representative(s) signing the Investment Institution Certification; the Primary and Back-up account representatives; and other individuals (such as registered assistants and settlement clerks) who will be involved in securities transactions for the County. Provide resumes/credentials for each of the person(s) who will perform the services required and state how long they have been with your firm. For each key staff person that will participate in the program, attach a resume. Highlight key and relevant experience. Credentials may be subject to verification.
- B. Provide a brief description of the firm, its history, and a statement of which of the following describes the firm: National, Regional, and/or Local Business Enterprise.

- C. Describe the firm's Fixed Income Operation.
- D. State what U.S. Agencies that the firm has acted as a Primary Underwriter.

4.5.3 ***EXPERIENCE AND CAPABILITIES: TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS 30(SECTION C)***

- A. Indicate the Market Sectors in which the firm specializes. Indicate the firm's approximate percent during the past 12 months, the volume in dollars for each, and what expertise your firm has in each of the following market sectors:
 - U.S. Agencies
 - U.S. Treasury Bills/Notes/Bonds
 - Mortgage Back Obligations
 - Collateralized Mortgage Obligations
 - Brokered Certificates of Deposit
 - Negotiable Certificates of Deposit
 - Other
- B. Describe what Broker/Dealer practices are used by the firm to minimize investment risk to government entities and details of other business practices that are utilized by your firm. State what other customer services are provided in regard to government entities.
- C. Provide a narrative that describes your firm's capital structure. Include total capital, equity, net capital, and excessive capital. Include historical data that demonstrates firm's consistency in complying with the Federal Reserve Bank's capital adequacy guidelines and identify what factor your firm presently exceeds the capital adequacy guidelines. Include certified documentation to support firm's capital adequacy as measured by the Federal Reserve standard.
- D. Provide a list of current or former municipal clients, preferably located within the State of Georgia, that the firm has provided Investment Brokerage Services that are similar to or the same as that requested by Chatham County. Include Agency name, address, contact person, telephone number, date(s) of service, and a brief description of the services provided. Chatham County reserves the right to verify the information furnished.
- E. State what changes have occurred in your firm over the past six months in regard to staff, capital, organizational structure, etc., and the reasons for any of the changes. State any additional changes that your firm expects to implement over the next six months and the reason for these changes.
- F. Describe what additional services will provided to Chatham County as part of the contract in reference to research reports and bond market information, educational opportunities, and any costs associated with the additional

services offered.

- G. State if your firm has an internet site that contains all of its' financial statements. If so, state the website address.
- H. Describe what transaction reports, confirmations, and paper trails will be provided to Chatham County and provide samples of each.
- I. State if your firm has operated under a different name within the past 10 years and provide that name that your firm previously operated under.
- J. Provide complete details of any contract that your firm has been fired during the last 5 years.
- K. Describe actions required (agreements or provisions) by Chatham County to set up account with your organization.
- L. Describe any issues your organization may have regarding insurance provisions.

4.5.4 **PROJECT UNDERSTANDING/METHODOLOGY: TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS 25 (SECTION D)** Discuss the approach to rendering the required services. Any special techniques, strategies and capabilities should be discussed here. A detailed narrative statement to demonstrate the offerors' understanding of the Scope of Services requested. The statement shall include but not necessarily be limited to the offerors' proposed organizational structure and procedures to provide the required services, software and equipment to be used, expectations regarding the County's responsibilities and contributions under the contract, any limitations in delivering all the required services, any potential problem areas that might impede successful services, and any other information not specifically required elsewhere in this RFP but considered pertinent by the offeror.

4.5.5 **M/WBE PARTICIPATION: TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS: 15 (SECTION E):** Commitment in the level of local MWBE firms, subcontractors, consultants and employees. Approach to meeting and exceeding the MWBE requirements. History of Minority-owned, Women-owned business utilization.

4.5.6 **REFERENCE: TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS: 5 (SECTION F):** Provide a minimum of three (3) references of municipal agencies (preferably located within the State of Georgia) that firm has provided the same or similar services to within the past 5 years; Reputation of firm. Include names, organization and contact information of clients who can provide insights regarding skills, qualifications and delivery of requested services.

4.5.7 **SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS:** The documents below must be included in qualification proposal. **FAILURE TO INCLUDE THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION MAY RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION OF YOUR**

FIRMS TECHNICAL PROPOSAL.

- Audited Financial Statements
- Proof of National Association of Security Dealers (NASD) Certification.
- Proof of State registration.
- Certification that firm has read the investment policy and agrees to abide by the terms and conditions contained therein.
- Certificate of Insurance (Per County requirement statement in proposal package)
- Proposal Attachments

4.5.8 ***FEE SCHEDULE:*** Upon the award of a contract, written quotations will be requested by the County on an “As Needed” transaction basis from each of the finalist firms. Each transaction will be awarded to the firm that offers the best written quotation. Firm selection for each transaction will be final without recourse.

4.5.9 **INTERVIEWS/PRESENTATIONS (IF REQUIRED) – TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS: 30**

4.6 **CONTRACT:** The successful respondent will be expected to execute a contract within 30 days of notice of award.

4.7 **PERFORMANCE AND APPROVAL OF SUB-CONSULTANTS:** The proponent will perform the project as an independent contractor and not as an agent or employee of the County. Joint ventures and sub-consultant arrangements are not prohibited; however, the proponent shall secure written permission from Chatham County before subcontracting any part of this service. Such permission should be obtained during the proposal evaluation stage. Proponents are encouraged to use Minority/Woman Business Enterprises and are reminded of reporting requirements when utilizing these arrangements.

4.8 **ASSIGNMENT:** The PROPOSER shall not assign or transfer any interest of the contract without prior written consent of the County.

SECTION V TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

5.1 **BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES:** The purpose of this Request for Proposal (RFP) is to award up to nine (9) annual contracts for financial institutions and/or broker/dealer to provide Investment Brokerage Services to the County on an “on going” and “as needed” basis. It is the County’s intent to establish a list of up to nine qualified firms to provide written quotations on an “as needed” basis to the Finance Director. Each transaction will be awarded to the firm that offers the best written quotation. All financial and investment transactions will be handled in accordance with trade and dollar threshold requirements and will comply with all Chatham County Investment Policy requirements. Contract period will be for one (1) year with renewal options for three (3)

one year terms, if all parties agree. Any firms that currently hold an annual contract with the County for brokerage services need not submit to this solicitation.

Each transaction will be awarded to the firm that offers the best written quotation. All financial and investment transactions will be handled in accordance with trade and dollar threshold requirements and will comply with all Chatham County Investment Policy requirements.

Chatham County currently maintains investment and liquidity portfolios to provide for the operations of the government entity. The Chatham County Investment Policy governs the investment of assets in various funds that are under the direct control of the Finance Department and applies to all funds under the control of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners which are eligible to be invested, exclusive of pension obligations. These funds include but are not limited to:

- Tax Supported Funds (General Funds, Sales Tax Funds, etc.)
- Special Assessment Funds (Street Paving, etc.)
- Special Revenue Funds
- Debt Service and Bond Proceeds
- Enterprise Funds
- Capital Project Funds
- Internal Service Funds
- Other Operating or Capital Funds (as established)

In accordance with the Chatham County Investment Policy, the Finance Director is required to authorize all written quotation requests and any transaction request that exceeds \$2 million dollars. The Chatham County Investment Officer or designee has the authority to approve any transaction request that does not exceed \$2 million dollars. A copy of the Chatham County Investment Policy will be provided to the successful Investment Broker/Dealer Service providers.

5.2 **SCOPE OF SERVICES:**

Contracted Investment Broker/Dealer will be required to provide written quotations to the County on an “On Going” and “As Needed” basis. There is no pre-set or guaranteed number of County investment transactions and/or written quotations to be provided on an annual basis.

Investment Requirements:

5.2.1 The Successful Investment Broker/Dealer will be required to invest in highly rated securities that can be transacted quickly and efficiently, with minimum impact on market price. Maximum level of investment by type of instrument is as follows:

<u>U.S. Treasury and other government obligations</u>	<u>100%</u>
<u>Federal Agency or U.S. government sponsored enterprises</u>	<u>100%</u>

Bankers' acceptances maturing within 270 days	20%
Certificates of Deposit insured by the FDIC	20%
Negotiable certificates of deposit (NCDs)	20%
Commercial paper, rated in the highest tier	25%
Investment-grade obligations of state, provincial and local governments and public authorities	25%
Fully collateralized Repurchase agreements	25%
SEC registered money market mutual funds	100%
Local government investment pools (Georgia Fund 1)	80%
Local government investment pools (GEAP)	50%
Mortgage backed securities (REMICS/ CMOs)	25%

5.3 METHOD OF EVALUATION:

The following factors will be considered by the technical review panel in the evaluation of this qualification proposal. The factors to be evaluated will not necessarily be evaluated in the order presented:

- 5.3.1 Demonstrated understanding of the Scope of Services.
- 5.3.2 Experience in providing Investment Broker/Dealer Services.
- 5.3.3 Reputation of the firm based on references.
- 5.3.4 Computer support and reports capability (as applicable).
- 5.3.5 Proximity of firm to Chatham County; business location.
- 5.3.6 Commitment to M/WBE Firms, Consultants and Employees.
- 5.3.7 Firm Interview/Oral presentation (if requested).

5.4 REFERENCES:

Please provide at least three (3) current or past municipal clients located within the State of Georgia for whom you furnish(ed) Investment Brokerage Services. State the client's name, address, contact person, phone number, date(s) of service, a brief description of the services provided, and how long that reference has been your client. Chatham County is primarily interested in references of municipal clients that have been provided with Investment Brokerage Services similar to or the same as that requested herein.

SECTION VI

**EVALUATION AND AWARD
ANNUAL CONTRACT FOR INVESTMENT BROKER/DEALER SERVICES FOR
CHATHAM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE**

6.1 EVALUATION: Each response to this RFP shall be subject to the same review and assessment process. Qualification proposals will be evaluated and ranked on the basis of points awarded by an Evaluation Committee. A description of the factors which will be analyzed, and the relative weight accorded each factor follows. ***The County will not consider the qualification proposal of any Offeror who lacks accreditation or authorization to provide the Investment Broker Services requested.***

STEP 1: PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL (TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS: 100).

<i>Evaluating Factor:</i>	<i>Points Possible:</i>
<i>Qualifications:</i> Qualifications of the financial institution or firm and individual(s) or representatives that will be providing services to the County; Organizational Structure; educational background, training, and certifications; Quality Control.; Provides required document submittals.	25
<i>Experience and Capability:</i> Recent and past experience in providing Investment Broker/Dealer Services to municipal agencies (preferably located within the State of Georgia) with services similar to or the same as those requested by Chatham County. Provides “all work experience” of each team member. Firm’s specialized experience in various Market Sectors; Capital Structure and Adequacy as measured by the Federal Reserve Bank’s adequacy guidelines; Current and projected workload; Ability and capacity to perform services in a timely manner. Computer support and report capability. Location and availability firm/individual. Additional information relevant to the firm’s capacity.	30
<i>Project Understanding & Methodology:</i> Demonstrated understanding of the Scope of Service. Methodology and approach to work; “Best Practices” utilized by firm to minimize investment risk; Fixed Income Operational Procedures; Additional services to be provided to Chatham County;	25
<i>M/WBE Participation</i>	15
<i>References:</i> Provide a minimum of three (3) references of municipal agencies (preferably located within the State of Georgia) that firm has provided the same or similar services to within the past 5 years; Reputation of firm.	5

STEP 2- INTERVIEWS/PRESENTATIONS- IF REQUIRED (TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS: 30)

6.2 CONTRACT AWARD:

- 6.2.1 Successful Proponent will be asked to submit his/her firms’ contractual issues for consideration in the Chatham County contract. Proposals will become part of the contract.
- 6.2.2 No services shall be provided under the contract until a contract has been fully executed by both parties. A notice to proceed will be issued by Chatham County.

**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION PROPOSAL
CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA
RFP NO. 21-0090-7**

**ANNUAL CONTRACT FOR INVESTMENT BROKER/DEALER SERVICES FOR
CHATHAM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE**

I have read and understand the requirements of this proposal, RFP No. 21-0090-7, and agree to provide the required services in accordance with this proposal, and all other attachments, exhibits, etc. I understand that the County will not be responsible for the reimbursement of any costs not specifically set forth in this proposal.

FIRM NAME: _____

PROPOSER: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ FAX: _____

EMAIL: _____

BUSINESS TAX CERTIFICATE/LICENSE NUMBER: _____

CITY/COUNTY/STATE: _____

MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE? _____/YES _____/NO

MINORITY CLASSIFICATION: _____

Chatham County Investment Policy

I. Introduction

The intent of the Chatham County Investment Policy is to define the parameters for the investment and management of County funds. In methods, procedures and practices, the policy formalizes the framework in which Chatham County's investment activities will be exercised to ensure protection of public funds and an appropriate level of liquidity and return on investment.

II. Governing Authority

The County shall operate its investment program in conformance with federal, state, and other legal requirements, including all laws of the State of Georgia.

III. Scope

This policy applies to activities of Chatham County with regard to investing funds under the statutory or contractual authority of the Board of Commissioners. Funds held in trust or under separate contractual arrangements with fiscal agents are thereby excluded from this policy, although all such funds are subject to the laws and regulations of the State of Georgia. A full description of covered funds is located within Chatham County's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

Note that any excluded funds such as employee retirement funds and proceeds from certain bond issues are covered by separate policies.

Except for funds in certain restricted and special funds, Chatham County may commingle its funds to maximize investment earnings and to increase efficiencies with regard to investment pricing, safekeeping and administration. Investment income will be allocated to the various funds based on their respective participation and in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

IV. General Objectives

The primary objectives, in priority order, of investment activities shall be:

1. **Safety:** Safety of principal is the foremost objective of the investment program. Investments shall be undertaken in a manner that seeks to ensure the preservation of capital in the overall portfolio. The goal will be to mitigate credit risk and interest rate risk.
2. **Liquidity:** The investment portfolio shall remain sufficiently liquid to meet all operating requirements that may be reasonably anticipated.
3. **Return/Yield:** The investment portfolio shall be designed with the objective of attaining a market rate of return throughout budgetary and economic cycles, taking into account the investment risk constraints of safety and liquidity needs.

4. ***Special Considerations:*** Where possible, funds may be invested for the betterment of the local economy or that of local entities within the State.
5. ***Legal Compliance:*** County funds will at all times be invested in conformity with the laws of the State of Georgia, specifically 36-80-3, 36-80-4, 36-82-7, and 36-83-4, and with bond ordinances or covenants, and this Investment Policy. Where there are policies contained in Debt Covenants and Official Statements, those provisions shall apply only to those funds, and are incorporated by reference within this policy.

V. Standards of Care

1. Prudence

The standard of prudence to be used by investment officials shall be the “prudent person” standard and shall be applied in the context of managing an overall portfolio. Investment officers acting in accordance with written procedures and this investment policy and exercising due diligence shall be relieved of personal liability for an individual security’s credit risk or market price changes, provided deviations from expectations are reported in a timely fashion and appropriate action is taken to control adverse developments. The "prudent person" standard states that, “Investments shall be made with judgment and care, under circumstances then prevailing, which persons of prudence, discretion and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs, not for speculation, but for investment, considering the probable safety of their capital as well as the probable income to be derived.”

2. Ethics and Conflicts of Interest

Officers and employees involved in the investment process shall refrain from personal activity that could conflict with the proper execution and management of the investment program, or that could impair their ability to make impartial investment decisions. Employees and investment officials shall disclose any material interests in financial institutions with which they conduct business. Disclosure shall be made to the governing body. They shall further disclose any personal financial/investment positions that could be related to the performance of the investment portfolio. Employees and officers shall refrain from undertaking any personal investment transactions with the same individual with whom business is conducted on behalf of Chatham County.

3. Delegation of Authority and Responsibilities

Governing Body - The Board of Commissioners will retain ultimate fiduciary responsibility for the protection of public funds. The Board of Commissioners may periodically review the investment policy to make any changes necessary by adoption of an amended policy. The Board of Commissioners will authorize contracts for service with financial institutions, depositories and broker/dealer firms.

Finance Director - O.C.G.A. Section 36-80-4 authorizes the County’s governing body to delegate responsibility to the Finance Director for the management of the County’s investment assets. The

Finance Director shall have the authority to establish and implement the necessary organization structure and financial reporting and controls in order to achieve the objectives of this Policy. The Finance Director shall discharge his or her duties solely in the interest of the County. After a due diligence process, the Finance Director may recommend external broker/dealers, investment advisors and investment managers to carry out the investment of County funds.

Investment Officer - The Finance Director may designate an Investment Officer to carry out the administrative responsibilities enumerated herein. The Investment Officer will be a County employee operating under the direction of the Finance Director.

VI. Authorized Vendors

1. Authorized Vendors

Under the provisions of the County's Purchasing Ordinance, the Finance Director will exercise due diligence in the selection of financial institutions, depositories, and broker/dealer firms for the conduct of investment transactions and related services. A list will be maintained of financial institutions and depositories authorized to provide investment services. In addition, a list will be maintained of approved security broker/dealers selected after a due diligence process. These may include "primary" dealers or regional dealers that qualify under Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) Rule 15C3-1 (uniform net capital rule). All securities will be held in a third party bank separate from the broker/dealer transacting the security's purchase or sale.

- A. The Finance Director shall determine which financial institutions are authorized to provide investment services to Chatham County. Institutions eligible to transact investment business with Chatham County may include:
 1. Primary government dealers as designated by the Federal Reserve Bank;
 2. Nationally or state-chartered banks;
 3. The Federal Reserve Bank; and,
 4. Direct issuers of securities eligible for purchase.

- B. Selection of financial institutions and broker/dealers authorized to engage in transactions with Chatham County shall be at the sole discretion of Chatham County.

- C. Broker/dealers who desire to become qualified for investment transactions must supply the
following (as appropriate):
 1. Audited financial statements demonstrating compliance with state and federal capital adequacy guidelines.
 2. Proof of FINRA certification

3. Proof of state registration
 4. Completed broker/dealer questionnaire (not applicable to Certificate of Deposit counterparties)
 5. Certification of having read and understood and agreeing to comply with the Chatham County investment policy.
 6. Evidence of adequate insurance coverage.
- D. Financial institutions who desire to become depositories must have FDIC coverage and collateralization.
- E. A periodic review of the financial condition and registration of all qualified financial institutions and broker/dealers will be conducted by the Finance Director.
- F. The Finance Director may remove, at any time, with or without just cause and without notification, any authorized financial institution and/or broker/dealer from the list of qualified vendors.

2. Minority, Emerging and Community Financial Institutions

From time to time, the County may choose to invest in instruments offered by minority, emerging and community financial institutions. Investments will typically be limited to certificates of deposit subject to the amount of available FDIC coverage unless these institutions have been authorized as approved broker/dealers subject to the due diligence process in VI (1

3. Selection Process

Once authorized by the Finance Director to request quotations, the Investment Officer will contact the authorized vendors to request a written quote for an investment security. Quotes will be evaluated based on the General Objectives of this policy. The Investment Officer can approve purchases up to \$2 million; the Finance Director is required to approve purchases exceeding \$2 million. The winning firm will be notified. This selection shall be final without recourse.

From time to time, various government agencies announce the issue of new securities to the financial markets. Since all new issues are sold at par, the County would not realize any benefit by purchasing these securities through a competitive process. If a new issue or “To Be Announced” (“TBA”) security falls within the portfolio diversification and maturity requirements of the County, the County Finance Director may place the investment with the authorized financial institution and/or dealer who initiated the contact on the investment opportunity.

VI. Safekeeping and Custody

1. *Delivery vs. Payment*

All trades of marketable securities will be executed (cleared and settled) on a delivery vs. payment (DVP) basis to ensure that securities are deposited in Chatham County's safekeeping institution prior to the release of funds.

2. *Third-Party Safekeeping*

Securities will be held by an independent third-party safekeeping institution selected by Chatham County. All securities will be evidenced by safekeeping receipts in Chatham County's name. The safekeeping institution shall annually provide a copy of its most recent report on internal controls - Service Organization Control Reports (formerly 70, or SAS 70) prepared in accordance with the Statement on Standards for Attestation Engagements (SSAE) No. 16 (effective June 15, 2011.)

3. *Internal Controls*

Management shall establish a system of internal controls, which shall be documented in writing. The controls shall be designed to prevent the loss of public funds arising from fraud, employee error, and misrepresentation by third parties, unanticipated changes in financial markets, or imprudent actions by employees and officers of Chatham County. The internal control system will be subject to the review of the Internal Auditor, and the independent auditor.

VIII. Suitable and Authorized Investments

1. *Investment Types and Credit Guidelines*

The following investments will be permitted by this policy. Where additional types of securities are approved for investment under State statutes, they will not be eligible for investment by Chatham County until this Policy has been amended and the amended version adopted by the Board of Commissioners:

- U.S. Treasury and other government obligations that carry the full faith and credit guarantee of the United States for the payment of principal and interest.
- Federal Agency or U.S. government sponsored enterprises (GSE) obligations, participations or other instruments
- Bankers' acceptances;
- Federally insured time deposits (Non-negotiable certificates of deposit) in state or federally chartered banks, savings and loans, or credit unions, provided that the amount per institution is limited to the maximum covered under federal insurance (FDIC);
- Time deposits (Non-negotiable certificates of deposit) in state or federally chartered banks, savings and loans, or credit unions in excess of insured amounts which are fully collateralized with securities in accordance with state law
- Negotiable certificates of deposit (NCDs)
- Commercial paper, rated in the highest tier (e.g., A-1, P-1, F-1, or D-1 or higher) by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization;
- Investment-grade obligations of state, provincial and local governments and public authorities;

- Fully collateralized Repurchase agreements collateralized in compliance with this Policy, governed by a SIFMA Master Repurchase Agreement and with a maximum maturity• SEC registered money market mutual funds; and
- Local government investment pools (Georgia Fund 1).

If the credit rating of a security is subsequently downgraded below the minimum rating level for a new investment of that security, the Investment Officer shall evaluate the downgrade on a case-by-case basis in order to determine if the security should be held or sold. The Investment Officer will apply the general objectives of safety, liquidity, yield and legality to make the decision.

2. Collateralization of deposits

The County will follow the collateralization requirements of the State of Georgia as enumerated under O.C.G.A. Section 45-8-12 for demand deposit accounts to include checking accounts, negotiable and non-negotiable certificates of deposit:

- A. All deposits shall be collateralized within 10 days of deposit by a surety bonds, a guarantee of insurance or collateral, and
- B. The face value of any surety bond, guarantee of insurance or collateral shall be at least 110% of the public funds being secured, net of deposit insurance, and
- C. If the pooled method is used (O.C.G.A. Section 45-8-13.11), the aggregate market value of pledged securities may not be less than 110% of the daily pool balance.

Acceptable collateral for bank deposits and repurchase agreements shall include only Obligations of the U.S. Government, its agencies and GSEs, including mortgage backed securities; and Obligations of any state, city, county or authority rated at least AA by two nationally recognized statistical rating organizations.

IX. Investment Parameters

1. Mitigating Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that a security or a portfolio will lose some or all of its value due to a real or perceived change in the ability of the issuer to repay its debt. Chatham County shall mitigate credit risk by adopting the following:

- A. Diversification - It is the policy of Chatham County to diversify its investment portfolios. To eliminate risk of loss resulting from the over-concentration of assets in a specific maturity, issuer, or class of securities, assets in all Chatham County funds shall be diversified by maturity, issuer, and class of security. Diversification strategies shall be determined and revised periodically
- B, Purchase of Highly Rated Securities - The County requires that all assets be invested in highly rated securities, defined as securities that can be transacted quickly and efficiently, with minimal impact on market price.

The following table indicates the maximum level of investment by instrument:

<u>U.S. Treasury and other government obligations</u>	100%
<u>Federal Agency or U.S. government sponsored enterprises</u>	100%
<u>Bankers' acceptances maturing within 270 days</u>	20%
<u>Certificates of Deposit insured by the FDIC</u>	20%
<u>Negotiable certificates of deposit (NCDs)</u>	20%
<u>Commercial paper, rated in the highest tier</u>	25%
<u>Investment-grade obligations of state, provincial and local government's and public authorities</u>	25%
<u>Fully collateralized Repurchase agreements</u>	25%
<u>SEC registered money market mutual funds</u>	100%
<u>Local government investment pools (Georgia Fund 1)</u>	80%
<u>Local government investment pools (GEAP)</u>	50%
<u>Mortgage backed securities (REMICS/ CMOs)</u>	25%

Due to fluctuations in the aggregate surplus funds balance, maximum percentages for a particular issuer or investment type may be exceeded at a point in time subsequent to the purchase of a particular issuer or investment type. Securities need not be liquidated to realign the portfolio; however, consideration should be given to this matter when future purchases are made to ensure that appropriate diversification is maintained.

2. *Mitigating Market Risk*

Market risk is the risk that the portfolio value will fluctuate due to changes in the general level of interest rates. Chatham County recognizes that, over time, longer-term/core portfolios have the potential to achieve higher returns. On the other hand, longer-term portfolios have higher volatility of return. Chatham County shall mitigate market risk by providing adequate liquidity for short-term cash needs, and by making longer-term investments only with funds that are not needed for current cash flow purposes. Chatham County further recognizes that certain types of securities, including variable rate securities, securities with principal pay-downs prior to maturity, and securities with embedded options, will affect the market risk profile of the portfolio differently in different interest rate environments. Chatham County, therefore, adopts the following strategies to control and mitigate its exposure to market risk:

- A. Chatham County shall maintain a minimum of three months of budgeted operating expenditures in short term investments to provide sufficient liquidity for expected disbursements;
- B. The maximum percent of callable securities in the portfolio shall be 25%;
- C. The maximum stated final maturity of individual securities in the portfolio shall be five years, except as otherwise stated in this policy; and,

D. Liquidity funds will be held in the State Pool or in money market instruments maturing one year and shorter. Longer term/Core funds will be defined as the funds in excess of liquidity requirements. The investments in this portion of the portfolio will have maturities between 1 day and 5 years and will be only invested in higher quality and liquid securities.

****ALL FIRMS MUST SIGN THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT BELOW****

(FIRM'S NAME) HEREBY
ACKNOWLEDGES RECEIPT OF CHATHAM COUNTY'S INVESTMENT
POLICY AND CERTIFIES THAT WE HAVE PERSONALLY READ AND
UNDERSTAND THE CONTENTS AND PARAMETERS ESTABLISHED
THEREIN.

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

ATTACHMENT A

DRUG - FREE WORKPLACE CERTIFICATION

THE UNDERSIGNED CERTIFIES THAT THE PROVISIONS OF CODE SECTIONS 50-24-1 THROUGH 50-24-6 OF THE OFFICIAL CODE TO GEORGIA ANNOTATED, RELATED TO THE ****DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE****, HAVE BEEN COMPLIED WITH IN FULL. THE UNDERSIGNED FURTHER CERTIFIES THAT:

1. A Drug-Free Workplace will be provided for the employees during the performance of the contract; and
2. Each sub-contractor under the direction of the Contractor shall secure the following written certification:

_____ (CONTRACTOR)
certifies to Chatham County that a Drug-Free Workplace will be provided for the employees during the performance of this contract known as **ANNUAL CONTRACT FOR INVESTMENT BROKER/DEALER SERVICES FOR CHATHAM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE**(PROJECT) pursuant to paragraph (7) of subsection (B) of Code Section 50-24-3. Also, the undersigned further certifies that he/she will not engage in the unlawful manufacture, sale, distribution, possession, or use of a controlled substance or marijuana during the performance of the contract.

CONTRACTOR

DATE

NOTARY

DATE

ATTACHMENT B

PROMISE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Know All Men By These Presents, that I (We), _____
Name

_____, _____
Title Name of Bidder

(herein after Company) in consideration of the privilege to bid/or propose on the following Chatham County project for **ANNUAL CONTRACT FOR INVESTMENT BROKER/DEALER SERVICES FOR THE CHATHAM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE** hereby consent, covenant and agree as follows:

- (1) No person shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefit of or otherwise discriminated against on the basis of race, color, national origin or gender in connection with the bid submitted to Chatham County or the performance of the contract resulting therefrom;
- (2) That it is and shall be the policy of this Company to provide equal opportunity to all business persons seeking to contract or otherwise interested with the Company, including those companies owned and controlled by racial minorities, and women;
- (3) In connection herewith, I (We) acknowledge and warrant that this Company has been made aware of, understands and agrees to take affirmative action to provide minority and women owned companies with the maximum practicable opportunities to do business with this Company on this contract;
- (4) That the promises of non-discrimination as made and set forth herein shall be continuing throughout the duration of this contract with Chatham County;
- (5) That the promises of non-discrimination as made and set forth herein shall be and are hereby deemed to be made a part of and incorporated by reference in the contract which this Company may be awarded;
- (6) That the failure of this Company to satisfactorily discharge any of the promises of non-discrimination as made and set forth above may constitute a material breach of contract entitling the County to declare the contract in default and to exercise appropriate remedies including but not limited to termination of the contract.

Signature

Date

ATTACHMENT C
DISCLOSURE OF RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT

Failure to complete and return this information will result in your bid/offer/proposal being disqualified from further competition as non-responsive.

1. List any convictions of any person, subsidiary, or affiliate of the company, arising out of obtaining, or attempting to obtain a public or private contract or subcontract, or in the performance of such contract or subcontract.

2. List any indictments or convictions of any person, subsidiary, or affiliate of this company for offenses such as embezzlement, theft, fraudulent schemes, etc. or any other offenses indicating a lack of business integrity or business honesty which affects the responsibility of the contractor.

3. List any convictions or civil judgments under states or federal antitrust statutes.

4. List any violations of contract provisions such as knowingly (without good cause) to perform, or unsatisfactory performance, in accordance with the specifications of a contract.

5. List any prior suspensions or debarments by any governmental agency.

6. List any contracts not completed on time.

7. List any penalties imposed for time delays and/or quality of materials and workmanship.

8. List any documented violations of federal or any state labor laws, regulations, or standards, occupational safety and health rules.

I, _____, as _____
Name of individual Title & Authority

of _____, declare under oath that

Company Name _____

the above statements, including any supplemental responses attached hereto, are true.

Signature

State of _____

County of _____

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this _____ day of _____

20__ by _____ representing him/herself to be

_____ of the company named herein.

Notary Public

My Commission expires:

Resident State: _____

DPC Form #45

ATTACHMENT D

CONTRACTOR AFFIDAVIT under O.C.G.A. § 13-10-91(b)(1)

By executing this affidavit, the undersigned contractor verifies its compliance with O.C.G.A. § 13-10-91, stating affirmatively that the individual, firm or corporation which is engaged in the physical performance of services on behalf of CHATHAM COUNTY has registered with, is authorized to use and uses the federal work authorization program commonly known as E-Verify, or any subsequent replacement program, in accordance with the applicable provisions and deadlines established in O.C.G.A. § 13-10-91. Furthermore, the undersigned contractor will continue to use the federal work authorization program throughout the contract period and the undersigned contractor will contract for the physical performance of services in satisfaction of such contract only with subcontractors who present an affidavit to the contractor with the information required by O.C.G.A. § 13-10-91(b). Contractor hereby attests that its federal work authorization user identification number and date of authorization are as follows:

Federal Work Authorization User Identification Number

Date of Authorization

Name of Contractor

Name of Project

Name of Public Employer

I hereby declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on _____, ____, 20__ in _____(city), _____(state).

Signature of Authorized Officer or Agent

Printed Name and Title of Authorized Officer or Agent

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN BEFORE ME
ON THIS THE _____ DAY OF _____, 20__.

NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires:

SUBCONTRACTOR AFFIDAVIT under O.C.G.A. § 13-10-91(b)(3)

By executing this affidavit, the undersigned subcontractor verifies its compliance with O.C.G.A. 13-10-91, stating affirmatively that the individual, firm or corporation which is engaged in the physical performance of services under a contract with _____ (name of contractor) on behalf of CHATHAM COUNTY has registered with, is authorized to use and uses the federal work authorization program commonly known as E-Verify, or any subsequent replacement program, in accordance with the applicable provisions and deadlines established in O.C.G.A. § 13-10-91. Furthermore, the undersigned subcontractor will continue to use the federal work authorization program throughout the contract period and the undersigned subcontractor will contract for the physical performance of services in satisfaction of such contract only with sub-subcontractors who present an affidavit to the subcontractor with the information required by O.C.G.A. § 13-10-91 (b). Additionally, the undersigned subcontractor will forward notice of the receipt of an affidavit from a sub-subcontractor to the contractor within five (5) business days of receipt. If the undersigned subcontractor receives notice of receipt of an affidavit from any sub-subcontractor that has contracted with a sub-subcontractor to forward, within five (5) business days of receipt, a copy of such notice to the contractor. Subcontractor hereby attests that its federal work authorization user identification number and date of authorization are as follows:

Federal Work Authorization User Identification Number

Date of Authorization

Name of Subcontractor

Name of Project

Name of Public Employer

I hereby declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on _____, ____, 20__ in _____(city), _____(state).

Signature of Authorized Officer or Agent

Printed Name and Title of Authorized Officer or Agent

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN BEFORE ME
ON THIS THE _____ DAY OF _____, 20__.

NOTARY PUBLIC
My Commission Expires:

ATTACHMENT E

**BIDDER'S CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION,
INELIGIBILITY AND VOLUNTARY EXCLUSION**

The undersigned certifies, by submission of this proposal or acceptance of this contract, that neither Contractor nor its principals is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntary excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency, State of Georgia, City of Savannah, Board of Education of local municipality. Bidder agrees that by submitting this proposal that Bidder will include this clause without modification in all lower tier transactions, solicitations, proposals, contracts, and subcontracts. Where the Bidder or any lower tier participant is unable to certify to this statement, that participant shall attach an explanation to this document.

Certification - the above information is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

(Printed or typed Name of Signatory)

(Signature)

(Date)

NOTE: The penalty for making false statements in offers is prescribed in 18 U.S.C. 1001

END OF DOCUMENT Mod. CC P & C 6/2005

ATTACHMENT F

**Chatham County
Minority and Women Business Enterprise Program
M/WBE Participation Report**

Name of Bidder: _____

Name of Project: _____

Bid No: _____

M/WBE Firm	Type of Work	Contact Person/ Phone #	City, State	%	MBE or WBE

MBE Total _____

WBE Total _____%

M/WBE Combined _____%

The undersigned should enter into a formal agreement with M/WBE Contractor identified herein for work listed in this schedule conditioned upon execution of contract with the Chatham County Board of Commissioners.

Signature _____ Print _____

Phone () _____

Fax () _____

ATTACHMENT G

***Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE)
Affidavit Verifying Status for Chatham County Benefit Application***

By executing this affidavit under oath, as an applicant for a Chatham County, Georgia Business License or Occupation Tax Certificate, Alcohol License, Taxi Permit, Contract or other public benefit as reference in O.C.G.A. Section 50-36-1, I am stating the following with respect to my bid for a Chatham County contract for _____. [Name of natural person applying on behalf of individual, business, corporation, partnership, or other private entity]

1.) _____ I am a citizen of the United States.

OR

2.) _____ I am a legal permanent resident 18 years of age or older.

OR

3.) _____ I am an otherwise qualified alien (8 § USC 1641) or non-immigrant under the Federal Immigration and Nationality Act (8 USC 1101 et seq.) 18 years of age or older and lawfully present in the United States.*

In making the above representation under oath, I understand that any person who knowingly and willfully makes a false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation in an affidavit shall be guilty of a violation of Code Section 16-10-20 of the Official Code of Georgia.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date _____

Printed Name: _____

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN
BEFORE ME ON THIS THE
____ DAY OF _____, 20____

* _____
Alien Registration number for non-citizens.

Notary Public
My Commission Expires:

**ATTACHMENT H
AFFIDAVIT REGARDING LOBBYING**

Each Bidder/Proposer and all proposed team members and subcontractors must sign this affidavit and the Bidder /Proposer shall submit the affidavits with their proposal confirming that there has been no contact with public officials or management staff for the purpose of influencing award of the contract. Furthermore, each individual certifies that there will be no contact with any public official prior to contract award for the purpose of influencing contract award.

The undersigned further certifies that no team member or individual has been hired or placed on the team in order to influence award of the contract. All team members are performing a commercially useful function on the project.

Failure to provide signed affidavits from all team members with your response may be cause to consider your bid/proposal non-responsive.

BY: Authorized Officer or Agent

Date

Title of Authorized Officer or Agent

Printed Name of Authorized Officer or Agent

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN
BEFORE ME ON THIS THE
____ DAY OF _____, 20____

Notary Public
My Commission Expires:

My Commission expires:

Resident State: _____

LEGAL NOTICE

CC NO. 168378

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Sealed proposals will be received until **5:00 P.M. on AUGUST 10, 2021** in **Chatham County Purchasing and Contracting Department, 1117 EISENHOWER DRIVE, SUITE C, SAVANNAH, GA. RFP NO. 21-0090-7 ANNUAL CONTRACT FOR INVESTMENT BROKER/DEALER SERVICES FOR CHATHAM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.**

Invitation to Submit Proposal Packages are available at 1117 Eisenhower Drive, Suite C, Savannah, Georgia, and on the Chatham County Purchasing Web Site <http://purchasing.chathamcounty.org> ,or by calling Robin Maurer, Asst. Purchasing Director, at (912) 790-1623. All firms requesting to do business with Chatham County must also register on-line at <http://purchasing.chathamcounty.org>

CHATHAM COUNTY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY/AND OR ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ALL FORMALITIES. THIS WILL BE THE ONLY SOLICITATION FOR THIS PROJECT. ONLY THOSE FIRMS RESPONDING TO THE RFP WILL BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROJECT.

"CHATHAM COUNTY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER, M/F/H, ALL PROPOSERS ARE TO BE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYERS"

MARGARET H. JOYNER, PURCHASING DIRECTOR

SAVANNAH N/P INSERT: July 12, 2021