

**City of Vernon**  
**Request for Proposals (RFP)**  
**SOLID WASTE CONSULTING**  
**SERVICES**



**City of Vernon**  
**HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL DEPT.**  
**4305 Santa Fe Avenue, Vernon, CA 90058**  
**Phone: (323) 583-8811**

# City of Vernon Solid Waste Consulting Services Request for Proposals

## **1. INTRODUCTION AND PROJECT**

The City of Vernon is requesting proposals for Solid Waste Consulting to conduct services, including Environmental Sustainability tasks to the City for calendar years 2017-2018 (two year contract), with a possible 1 year extension.

The City will select one firm, based on demonstrated competence and a cost effective approach to design, conduct, and assist in our Solid Waste Program Management, provide assistance in the implementation of the City's Environmental Sustainability Program, and assist in specific projects as out lined below.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

The City of Vernon was founded in 1905, is approximately 5.2 square miles in size and is located approximately 5 miles southeast of downtown Los Angeles California. Over its long history Vernon has been developed as an industrial community. At the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century the lands that make up Vernon were comprised largely of farmlands. The presence of three major rail lines in the area led influential business and property owners to encourage the railroad companies to run spur lines onto the farmlands. These rail extensions enabled the creation of an "exclusively industrial" city. By the 1920's Vernon was attracting large stockyards and meatpacking facilities. In the 1930's Vernon became the location of choice for many heavy industrial plants. As economic conditions changed over the decades, these large scale industrial operations have relocated out of Southern California and Vernon has attracted smaller, lighter industrial facilities. The City's business friendly environment, low cost utilities and key location for trucking and rail transport continue to position Vernon as an ideal location for industrial uses.

**City Government:** The City Council consists of five members, elected at-large, who serve five-year staggered terms. The City Council annually appoints a Mayor and a Mayor Pro Tem from its own membership to serve one-year terms.

**Labor Force:** Vernon has approximately 250 employees, and its departments include a Fire Department, Police Department, Finance Department, Public Works, Water and Development Services Department, Gas and Electric Department and Health and Environmental Control Department. Present bargaining units recognized include the Vernon Police Officers Benefit Association, Vernon Police Management Association, Vernon Firemen's Association, the Vernon Fire Management Association, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 47, and Teamsters Local 911.

The City of Vernon is one of four cities in California with its own environmental health department. The mission of the Vernon Health & Environmental Control Department is to protect the environment, and safeguard the health and well-being of Vernon's residents, workers, visitors, and neighboring communities. In pursuit of its mission, the Department oversees several long-established and intensive programs to assist Vernon businesses to conserve resources, minimize waste, and protect the environment.

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In 2012, the City prepared a sustainability action plan. The purpose of the plan was to assist Vernon in becoming a more sustainable city. The plan outlined the City's sustainability infrastructure, inventoried the City's greenhouse gas emissions, outlined several sustainability program goals, and set emission reduction targets. A copy of the plan is available online at <http://cityofvernon.org/green-vernon>.

To become a more sustainable City, Vernon offers its businesses free technical assistance in the areas of energy consumption, water conservation, and waste reduction. Representatives from the City's current contractor visit several Vernon businesses each year to observe their operations, measure their greenhouse gas emissions, and assist in implementing programs and management practices to save energy, conserve water, and reduce solid waste. To document these efforts, and to provide feedback to the businesses, the City has developed a sustainability database. This database is used to measure greenhouse gas emissions, and to document the sustainable practices of businesses in the City that receive technical assistance.

The Health & Environmental Control Department manages the City's solid waste management program, and is responsible for the City's compliance with the waste diversion and reporting requirements of AB 939. In addition, with the adoption of AB 341 and AB 1826, the City is now responsible for the outreach, education, and monitoring requirements of the State's two mandatory commercial recycling laws. In 2013, the City developed a web-based tool to monitor the AB 341 compliance status of the businesses in Vernon. In 2016, this online tool was upgraded to additionally monitor businesses compliance with AB 1826. The City has been using this tool to report on the recycling participation of its businesses for the last three AB 939 Annual Report cycles.

The Health & Environmental Control Department also oversees the City's non-exclusive solid waste franchise system. Each of the businesses in Vernon independently arranges for refuse and recyclables collection service through one of the City's 17 franchised waste haulers. Each of these haulers has entered into a standard non-exclusive franchise agreement with the City.

Under the terms of the standard franchise agreement, each hauler is required to remit franchise fees equal to 10% of their gross receipts from their customers in Vernon. Each quarter, all the franchised haulers report the amount of gross receipts and tons they collect in the City. Under the terms of the standard agreement, the City has the right to inspect each hauler's financial and operational records to confirm the accuracy of the franchise fees paid to the City.

### **3. ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED**

Assist the Vernon Health & Environmental Control Department (HECD) in our Solid Waste Program Management, provide assistance in the implementation of the City's Environmental Sustainability Program, and assist in specific projects. Submit a Project Budget, with a not-to-exceed budget for each task summarized below. Monthly invoices with a summary description of the work performed and list of hours by each project team member (with hourly rate), and out of pocket expenses may be billed at cost.

### **4. SCOPE OF SERVICES REQUIRED**

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The City of Vernon is seeking the services of a highly qualified consulting firm to assist in:

- A. **Program Management:** Plan, direct, evaluate and communicate the execution of the City's Sustainability and solid waste programs on an ongoing basis.
- B. **Update tools and database to measure emissions and document sustainable practices:** Develop and maintain analytical tools and update the City's sustainable database to measure carbon emissions generated by City departments and by businesses in Vernon including;
  - a. Updating environmental metrics to quantify the impact of various operating activities that generate greenhouse gases
  - b. Updating sustainability assessment checklists to score activities that have indirect impacts or have subjective attributes
  - c. Updating the greenhouse gas emission database to incorporate documentation and reporting standards that are consistent with EPA, LGO and ICLEI requirements
  - d. Updating the greenhouse gas emissions database to incorporate current metrics, factors and formulas to measure greenhouse gas emissions generated from operational and targeted programs
- C. **Update City's Emissions Inventory and Sustainability Action Plan:**

### **Update Greenhouse Gas Inventory**

Gather information from the City and update the City's greenhouse gas emissions inventory. In Updating the City's greenhouse gas emissions inventory, use reporting protocols from the waste reduction model "WARM" created by US EPA and "Local Government Operations Protocol" published by the California Air Resources Board to document greenhouse gas emissions generated by City operations.

### **Update Sustainability Action Plan**

Meet with City staff on a quarterly basis to review sustainability objectives and milestones achieved to date, identify programs and actions to implement for the next 3 months and coming year, and assist City staff with implementation, documentation, monitoring and reporting of the sustainability targeted programs and actions. Identify operational practices and policies that can be modified to result in lower emissions of greenhouse gases. Identify reductions in greenhouse gases resulting from policy initiatives the City has already undertaken. Use these items and others to review and update the goals and objectives identified in the City's Sustainability Action Plan.

### **D. Provide Technical Sustainability Assistance to Vernon Businesses:**

Each fiscal year, identify and meet with representatives from 20 Vernon businesses. Customize the assessment tools described in Task B to each of the particular types of businesses. Interview the business representatives, and prepare a concise sustainability report for each business. This report must

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include a carbon footprint baseline analysis of the business's operations, as well as program recommendations to reduce their carbon footprint, optimize their operational efficiency, and improve their productivity.

### **E. AB 939 Compliance**

The purpose of this task is to provide the City with support in AB 939 Compliance. This task will include the following:

- a. Gather and compile information about the City's waste reduction and diversion programs
- b. Gather tonnage reports by landfill customer from the various landfills used by the franchised haulers. Compare that tonnage information to the tonnage information submitted by the authorized waste haulers.
- c. Work with City staff, CalRecycle staff, and the authorized waste haulers to resolve any tonnage discrepancies.
- d. Enter the required information into the EAR, and prepare a draft report for the City to review. In addition to the pounds of disposal per person per day, also calculate the City's waste diversion rate (e.g., 70%) using the "old" method used prior to 2007.
- e. After the City has reviewed and approved the draft Annual Report, electronically submit the report, and prepare a PDF summary of the report for the City.

In addition to filing the Annual Report, prepare any related documents and answer CalRecycle inquiries related to the Four-Year Review. Coordinate with the City and attend any meetings that may be required by CalRecycle, or its local Office of Local Assistance. This will also include continuing to update the required environmental justice analysis, which is now required by CalRecycle.

### **F. AB 341 and AB 1826 Compliance:**

Administer and maintain the City's AB 341/AB 1826 online database. This will include gathering detailed customer information (name, service address, size and number of bins, frequency of service, NAICS code, etc.) from each of the City's franchised haulers, uploading that customer information into the City's database, and organizing it by whether the customer is exempt or mandated to comply with AB 341 and AB 1826, and by each customer's recycling status (e.g., recycling, mixed waste processing, not recycling).

### **G. AB 1826 and AB 32 Compliance:**

Assist the City and assist Vernon businesses in implementing AB 1826 organics recycling programs. Identify and monitor the progress of local area infrastructure for handling organics (regional composting facilities, etc.) Identify and evaluate potential on-site solutions for Vernon businesses (e.g., on-site anaerobic digestion, etc.) .Provide updates and provide data review to prepare any reports for submittal to State Agencies.

**H. Business Education and Outreach:**

*Assist with Business Excellence Award Program*

Assist the City in conducting its own environmental awards program. Assist with the planning and outreach for the program, identify businesses with exemplary sustainability programs to be recognized, and assist the City in preparing for and conducting the award ceremony.

*Promote Sustainability Awareness*

Conduct two educational workshops to promote sustainability and showcase best management practices utilized by the City, other municipalities and agencies, businesses, and educational institutions.

**I. Perform On-Site reviews of All Franchise Haulers:**

Perform a review and confirm the accuracy of the solid waste franchise fees paid by the City's non-exclusive waste haulers. Contact and visit each of the City's 16 active (16) franchised haulers. Review the support for the gross receipts and tonnage reported to the City.

Prepare work papers to support the work performed and any findings. Prepare a brief summary for each of the reviews performed. The summary reports should be the work performed, and the findings.

**J. Compare Tonnage and Resolve Discrepancies:**

Ensure the accuracy of the solid waste tons reported in the Disposal Reporting System as originating in Vernon. Obtain disposal tonnage reports from the major landfills used by the City's franchise haulers. Compare the tonnage on the landfill reports to the tonnage each hauler has reported to the City. Resolve any significant tonnage discrepancies. Prepare the Report Year Disposal Modification Form that accompanies the City's AB 939 Annual Report.

**K. Assist City in Evaluation of Proposed Conversion Technology Projects:**

The City is a participant with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works Southern California Conversion Technology Project. As a result, the consultant may be required to assist the City in the evaluation of various conversion technologies or projects (designed to help achieve the goals of AB 32 and AB 1826). These may be projects that are proposed to be sited in Vernon, or regional projects in which the City may be requested to participate through a committed waste delivery agreement.

## 5. QUALIFICATIONS & CRITERIA

**Qualifications:** The City of Vernon will select one firm for all of the outlined Scope of Services on the basis of qualifications, experience, and cost. The following are the minimum qualifications to be used to evaluate responses to this Request for Proposal:

- a) A minimum of ten years (10) experience in conducting solid waste audits
- b) Experience in developing and maintaining a Sustainability Action Plan
- c) Experience in submitting annual reports and CalRecycle reports
- d) Experience in providing technical assistance to businesses

A. **Selection Criteria:** The City will conduct a comprehensive, fair, and impartial evaluation of proposals received in response to this RFP. All proposals received will be reviewed and evaluated by a committee of qualified personnel. The name, information, or experience of the individual members will not be made available to any proposer. The Evaluation Committee will first review and screen all proposals submitted, except for the cost proposals, according to the minimum qualifications set forth above. The following criteria will be used in reviewing and comparing the proposals and in determining the highest scoring bid:

1. 40% Qualifications, background and prior experience of the firm in the Service Area(s) being proposed, experience of key staff assigned to oversee services provided to Vernon, evaluation of size and scope of similar work performed and success on that work.
2. 30% Cost and fees to the City for handling matters. Cost is not the sole determining factor but will be taken into consideration. Proposer must offer services at a rate comparable to the rate proposer offers to other governmental entities for similar work. Offering a higher rate to the City than the comparable rate is grounds for disqualification of the Proposer. If rates differ for different types or levels of service, or for different Service Areas, the Proposer should so state.
3. 10% Responsiveness to the RFP, and quality and responsiveness of the proposal.
4. 20% References including past performance of proposer.

## 6. FORMAT AND DELIVERY OF RESPONSE

Respondents are asked to submit seven (7) hard copies and one (1) electronic copy of their proposals in sufficient detail to allow for a thorough evaluation and comparative analysis. The proposal should include, at a minimum, the following information in sectionalized format addressing all phases of the work in the RFP.

A. **Format:** Limit your proposal to 20 typed 8.5" X 11" pages, or fewer, on white bond paper of at least 20-pound weight single sided (excluding cover letter and attachments). You may attach a firm brochure if you wish, but it must be as a separate attachment and independent from the required elements noted above.

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1. Use a conventional typeface with a minimum font size of 12 points. Use a 1" margin on all borders.
2. Organize your submittal in the order described above.
3. Provide one (1) unbound original of your firm's response and one electronic version (via email to Keith Allen, [kallen@ci.vernon.ca.us](mailto:kallen@ci.vernon.ca.us)).
4. Prominently label the package: "RFP for Solid Waste Consulting" and include the name of the primary contact for the respondent.

Deliver the response to:  
City of Vernon Health and Environmental Control Department  
Attention: Keith Allen, Director  
4305 Santa Fe Avenue  
Vernon, CA 90058

5. Responses are due on or **before 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 15, 2016**. Late response will not be accepted.
  6. If you have any question about this RFP, please contact Keith Allen at (323) 583-8811 ext. 231 or David LeDuff at (323) 583-8811 ext. 256.
- B. **Cover Letter:** All proposals shall include a cover letter which states that the proposal shall remain valid for a period of not less than ninety (90) days from the date of submittal. If the proposal contemplates the use of sub-contractors, the sub-contractors shall be identified in the cover letter. If the proposal is submitted by a business entity, the cover letter shall be signed by an officer authorized to contractually bind the business entity. With respect to the business entity, the cover letter shall also include: the identification of the business entity, including the name, address and telephone number of the business entity; and the name, title, address and telephone number of a contact person during the proposal evaluation period.
- C. **Introduction:** Present an introduction of the proposal and your understanding of the assignment and significant steps, methods and procedures to be employed by the proposer to ensure quality deliverables that can be delivered within the required time frames and your identified budget.
- D. **General Scope of Work:** Briefly summarize the scope of work as the proposer perceives or envisions it for each Service Area proposed.
- E. **Work Plan:** Present concepts for conducting the work plan and interrelationship of all projects. Define the scope of each task including the depth and scope of analysis or research proposed.
- F. **Fees and costs:** Although an important aspect of consideration, the financial cost estimate will not be the sole justification for consideration. Negotiations may or

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may not be conducted with the proposer; therefore, the proposal submitted should contain the proposer's most favorable terms and conditions, since selection and award may be made without discussion with any firm. All prices should reflect "not to exceed" amounts per item. Proposer must offer services at a rate comparable to the rate proposer offers to other governmental entities for similar work. Offering a higher rate to the City than the comparable rate is grounds for disqualification of the Proposer.

- G. **Ability of the Proposer to Perform:** Provide a detailed description of the proposer and his/her/its qualifications, including names, titles, detailed professional resumes and past experience in similar work efforts/products of key personnel who will be working on the assignment. Provide a list of specific related work projects that have been completed by the proposer which are directly related to the assignment described in this RFP. Note the specific individuals who completed such project(s). Identify role and responsibility of each member of the project team. Include the amount of time key personnel will be involved in the respective portions of the assignment. Respondents are encouraged to supply relevant examples of their professional product. Provide a list of references.

The selected firm shall not subcontract any work under the RFP nor assign any work without the prior written consent of the City.

- H. **Affidavit of Non-Collusion.** Proposer must submit a completed and signed, "Affidavit of Non-Collusion." (Copy attached as Exhibit A).

### 7. ADDENDA, CHANGES, AND AMENDMENTS TO THIS SOLICITATION

At any time prior to the due date for responses, the City may make changes, amendments, and addenda to this solicitation, including changing the date due to allow respondents time to address such changes. Addenda, changes, and amendments, if made, will be posted on the City's website ([www.cityofvernon.org](http://www.cityofvernon.org)), which is deemed adequate notice. A proposer may make a request to the City's project coordinator to be placed on a list of persons to receive notice of any such addenda, changes, or amendments. The preferred manner of communications is via e-mail due to its timeliness.

### 8. CONDITIONS FOR RESPONSES TO RFP

The following conditions apply to this RFP process:

- A. Nothing contained in this RFP shall create any contractual relationship between the respondent and the City.
- B. This RFP does not obligate the City to establish a list of service providers qualified as prime contractors, or award a contract to any respondent. The City reserves the right to amend or cancel this RFP without prior notice, at any time, at its sole discretion.
- C. The City shall not be liable for any expenses incurred by any

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individual or organization in connection with this RFP.

- D. No conversations or agreements with any officer, agent, or employee of the City shall affect or modify any terms of this RFP. Oral communications or any written/e-mail materials provided by any person other than designated contact staff of City shall not be considered binding.
- E. The City reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to accept or reject any or all Proposals without prior notice and to waive any minor irregularities or defects in a Proposal. The City reserves the right to seek clarification on a Proposal with any source.
- F. The dates, times, and sequence of events related to this RFP shall ultimately be determined by the City. The schedule shown above is subject to change, at the sole discretion of the City, although the City will attempt to follow it and, if it must be altered, will attempt to provide reasonable notice of the changes.
- G. Respondents shall not issue any news release pertaining to this RFP, or the City without prior written approval of the City.
- H. All submitted proposals and information included therein or attached thereto shall become public record upon delivery to the City Administrator's Office.

### **9. RIGHT BY THE CITY TO WITHDRAW THIS REQUEST**

The City may, at its sole discretion and for any reason whatsoever, withdraw this solicitation at any time.

### **10. LIVING WAGE ORDINANCE AND PREVAILING WAGE WHERE APPLICABLE.**

The selected consultant shall pay qualifying employees a wage of not less than \$10.30 per hour with health benefits, or \$11.55 per hour without health benefits. The consultant shall also provide qualifying employees at least twelve days off per year for sick leave, vacation or personnel necessity, and an additional ten days a year of uncompensated time for sick leave. There shall be a prohibition on an employer retaliation against an employee's complaining to the City with regard to the employer's compliance with the living wage ordinance. Contractor, and any Subcontractor(s), shall comply with the City's Living Wage Ordinance. The current Living Wage Standards are set forth in Exhibit "D" of the standard form contract, attached hereto as Exhibit B. Upon the City's request, certified payroll records shall promptly be provided to the City.

### **11. STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

Prior to the award of any work hereunder, City and proposer shall enter into the written contract for services attached hereto as Exhibit B. Proposers responding to this RFP

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are strongly advised to review all the terms and conditions of the Contract. The term of the Contract shall not exceed three (3) years.

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EXHIBIT A

AFFIDAVIT OF NON-COLLUSION



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EXHIBIT B

STANDARD FORM CONTRACT

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SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF VERNON AND  
[CONTRACTOR'S NAME] FOR SOLID WASTE CONSULTING SERVICES

COVER PAGE

|                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Contractor:                          | [insert name of contractor]   |
| Responsible Principal of Contractor: | [insert name, title]  |
| Notice Information - Contractor:     | [insert name of contractor]<br>[insert street address]<br>[insert city, state, zip code]<br>Attention: [insert name, title]<br>Phone: [insert phone number]<br>Facsimile: [insert fax number]         |
| Notice Information - City:           | City of Vernon<br>Health & Environmental Control<br>4305 Santa Fe Avenue<br>Vernon, CA 90058<br>Attention: Keith Allen<br>Director<br>Telephone: (323) 583-8811 ext. 231<br>Facsimile: (323) 588-4320 |
| Commencement Date:                   | February 1, 2017  |
| Termination Date:                    | January 31, 2019  |
| Consideration:                       | Total not to exceed \$[insert amount]<br>(includes all applicable sales tax);<br>and more particularly described in<br>Exhibit C  |
| Records Retention Period             | Three (3) years, pursuant to Section<br>9.19  |

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**SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF VERNON AND  
[CONTRACTOR'S NAME] FOR [BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES]**

THIS Contract is made between the City of Vernon ("City"), a California charter City and California municipal corporation ("City"), and [Contractor's Name], a [State incorporated in] corporation ("Contractor").

The City and Contractor agree as follows:

1.0 **EMPLOYMENT OF CONTRACTOR.** City agrees to engage Contractor to perform the services as hereinafter set forth as authorized by the City Council on

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

2.0 **SCOPE OF SERVICES.**

2.1 Contractor shall perform all work necessary to complete the services set forth in the Request for Proposals dated \_\_\_\_\_, Exhibit "A", and Contractor's proposal to the City ("Proposal") dated \_\_\_\_\_, Exhibit "B", both of which are attached to and incorporated into this Contract, by reference.

2.2 All services shall be performed to the satisfaction of City.

2.3 All services shall be performed according to the standards then prevailing in the [state] profession.

3.0 **PERSONNEL.**

3.1 Contractor represents that it employs, or will employ, at its own expense, all personnel required to perform the services under this Contract.

3.2 Contractor shall not subcontract any services to be performed by it under this Contract without prior written approval of City.

3.3 All of the services required hereunder will be performed by Contractor or by City-approved subcontractors. Contractor, and all personnel engaged in the work, shall be fully qualified and authorized or permitted under State and local law to perform such services and shall be subject to approval by the City.

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4.0 TERM. The term of this Contract shall commence on February 1<sup>st</sup> 2017, and it shall continue until January 31<sup>st</sup> 2019 (two years with a possible 1 year extension), unless terminated at an earlier date pursuant to the provisions thereof.

### 5.0 COMPENSATION AND FEES.

5.1 Contractor has established rates for the City of Vernon which are comparable to and do not exceed the best rates offered to other governmental entities in and around Los Angeles County for the same services. For satisfactory and timely performance of the services, the City will pay Contractor in accordance with the payment schedule set forth in Exhibit "C".

5.2 Contractor's grand total compensation for the entire term of this Contract, including change orders, shall not exceed **[state amount]** without the prior authorization of the City Council and written amendment of this Contract.

5.3 Contractor shall, at its sole cost and expense, furnish all necessary and incidental labor, material, supplies, facilities, equipment and transportation which may be required for furnishing services pursuant to this Contract. Materials shall be of the highest quality. The above Contract fee shall include all staff time and all clerical, administrative, overhead, insurance, reproduction, telephone, air travel, auto rental, subsistence, and all related costs and expenses.

### 6.0 PAYMENT.

6.1 As scheduled services are completed, Contractor shall submit to the City an invoice for the services completed, authorized expenses, and authorized extra work actually performed or incurred according to said schedule.

6.2 Each such invoice shall state the basis for the amount invoiced, including a detailed description of the services completed, the number of hours spent, reimbursable expenses incurred and any extra work performed.

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- 6.3 Contractor shall also submit a progress report with each invoice that describes in reasonable detail the services and the extra work, if any, performed in the immediately preceding calendar month.
- 6.4 Contractor understands and agrees that invoices which lack sufficient detail to measure performance will be returned and not processed for payment.
- 6.5 City will pay Contractor the amount invoiced within thirty (30) days after the City approves the invoice.
- 6.6 Payment of such invoices shall be payment in full for all services, authorized costs and authorized extra work covered by that invoice.

7.0 CHANGE ORDERS. The Director of the Health & Environmental Control Department shall have the authority to issue change orders for administrative and non-material changes to the scope of services and to the time for performance as long as the change orders do not increase the compensation due to Contractor under this Contract and as long as the time is not extended beyond three years. The City Administrator, shall have the authority to issue administrative change orders to increase the compensation due Contractor under this Contract, but the combined total amount of such change orders shall not exceed [enter amount].

8.0 CITY'S RESPONSIBILITY. City shall cooperate with Contractor as may be reasonably necessary for Contractor to perform its services; and will give any required decisions as promptly as practicable so as to avoid unreasonable delay in the progress of Contractor's services.

9.0 GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

9.1 INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR.

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9.1.1 It is understood that in the performance of the services herein provided for, Contractor shall be, and is, an independent contractor, and is not an agent or employee of City and shall furnish such services in its own manner and method except as required by this Contract. Further, Contractor has and shall retain the right to exercise full control over the employment, direction, compensation and discharge of all persons employed by Contractor in the performance of the services hereunder. Contractor shall be solely responsible for, and shall indemnify, defend and save City harmless from all matters relating to the payment of its employees, including compliance with social security, withholding and all other wages, salaries, benefits, taxes, exactions, and regulations of any nature whatsoever.

9.1.2 Contractor acknowledges that Contractor and any subcontractors, agents or employees employed by Contractor shall not, under any circumstances, be considered employees of the City, and that they shall not be entitled to any of the benefits or rights afforded employees of City, including, but not limited to, sick leave, vacation leave, holiday pay, Public Employees Retirement System benefits, or health, life, dental, long-term disability or workers' compensation insurance benefits.

9.2 CONTRACTOR NOT AGENT. Except as the City may authorize in writing, Contractor and its subcontractors shall have no authority, express or implied, to act on behalf of or bind the City in any capacity whatsoever as agents or otherwise.

9.3 OWNERSHIP OF WORK. All reports, drawings, plans, specifications, computer tapes, floppy disks and printouts, studies, memoranda,

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computation sheets and other documents prepared by Contractor in furtherance of the work shall be the sole property of City and shall be delivered to City whenever requested. Contractor shall keep such documents and materials on file and available for audit by the City for at least three (3) years after completion or earlier termination of this Contract. Contractor may make duplicate copies of such materials and documents for its own files or for such other purposes as may be authorized in writing by the City.

9.4 CORRECTION OF WORK. Contractor shall promptly correct any defective, inaccurate or incomplete tasks, deliverables, goods, services and other work, without additional cost to the City. The performance or acceptance of services furnished by Contractor shall not relieve the Contractor from the obligation to correct subsequently discovered defects, inaccuracy or incompleteness.

9.5 WAIVER. The City's waiver of any term, condition, breach or default of this Contract shall not be considered to be a waiver of any other term, condition, default or breach, nor of a subsequent breach of the one waived.

9.6 SUCCESSORS. This Contract shall inure to the benefit of, and shall be binding upon, the parties hereto and their respective heirs, successors and/or assigns.

9.7 NO ASSIGNMENT. Contractor shall not assign or transfer this Contract or any rights hereunder without the prior written consent of the City and approval by the City Attorney, which may be withheld in the City's sole discretion. Any unauthorized assignment or transfer shall be null and void and shall constitute a material breach by the Contractor of its obligations under this Contract. No assignment shall release the original parties or otherwise constitute a novation.

9.8 COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS. Contractor shall comply with all Federal,

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State, County and City laws, ordinances, rules and regulations, which are, as amended from time to time, incorporated herein and applicable to the performance hereof, including but without limitation, the Vernon Living Wage Ordinance. Violation of any law material to performance of this Contract shall entitle the City to terminate the Contract and otherwise pursue its remedies.

9.9 ATTORNEY'S FEES. If any action at law or in equity is brought to enforce or interpret the terms of this Contract, the prevailing party shall be entitled to reasonable attorney's fees, costs and necessary disbursements in addition to any other relief to which such party may be entitled.

### 9.10 INTERPRETATION.

9.10.1 Applicable Law. This Contract, and the rights and duties of the parties hereunder (both procedural and substantive), shall be governed by and construed according to the laws of the State of California.

9.10.2 Entire Agreement. This Contract, including any exhibits attached hereto, constitutes the entire agreement and understanding between the parties regarding its subject matter and supersedes all prior or contemporaneous negotiations, representations, understandings, correspondence, documentation and agreements (written or oral).

9.10.3 Written Amendment. This Contract may only be changed by written amendment signed by Contractor and the City Administrator or other authorized representative of the City, subject to any requisite authorization by the City Council. Any oral representations or modifications concerning this Contract shall be of no force or effect.

9.10.4 Severability. If any provision in this Contract is held by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, illegal, void, or unenforceable, such portion shall be deemed severed from this Contract, and the remaining provisions shall nevertheless

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continue in full force and effect as fully as though such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable portion had never been part of this Contract.

9.10.5 Order of Precedence. In case of conflict between the terms of this Contract and the terms contained in any document attached as an Exhibit or otherwise incorporated by reference, the terms of this Contract shall strictly prevail. The terms of the City's Request for Proposals shall control over the Contractor's Proposal.

9.10.6 Choice of Forum. The parties hereby agree that this Contract is to be enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of California, is entered into and/or is to be performed in the City of Vernon and that all claims or controversies arising out of or related to performance under this Contract shall be submitted to and resolved in a forum within the County of Los Angeles at a place to be determined by the rules of the forum.

9.10.7 Duplicate Originals. There shall be two (2) fully signed copies of this Contract, each of which shall be deemed an original.

9.11 TIME OF ESSENCE. Time is strictly of the essence of this contract and each and every covenant, term and provision hereof.

9.12 AUTHORITY OF CONTRACTOR. The Contractor hereby represents and warrants to the City that the Contractor has the right, power, legal capacity and authority to enter into and perform its obligations under this Contract, and its execution of this Contract has been duly authorized.

9.13 ARBITRATION OF DISPUTES. Any dispute for under \$25,000 arising out of or relating to the negotiation, construction, performance, non-performance, breach or any other aspect of this Contract, shall be settled by binding arbitration in accordance with the Commercial Rules of the American Arbitration Association at Los Angeles, California

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and judgment upon the award rendered by the Arbitrators may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof. The City does not waive its right to object to the timeliness or sufficiency of any claim filed or required to be filed against the City and reserves the right to conduct full discovery.

### 9.14 INDEMNITY.

9.14.1 Contractor agrees to indemnify, hold harmless and defend (even if the allegations are false, fraudulent or groundless), to the maximum extent permitted by law, the City, its City Council and each member thereof, and its officers, employees, commission members and representatives, from any and all liability, loss, suits, claims, damages, costs, judgments and expenses (including attorney's fees and costs of litigation) which in whole or in part result from, or arise out of, or are claimed to result from or to arise out of:

A. any activity on or use of City's premises or facilities or any performance under this Contract; or any acts, errors or omissions (including, without limitation, professional negligence) of Contractor, its employees, representatives, subcontractors, or agents in connection with the performance of this Contract.

9.14.2 This agreement to indemnify includes, but is not limited to, personal injury (including death at any time) and property or other damage (including, but without limitation, contract or tort or patent, copyright, trade secret or trademark infringement) sustained by any person or persons (including, but not limited to, companies, or corporations, Contractor and its employees or agents, and members of the general public). The sole negligence or willful misconduct of City, its employees or agents other than Contractor or Contractor's subcontractors are excluded from this indemnity agreement.

9.15 INSURANCE. Contractor shall, at its own expense, procure and maintain

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policies of insurance of the types and in the amounts set forth below, for the duration of the Contract, including any extensions thereto. The policies shall state that they afford primary coverage.

9.15.1 Automobile Liability with minimum limits of at least \$100,000/300,000/50,000 if written on a personal automobile liability form, for using a personal vehicle; or an amount of \$500,000 including owned, hired, and non-owned liability coverage if written on a Commercial automobile liability form.

9.15.2 General Liability with minimum limits of at least \$1,000,000 combined single limits written on an Insurance Services Office (ISO) Comprehensive General Liability "occurrence" form or its equivalent for coverage on an occurrence basis. Premises/Operations and Personal Injury coverage is required. The City of Vernon, its directors, commissioners, officers, employees, agents and volunteers must be endorsed on the policy as additional insured's as respects liability arising out of the Contractor's performance of this Contract.

A. If Contractor employs other contractors as part of the services rendered, Contractor's Protective Coverage is required. Contractor may include all subcontractors as insured's under its own policy or shall furnish separate insurance for each subcontractor, meeting the requirements set forth herein. If the consultant uses subcontractors, they are required to provide insurance that is equal to the consultants. This insurance should also be submitted to the City.

B. Blanket Contractual Coverage if required.

C. Products/Completed Operations coverage where such risk is applicable.

9.15.3 Professional Errors and Omissions coverage in a sum of at least \$2,000,000. If a claims-made policy is obtained, a "tail" of at least three years shall be purchased if non-renewed within three (3) years of completion of performance under this Agreement. Applicable aggregates must be identified and claims history provided to determine amounts remaining under the aggregate.

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9.15.4 Contractor shall comply with the applicable sections of the California Labor Code concerning workers' compensation for injuries on the job. Compliance is accomplished in one of the following manners:

A. Provide copy of permissive self-insurance certificate approved by the State of California; or

B. Secure and maintain in force a policy of workers' compensation insurance with statutory limits and Employer's Liability Insurance with a minimal limit of \$1,000,000 per accident. The policy shall be endorsed to waive all rights of subrogation against City, its City Council, commissioners, officers, employees, and volunteers for losses arising from performance of this Contract; or

C. Provide a "waiver" form certifying that no employees subject to the Labor Code's Workers' Compensation provision will be used in performance of this Contract.

9.15.5 Each insurance policy included in this clause shall be endorsed to state that coverage shall not be cancelled except after thirty (30) days' prior written notice to City.

9.15.6 Insurance shall be placed with insurers with a Best's rating of no less than B:VIII.

9.15.7 Prior to commencement of performance, Contractor shall furnish City with a certificate of insurance for each policy. Each certificate is to be signed by a person authorized by that insurer to bind coverage on its behalf. The certificate(s) must be in a form approved by City. City may require complete, certified copies of any or all policies at any time.

9.15.8 Failure to maintain required insurance at all times shall constitute a default and material breach. In such event, Contractor shall immediately notify City and cease all performance under this Contract until further directed by the City. In the absence of satisfactory insurance coverage, City may, at its

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option: (a) procure insurance with collection rights for premiums, attorney's fees and costs against Contractor by way of set-off or recoupment from sums due Contractor, at City's option; (b) immediately terminate this Contract; or (c) self insure the risk, with all damages and costs incurred, by judgment, settlement or otherwise, including attorney's fees and costs, being collectible from Contractor, by way of set-off or recoupment from any sums due Contractor.

9.16 NOTICES. Any notice or demand to be given by one party to the other be given in writing and by personal delivery or prepaid first-class, registered or certified mail, addressed as follows. Notice simply to the City of Vernon or any other City department is not adequate notice.

If to the City:

City of Vernon Health & Environmental Control Department  
4305 Santa Fe Avenue  
Vernon, CA 90058  
Attn: Keith Allen, Director

If to the Contractor:

Any such notice shall be deemed to have been given upon delivery, if personally delivered, or, if mailed, upon receipt or upon expiration of three (3) business days from the date of posting, whichever is earlier. Either party may change the address at which it desires to receive notice upon giving written notice of such request to the other party.

9.17 TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE (Without Cause). City may terminate this Contract in whole or in part at any time, for any cause or without cause, upon fifteen (15) calendar days' written notice to Contractor. If the Contract is thus

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terminated by City for reasons other than Contractor's failure to perform its obligations, City shall pay Contractor a prorated amount based on the services satisfactorily completed and accepted prior to the effective date of termination. Such payment shall be Contractor's exclusive remedy for termination without cause.

9.18 DEFAULT. In the event either party materially defaults in its obligations hereunder, the other party may declare a default and terminate this Contract by written notice to the defaulting party. The notice shall specify the basis for the default. The Contract shall terminate unless such default is cured before the effective date of termination stated in such notice, which date shall be no sooner than ten (10) days after the date of the notice.

Termination for cause shall relieve the terminating party of further liability or responsibility under this Contract, including the payment of money, except for payment for services satisfactorily and timely performed prior to the service of the notice of termination, and except for reimbursement of (1) any payments made by the City for service not subsequently performed in a timely and satisfactory manner, and (2) costs incurred by the City in obtaining substitute performance.

### 9.19 MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION OF RECORDS.

The City, or its authorized auditors or representatives, shall have access to and the right to audit and reproduce any of the Contractor's records to the extent the City deems necessary to insure it is receiving all money to which it is entitled under the Contract and/or is paying only the amounts to which Contractor is properly entitled under the Contract or for other purposes relating to the Contract.

The Contractor shall maintain and preserve all such records for a period of at least 3 years after termination of the Contract.

The Contractor shall maintain all such records in the City of Vernon. If not, the Contractor shall, upon request, promptly deliver the records to the City of Vernon or reimburse the City for all reasonable and extra costs incurred in

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conducting the audit at a location other than the City of Vernon, including, but not limited to, such additional (out of the City) expenses for personnel, salaries, private auditors, travel, lodging, meals and overhead.

9.20 CONFLICT. Contractor hereby represents, warrants and certifies that no member, officer or employee of the Contractor is a director, officer or employee of the City of Vernon, or a member of any of its boards, commissions or committees, except to the extent permitted by law.

9.21 ENFORCEMENT OF WAGE AND HOUR LAWS. Eight hours labor constitutes a legal day's work. The Contractor, or subcontractor, if any, shall forfeit twenty-five dollars (\$25) for each worker employed in the execution of this Agreement by the respective Contractor or subcontractor for each calendar day during which the worker is required or permitted to work more than 8 hours in any one calendar day and 40 hours in any one calendar week in violation of the provisions of Sections 1810 through 1815 of the California Labor Code as a penalty paid to the City; provided, however, work performed by employees of contractors in excess of 8 hours per day, and 40 hours during any one week, shall be permitted upon compensation for all hours worked in excess of 8 hours per day at not less than 1½ times the basic rate of pay.

9.22 LIVING WAGES: Contractor, and any Subcontractor(s), shall comply with the City's Living Wage Ordinance. The current Living Wage Standards are set forth in Exhibit "D". Upon the City's request, certified payroll records shall promptly be provided to the City.

9.23 EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY PRACTICES. Contractor certifies and represents that, during the performance of this Contract, it and any other parties with whom it may subcontract shall adhere to equal employment opportunity practices to assure that applicants, employees and recipients of service are treated equally and are not discriminated against because of their race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, disability, sex, age, medical condition, sexual orientation or

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marital status. Contractor further certifies that it will not maintain any segregated facilities. Contractor further agrees to comply with The Equal Employment Opportunity Practices provisions as set forth in Exhibit "E".

[Signatures Begin on Next Page].

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have signed this Agreement as of the date stated in the introductory clause.

City of Vernon, a California charter City  
and California municipal corporation

[CONTRACTOR'S NAME, a [State  
incorporated in] corporation

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Carlos Fandino, City Administrator

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

By: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Maria Ayala, City Clerk

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Hema Patel,  
City Attorney

City of Vernon Solid Waste Consulting Services Request for Proposals

EXHIBIT A  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

City of Vernon Solid Waste Consulting Services Request for Proposals

EXHIBIT B  
PROPOSAL

City of Vernon Solid Waste Consulting Services Request for Proposals

EXHIBIT C  
SCHEDULE

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EXHIBIT D  
LIVING WAGE PROVISIONS

**Minimum Living Wages:**

A requirement that Employers pay qualifying employees a wage of no less than \$10.30 per hour with health benefits, or \$11.55 per hour without health benefits.

**Paid and Unpaid Days Off:**

Employers provide qualifying employees at least twelve compensated days off per year for sick leave, vacation, or personal necessity, and an additional ten days a year of uncompensated time for sick leave.

**No Retaliation:**

A prohibition on employer retaliation against employees complaining to the City with regard to the employer's compliance with the living wage ordinance. Employees may bring an action in Superior Court against an employer for back pay, treble damages for willful violations, and attorney's fees, or to compel City officials to terminate the service contract of violating employers.

EXHIBIT E

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

PRACTICES PROVISIONS

A. Contractor certifies and represents that, during the performance of this Agreement, the contractor and each subcontractor shall adhere to equal opportunity employment practices to assure that applicants and employees are treated equally and are not discriminated against because of their race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, handicap, sex, or age. Contractor further certifies that it will not maintain any segregated facilities.

B. Contractor agrees that it shall, in all solicitations or advertisements for applicants for employment placed by or on behalf of Contractor, state that it is an "Equal Opportunity Employer" or that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to their race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, handicap, sex or age.

C. Contractor agrees that it shall, if requested to do so by the City, certify that it has not, in the performance of this Agreement, discriminated against applicants or employees because of their membership in a protected class.

D. Contractor agrees to provide the City with access to, and, if requested to do so by City, through its awarding authority, provide copies of all of its records pertaining or relating to its employment practices, except to the extent such records or portions of such records are confidential or privileged under state or federal law.

E. Nothing contained in this Agreement shall be construed in any manner as to require or permit any act which is prohibited by law.