

**Wicomico County Purchasing Department
125 N. Division Street, Room 205
Salisbury, Maryland 21801**



(X) REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

PROJECT: Whitehaven Ferry Bulkhead Replacement
Contract 2-MC-14

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

VENDOR:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

BID OPENING:

DATE: March 19, 2014

TIME: 2:00 PM

There is a Pre-bid meeting on Thursday, March 6, 2014, at 9:00 a.m. local time at the Public Works Office, located at 6948 Brick Kiln Rd. Salisbury Md. 21801.

Request for Proposal

Re: Whitehaven Ferry Bulkhead RFP

February 18, 2014

Dear Consultant;

Wicomico County seeks Professional Engineering and Permitting Services for the Whitehaven Ferry Bulkhead Replacement. The wooden bulkhead is to be replaced with approximately 115' of steel sheet piling. The bulk heading/wing walls on the Somerset County side of the Wicomico River is not part of the scope of services. The Ferry was established in 1666 and the Ferry House and Landing area is owned and operated by Wicomico County.

Attached hereto is a current topographic survey of the Whitehaven Ferry. The Department of Public Works has been in contact with the Maryland Department of the Environment – Wetlands and Waterways Division. A Joint Federal/State Application for the Alteration of any Floodplain, Waterway, Tidal or Nontidal Wetland in Maryland Application will need to be completed by the consultant. The Department of Public Works preference is to complete the bulkhead work while the Ferry is out of service for scheduled maintenance – currently scheduled for July 2014, for approximately 3 months. The winning bidder will be given the electronic auto cad file of the survey for their use. The Department of Public Works will host a pre-bid meeting on Thursday, March 6, 2014, at 9:00 a.m. local time at the Public Works Office, located at 6948 Brick Kiln Rd. Salisbury Md. 21801.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact John B. Redden at 410-548-4875 or myself at 410-548-4935.

Sincerely,

Lee Beauchamp

Lee Beauchamp, P.E.

Director

Wicomico County

Department of Public Works

PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. **Submission of Proposals:** *Four* full copies of the bid must be submitted on the bid form provided in the solicitation. The bid form shall be signed and submitted in a sealed envelope clearly identified on the outside of all envelopes with the name of the project, date and time of the scheduled bid opening as indicated in the advertisement. Electronically mailed bids are **not** considered sealed bids and will **not** be accepted.
2. **Addendums:** Bids are subject to change in the form of addendums. Addendums are posted on the County website at www.wicomicocounty.org under Departments: Purchasing Department: the Current RFP's or Current RFQ's link at least 5 days before bid opening. It is the bidders responsibility to make sure all addendums are included in their bid. Failure to do so could result in the bid being disqualified.
3. **Delivery of Proposals:** Bids should be mailed or hand carried to **Wicomico County Purchasing Department, 125 N. Division Street, Government Office Building, Room 205, Salisbury, MD 21801**, in order to be received in the office of the Purchasing Agent prior to the announced bid opening. *Proposals received after said time will be returned to the bidder unopened.* It is fully the responsibility of the bidder to insure that the proposal is received on time. The County will not speculate as to reasonableness of the postmark, nor comment on the apparent failure of a public carrier to have made prompt delivery of the bid.
4. **Descriptive Literature:** Descriptive literature fully describing the product bid (where such literature exists) shall be included with the bid to assist the Purchasing Department in evaluating the submission. Failure to do so may be cause for rejection of the bid. *Any items, systems or devices supplied in this bid that are proprietary in nature relative to maintenance, repair, servicing or updating must be disclosed on the bid form.*
5. **Exceptions:** Any exceptions to the specifications requested should be listed on a separate sheet of paper attached to the bid. An exception to the specifications may not necessarily disqualify the bid. The County will determine if the exception is an essential deviation or a minor item. In the case of a minor deviation, the County maintains the option to award to that bidder if it determines the performance is not adversely affected by the exception.
6. **Proposal Evaluation:** Some proposals are based on more than price and they shall be scored according to the RFP's Bid Specifications section. If some characteristic of the bid requires that the RFP must be reviewed by the County Council, the award can be expected within 30 days.

Bid evaluations typically take 2-3 weeks.

See the Specification Section 3 for more information.

7. **Award of Proposal:** The Purchasing Agent shall make an award to the best, responsive and responsible bidder complying with the provisions of the RFP. All awards are contingent upon available funding.

All awards over \$1000.00 require a Purchase Order to be executed before any work can be started. Some awards will require a County contract. A sample is attached if this is applicable.

8. **Sales Tax:** Wicomico County is exempt from being directly charged Federal excise and Maryland sales tax. A copy of an exemption certificate shall be furnished upon request. According to the Office of the Comptroller of Maryland, the Contractor is responsible for paying sales tax on his/her purchases relating to this project and should incorporate it into his bid.
9. **Delivery:** All items shall be delivered F.O.B. destination and delivery costs and charges included in the bid unless otherwise stated in the specifications or proposal.
10. **Insurance:** If required by the Special Conditions of the RFP or the project contract, the bidder shall provide the County with Certificates of Insurance within ten (10) days of the award notification evidencing the required coverage. Bidder must provide Certificates of Insurance before commencing work in connection with the contract.
11. **Right to Reject:** The Wicomico County Council reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids or to waive any technicality it deems in the best interest of the County.
12. **Piggybacking:** Wicomico County may authorize, upon request, any governmental entity (hereafter Authorized User) within the County to purchase services under the contract awarded pursuant to this RFP solicitation. All purchase orders issued against the contract by an authorized User shall be honored by the Contractor in accordance with all terms and conditions of this contract. The issuance of a purchase order by an Authorized User pursuant to this provision shall constitute an express assumption of all contractual obligations, covenants, conditions and terms of the contract. A breach of the contract by any particular Authorized User shall neither constitute nor be deemed a breach of the contract as a whole which shall remain in full force and effect, and shall not affect the validity of the contract nor the obligations of the Contractor there under respecting the County. The County specifically and expressly disclaims any and all liability for any breach by an authorized User other than the County and each such Authorized User and Contractor guarantee to save the County, its officers, agents and employees harmless from any liability that may be or is imposed by the Authorized User's failure to perform in accordance with its obligations under the contract.

PROPOSAL SPECIFICATIONS

CONTRACT NO. 2-MC-14

Sealed Proposals, addressed to Wicomico County, Maryland for Contract No. 2-MC-14 for Engineering and Permitting Services for the Department of Public Works will be received until Thursday, March 20, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. Local Time, at the Office of the Purchasing Director, Room 205, Government Office Building, 125 North Division Street, Salisbury, Maryland, 21801, after which they will be publicly opened and read.

This work to be performed will include the following:

1. Bulkhead Replacement Design
2. Cost Estimates
3. Permitting
4. Approved Construction Plans
5. Design, Permitting, and anticipated Construction Schedule
6. Specification Booklet
7. Attend a minimum three (3) meetings for Contractors during the construction bidding process.

Design documents must be sealed by a Professional Engineer with a current license in the State of Maryland. Resumes need to be submitted for those key personnel the firm proposes to involve in the project with title and experience (Professional Engineer, Project Engineers, and Associated Office Staff) and a project organizational chart.

1. PROCESS

We encourage each bidder to visit the site and do a preliminary evaluation of the bulkhead. The Department of Public Works has been in contact with the Maryland Department of the Environment – Wetlands and Waterways Division. A Joint Federal/State Application for the Alteration of any Floodplain, Waterway, Tidal or Non Tidal Wetland in Maryland Application will need to be completed by the consultant.

2. FORM OF PROPOSALS

Each proposal shall be submitted in a separate sealed envelope and shall contain four (4) copies of the following information as a minimum:

- Name, address, phone number, and email address of company submitting a response to this RFP.
- Background of the bidder's company and type of services it has undertaken making it qualified to fulfill the project's scope; include a list of similar work performed.
- Proposal Narrative which lays out methodology to fulfill scope of work.
- Names, qualifications and affiliations of key personnel and overall organizational chart with staff that will be assigned to this project.
- List of references (names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses).
- List of related projects where similar work was performed.
- List of price breakdown: Survey (topographic), Survey Easement alternate, Structural Engineering Report, Engineering Design (includes permitting), and meeting attendance.

3. REVIEW OF PROPOSALS

A committee including Lee Beauchamp, P.E. Director of Public Works, Jim Grindle, PE, Civil Engineer, Danny Sparrow, Project Coordinator, and Rick Konrad, Wicomico County Purchasing Director shall review all proposals and select the proposal that best meets the criteria and needs of the County for this project. The selection criteria for the proposal will include but not be limited to:

- a. Bidder's knowledge and experience to perform the specified work.
- b. Bidder understands the purpose and objectives of the specified work.
- c. Qualifications of the Bidder's project manager and project team, relevant to each individual's identified function in the project. How effective is the bidder's approach to fulfill the project's scope?
- d. Bidder's ability to complete the work efficiently & comprehensively to the requirements identified in the request for proposals.
- e. Price proposals reflect the entire scope of work and the Price Proposal Amount.

Proposals will be rated relative to factors above and other proposals. The proposals will be based on the following scoring system: 1- Poor, 2- Fair, 3- Good, and 4- Excellent

PROPOSAL CRITERIA EVALUATED	WEIGHTED VALUE
Bidder's knowledge and experience to perform the specified work.	15%
Bidder understands the purpose and objectives of the specified work.	15%
Qualifications of the Bidder's project manager and project team, relevant to each individual's identified function in the project.	15%
Bidder's ability to complete the work efficiently & comprehensively to the requirements identified in the request for proposals.	15%
Price proposals reflect the entire scope of work and the Price Proposal Amount	40%

4. NOTICE TO CONSULTANTS

Each Consultant, before submitting a specific proposal shall become fully informed as to the extent and character of the work required. No consideration will be granted for any alleged misunderstanding of the material to be furnished or work to be done, it being understood that the submission of a proposal is an agreement with all of the items and conditions referred to herein.

5. PERFORMANCE

All work performed shall be of high quality in accordance with good practices, procedures and industry standards. The Selected Consultant must conform to all Federal, State, and Local laws and governmental regulations.

6. RESPONSIBILITY OF SELECTED CONSULTANT

- a) Provide Certificate(s) of Insurance to the County
 - i) Workmen' Compensation –Maryland Statutory Limit
 - ii) Comprehensive General Liability not less than \$500,000 (combined personal injury and /or property damage) per occurrence subject to \$1,000,000 aggregate.
- b) Obtain all necessary licenses and permits, as required.
- c) Provide competent supervision.
- d) Take precautions necessary to protect property against injury or damage and be responsible for any such damage, or injury that occurs as a result of his fault or negligence.
- e) Perform the work without unnecessarily interfering with County activities.

- f) Be required to provide all necessary labor, equipment, materials and supervision necessary to do the work as required.

BID FORM

TO: Wicomico County Purchasing Department
Government Office Building
125 North Division Street, Room 205
Salisbury, MD 21801

BID – Whitehaven Ferry Bulkhead Contract 2-MC-14

Date: _____

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>TOTAL COST</u>
1. Lump Sum:	\$ _____
TOTAL:	\$ _____

Total Written in Words _____

Additional Information attached Yes____ No____

Four copies of bid provided? Yes____ No____

Addendums Acknowledged (if applicable) - YES ____ #(s) _____ NO ____

Exceptions to the bid specifications YES____ Attached____ NO____

I have read, understood, and agreed to the terms and conditions of all contents of this BID. The undersigned agrees to furnish the commodity or service stipulated in this BID as stated above.

SIGNATURE: _____

NAME: _____

COMPANY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ FAX: _____

EMAIL: _____

**Awardee must comply with all County Terms and Conditions (see exhibit A)*

EXHIBIT A

WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

This document sets out provisions generally applicable to all Wicomico County ("County") contracts. The provisions herein do not constitute a complete agreement, and must be appended to a document, executed by all parties, which identifies the specific work to be performed, compensation, term, incorporated attachments, and special conditions, if any. This document and the Contract are intended to be complementary and shall be construed accordingly. However, should there be a direct contradiction between the terms and conditions contained herein and the Contract, then the Contract shall govern and control those contradictory terms and conditions. As used herein, the term "Department" includes the County, its various departments, unit, agencies, employees or agents as may be appropriate. The term "Contract" shall include a document entitled "agreement" or any other title on a document that is denoting a contract. The Wicomico County Executive is the person authorized to enter into contracts for Wicomico County.

Amendment. This Contract constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and all other communications prior to its execution, whether written or oral, with reference to the subject matter of this Contract are superseded by this Contract. No amendment to this Contract shall be binding unless in writing and signed by the parties.

Subcontracting or Assignment. The benefits and obligations hereunder shall inure to and be binding upon the parties hereto and neither this Contract nor the services to be performed hereunder shall be subcontracted, or assigned or otherwise disposed of, either in whole or in part, except with the prior written consent of the County. The County has the right to withhold such consent for any reason the County deems appropriate.

Insurance Requirements.

- A. Contractor shall obtain, and at all times keep in effect, Commercial General Liability Insurance in the amounts listed below for its activities and operations. The insurance shall include coverage for personal injury, discrimination and civil rights violation claims. All such insurance shall name County, its employees, and agents as ADDITIONAL INSURED. A copy of the certificate of insurance shall be filed with the County prior to the time this Contract is executed, providing coverage in the amount of \$500,000 per person and \$1,000,000 per accident/incident and \$500,000 for property damage. Coverage shall be written on an occurrence form.
- B. Contractor shall provide the County with certification of Workers' Compensation Insurance, with employer's liability in the minimum amount required by Maryland law in effect for each year of this Contract.
- C. All insurance policies shall have a minimum 60 days notice of cancellation. Immediate written notice to the County shall be required in the event of cancellation or restriction by the insurance company of any insurance policy referred to in this section.
- D. When insurance coverage is renewed Contractor shall provide new certificates of insurance prior to expiration of current policies.

Payments. Payments to the Contractor pursuant to this Contract shall be made no later than 30 days after the County's receipt of a proper invoice from the Contractor. If an invoice remains unpaid 45 days after the invoice was received, interest shall be charged at a rate of nine percent (9%) per annum, in accordance with state law.

Remedies.

- A. Corrections of errors, defect and omissions. Contractor agrees to perform the work as may be necessary to correct errors, defects, and omissions in the services required under this Contract, without undue delays and without cost to the County. The acceptance of the work set forth herein by the County shall not relieve the Contractor of the responsibility of subsequent corrections of such errors.
- B. Set Off. The County may deduct from and set-off against any amounts due and payable to the Contractor any back-charges, penalties, or damages sustained by the County, its agents, employees or recipients of its services, by virtue of any breach of this Contract by the Contractor or by virtue of the failure or refusal of the Contractor to perform the services or any part of the services in a satisfactory manner. Nothing herein shall be construed to relieve the Contractor of liability for additional costs resulting from a failure to satisfactorily perform the services.

- C. Cumulative. All rights and remedies of County and Contractor shall be cumulative and may be exercised successively or concurrently. The foregoing is without limitation to or waiver of any other rights or remedies of the County by law.

Responsibility of Contractor.

- A. The Contractor shall perform the services with the standard of care, skill, and diligence normally provided by a Contractor in the performance of services similar the services hereunder.
- B. Notwithstanding any review, approval, acceptance or payment for the services by the County, the Contractor shall be responsible for the professional and technical accuracy of its work, design, drawings, specifications and other materials furnished by the Contractor under this Contract.
- C. If the Contractor fails to perform the services, or any part of the services, in conformance with the standard set forth in subparagraph A above it shall, if required by the County, perform at its own expense and without additional cost to the County, those services necessary for the correction of any deficiencies of damages resulting, in whole or in part, from the Contractor's failure. This obligation is in addition to and not in substitution for any other remedy available to the County under the "Remedies" paragraph, or otherwise available by law.

Nondiscrimination. A contractor who is the recipient of County funds, or who proposes to perform any work or furnish any goods under this Contract shall not discriminate against any worker, employee or applicant because of religion, race, sex, age, physical or mental disability, or perceived disability. Contractor further agrees that this provision will be incorporated in all sub-contracts entered into in connection with this Contract.

Contingent Fee Prohibition. The Contractor, architect or engineer (as applicable) warrants that it has not employed or retained any person, partnership, corporation, or other entity, other than a bona fide employee or agent working for the Contractor, architect or engineer, to solicit or secure this Contract, and that it has not paid or agreed to pay any person, partnership, corporation or other entity, other than a bona fide employee or agent, any commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee or other consideration contingent on the making of this Contract.

Termination. If the Contractor fails to fulfill its obligations under the Contract properly and on time, or otherwise violates any provision of the Contract, the County may terminate the Contract by written notice to the Contractor. The notice shall specify the acts or omissions relied upon as cause for termination. All finished or unfinished work provided by the Contractor shall, at the County's option, become the County's property. The County shall pay the Contractor fair and equitable compensation for satisfactory performance prior to receipt of notice of termination, less the amount of damages caused by the Contractor's breach. If the damages are more than the compensation payable to the Contractor, the Contractor will remain liable after termination and the County can affirmatively collect damages.

Termination of Contract for Convenience. The performance of work under this Contract may be terminated by the County, in whole or in part, upon written notice to the Contractor, when the County determines such termination is in the best interest of the County. The termination for convenience is effective on the date specified in the County's written notice. The County will pay all for reasonable costs allocable to the Contract for work or costs incurred by the Contractor up to the date of termination. However, the Contractor shall not be reimbursed for any anticipatory profits that have not been earned up to the date of termination.

Termination of Multi-year Contract. If the County fails to appropriate funds or if funds are not otherwise made available for continued performance for any fiscal period of this Contract succeeding the first fiscal period, this Contract shall be cancelled automatically as of the beginning of the fiscal year for which funds were not appropriated or otherwise made available; provided, however, that this will not affect either the County's rights or the Contractor's rights under any termination clause in this Contract. The effect of termination of the Contract hereunder will be to discharge both the Contractor and the County from future performance of the Contract, but not from their rights and obligations existing at the time of termination. The Contractor shall be reimbursed for the reasonable value of any non-recurring costs incurred but not amortized in the price of the Contract. The County shall notify the Contractor as soon as it has knowledge that funds may not be available for the continuation of this Contract for each succeeding fiscal period beyond the first.

Compliance with Law. The Contractor hereby represents and warrants that:

- A. It has the power and authority to enter into and perform the Contract, that the Contract, when executed and delivered, shall be a valid and binding obligation of Contractor enforceable in accordance with its terms;
- B. Its performance under the Contract shall be in a good and workmanlike manner and in accordance with the professional standards;
- C. It is qualified to do business in the State of Maryland and that it will take such action as, from time to time hereafter, may be necessary to remain so qualified;
- D. It is not in arrears in the payment of any obligations due and owing to the County or any department or unit thereof, including but not limited to the payment of taxes and employee benefits, and that it shall not become so in arrears during the term of this Contract;
- E. It shall comply with all federal, State and local laws, regulations, and ordinances applicable to its activities and obligations under this Contract;
- F. It shall obtain, at its expense, all licenses, permits, insurance and governmental approvals, if any, necessary to the performance of its obligations under this Contract.

Bankruptcy. Upon filing for any bankruptcy proceeding by or against the Contractor, whether voluntary or involuntary, or upon the appointment of a receiver, trustee, or assignee for the benefit of creditors, the Contractor must notify the County immediately. Upon learning of the actions herein identified, the County reserves the right at its sole discretion either to cancel the Contract or to affirm the Contract and hold the Contractor responsible for damages. The exercise of this right is in addition to any other rights the County may have as provided in this County or by law.

Ownership of Documents and Materials.

- A. The Contractor agrees that all documents and materials, including but not limited to, reports, drawings, studies, specifications, estimates, maps, photographs, designs, graphics, mechanicals, artwork, and computations prepared by or for the Contractor under the terms of this Contract shall at any time during the performance of the services made available to the County upon request by the County and shall become and remain the exclusive property of the County upon termination or completion of the services. The County shall have the right to use the same without restriction or limitation and without compensation to the Contractor other than that provided in this Contract. The County shall be the owner for the purposes of copyright, patent or trademark registration.
- B. If the Contractor obtains or uses for purposes of this Contract, or subcontracts for, any design, device, material, or process covered by letters of patent for copyright, it shall provide an assignment to the County of ownership for purposes of copyright, patent or trademark and of all right to possess and to use such design, device, material or process and a legally sufficient agreement with the patentee or owner, and a copy of such agreement shall be filed with the County.
- C. The Contractor shall indemnify and save harmless the County from any and all claims for infringement by reason of the use of any such patented design, device, materials, or process, or any trademark or copyright, and shall indemnify, protect and save harmless the County, its officers, agents, and employees with respect to any claim. Action, costs or infringement, for royalties or user fees, arising out of purchase or use of materials, construction, supplies, equipment or services covered by this Contract.

Records. Contractor shall maintain all fiscal records relating to this Contract in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. In addition, Contractor shall maintain any other records pertinent to this Contract in such a manner as to clearly document Contractor's performance hereunder. Contractor acknowledges and agrees that the County and its duly authorized representatives shall have access to such fiscal records and all other books, documents, papers, plans, and writings of the Contractor that are pertinent to this Contract. All such fiscal records, books, documents, papers, plans, and writing shall be retained by Contractor and kept accessible for a minimum of three years, except as required longer by law, following final payment and termination of this Contract, or until the conclusion of any audit, controversy, or litigation arising out of or related to this Contract, whichever date is later. All subcontracts shall also comply with these provisions.

Independent Contractor.

- A. Contractor shall perform the work required by this Contract as an "Independent Contractor." Although the County reserves the right to determine the delivery schedule for the work to be performed and to evaluate the quality of the completed performance, the County cannot and will not control the means or manner of the Contractor's performance. The Contractor shall comply promptly with any requests by the County

relating to the emphasis or relative emphasis to be placed on various aspects of the work or to such other matters pertaining to the work under this Contract. Contractor is responsible for determining the appropriate means and manner of performing the work.

- B. Contractor represents and warrants that Contractor is not an employee of the County, is not currently employed by the Federal Government, and is not an officer, employee or agent of the County.
- C. Contractor shall be responsible for all federal or state taxes applicable to any compensation or payments paid to Contractor under this Contract. Contractor is not eligible for any federal Social Security, unemployment insurance, or workers' compensation benefits from compensation or payments paid to Contractor under this Contract.
- D. Contractor agrees to immediately provide the County notice of any claim made against Contractor by any third party. Contractor also agrees not to assign to any third party, without the County's written consent, any obligation of the County to indemnify Contractor for any actions under this Contract.

Indemnification. The Contractor shall protect, hold free and harmless, defend and indemnify the County including its officers, agents and employees from all liability, penalties, costs, losses, damages, expenses, causes of action, claims or judgments (including Attorney's fees) resulting from injury to, or death of, any person or damage to property of any kind, which injury, death or damage arises out of, or is in any way connected with the performance of the work or failure to perform its obligations under this Contract. The Contract shall apply to any acts or omissions, negligent conduct, whether active or passive, including acts or omissions of Contractor's agents or employees; except that this Contract shall not be applicable to injury, death or damage to the property arising from the sole negligence of Wicomico County, its officers, agents and employees.

Use of County Facilities. Contractor and its employees or agents shall have the right to use only those facilities of the County that are necessary to perform the services under this Contract and shall have no right of access to any facility of the County without prior approval of County Administration. County shall have no responsibility for the loss, theft, mysterious disappearance of or damage to equipment, tools, materials, supplies, and other personal property of Contractor or its employees, subcontractors or agents which may be stored on County premises.

Force Majeure. Neither the County nor Contractor shall be held responsible for delay or default caused by fire, riot, acts of God, or war where such cause was beyond, respectively, the County's or Contractor's reasonable control. The County and Contractor shall make all reasonable efforts to remove or eliminate such a cause of delay or default and shall, upon the cessation of the cause, diligently pursue performance of its obligations under this Contract.

Third Party Beneficiaries. The County and Contractor are the only parties to this Contract and are the only parties entitled to enforce its terms. Nothing in this Contract gives, is intended to give, or shall be construed to give or provide any benefit or right, whether directly, indirectly, or otherwise, to third persons unless such third persons are individually identified by name herein and expressly described as intended beneficiaries of the terms of this Contract.

Survival. The terms, conditions, representations, and all warranties contained in this Contract shall survive the termination or expiration of this Contract.

Time is of the essence. Time is of the essence in Contractor's performance of each and every obligation and duty under this Contract.

Severability/Waiver. The County and Contractor agree that, if any term or provision of this Contract is declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be illegal or in conflict with any law, the validity of the remaining terms and provisions shall not be affected, and the rights and obligations of the parties shall be construed and enforced as if the Contract did not contain the particular term or provision held to be invalid. The failure of either party to enforce any provision of this Contract shall not constitute a waiver by that party of that or any other provision of this Contract.

Governing Law. This Contract shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Maryland and Wicomico County without regard to principles of conflicts of law.

Whole Contract. This Contract constitutes the complete and exclusive statement of the Contract between the parties relevant to the purpose described herein and supersedes all prior agreements or proposals, oral or written, and all

other communication between the parties relating to the subject matter of this Contract.

Counterparts. This Contract may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be an original, all of which shall constitute one and the same instrument.

