



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

SB90 Consultant Services

RFP Release date

March 17, 2020

Proposal Submittal Deadline

5:00 pm, Thursday April 23, 2020

Contact Person:

Will Kaholokula

Director of Finance and Administrative Services

City of Bell Gardens

7100 Garfield Avenue

Bell Gardens, CA 90201

(562) 806-7700

wkaholokula@bellgardens.org

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

SB90 Consultant Services

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Bell Gardens (“City”) is issuing this Request for Proposals (“RFP”) for preparation of SB90 Consultant Services

To be considered, the City must receive three (3) bound copies of the proposal no later than 5:00 p.m., on April 23, 2020, at the following address:

**City of Bell Gardens
Attn: Jane Halstead, City Clerk
7100 Garfield Avenue
Bell Gardens, CA 90201**

Proposals must be signed by a representative authorized to bind the company, and submitted in a sealed envelope, clearly marked: “City of Bell Gardens – SB90 Consultant Services

Additionally, one printable PDF copy sent via email to:

Rimo Hanson, Accounting Manager

Email: rhanson@bellgardens.org

Electronic copy of proposal must also be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 23, 2020.

Any proposal received after the due date will not be accepted.

Failure to comply with the requirements set forth in this RFP may result in disqualification. Proposals and/or modifications received subsequent to the hour and date specified above will not be considered. Submitted proposals may be withdrawn at any time prior to the submission time specified in this RFP, provided notification is received in writing before the submittal deadline. Proposals cannot be changed or withdrawn after the submittal deadline. No handwritten notations or corrections will be allowed. The responding Consultant is solely responsible for all costs related to the preparation of the proposal.

The City reserves the right without prejudice to reject any or all proposals and to waive any minor informalities or irregularities contained in any proposal. Acceptance of any proposal submitted pursuant to this RFP shall not constitute any implied intent to enter into a contract.

Please submit all inquiries to wkaholokula@bellgardens.org.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS SB 90 CONSULTANT SERVICES

I. PURPOSE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

A. Project Description

The City of Bell Gardens (City) is seeking a consulting firm to assist and coordinate the City's efforts in preparing and filing SB90 claims for an initial term of a three-fiscal years.

B. Scope of Services

1. **Annual State of California-Mandated Cost Reimbursement Claims-** Consultant shall prepare, submit and file, on City's behalf, the annual state of California-mandated cost reimbursement claims due on February 15 of each fiscal year. Consultant shall prepare and file eligible SB90 claims for all new, or first time mandates, which have claiming instructions issued by the State Controller's office during the State's 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 fiscal years.
2. **Consultant Response to All State of California Agencies-** Consultant shall respond to all filings by all State of California agencies and other parties. Consultant shall monitor and assist in, if required, providing to the Legislature information related to the appropriation legislation that will provide funding for the actual cost claims.
3. **Services and Materials to be furnished by Consultant-** Consultant shall provide guidance to City in determining the data required for claims submission.
4. **Indirect Costs-** Cost claims to be submitted by Consultant may consist of both direct and indirect costs. Consultant may either utilize the ten percent (10%) indirect cost rate allowed by the State Controller or calculated a higher rate if City's records support such a calculation.
5. **Consultant Assistance if Audited-** Consultant shall make work papers and other records available to the City and to state Auditors, at no cost to City. Consultant shall provide assistance and liaison between the City and the State Controller to defend the City for all claims contested by the State Controller.
6. **Assist with Payment-** Consultant shall assist with SB90 payment and claim tracking and coordination.

7. **Provide Information-** Consultant shall provide information to the City about new claiming opportunities in a timely manner.
8. **List of Claims Filed-** Consultant shall submit to the City Finance Department a list of claims filed for reimbursement after each filing cycle.

C. Term

The initial term of this agreement is three fiscal years. It is anticipated that all work for the initial period will commenced on July 2019 and will be completed by June 30, 2022.

D. Agreement

1. The term of the agreement shall be for a three (3) year period.
2. The City requires the use of its standard Agreement for Professional Services. (Sample agreement is attached to this RFP)

II. SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

Each proposal shall be organized in accordance with this section. Proposals shall include the following information in the format indicated.

A. Reference

Three (3) business references for SB90 claims consulting services performed for other governmental agencies.

B. Statement of Qualification

1. Name of proposer and principal contact person including office location, address, telephone, and email address.
2. Brief description and history of the firm including total number of years of SB90 experience.
3. Description of the team of professionals who will be assigned to handle the proposed assignments, including the role of each member. Also, include each assigned professional's experience with SB90 claims and their specific area of expertise.
4. Provide a term sheet that outlines and describes your proposed terms, conditions, and costs.
5. Provide detailed description of approach and methodology to be used to accomplish the Scope of Services of this RFP.

6. Any other pertinent or salient information or data that you feel would be helpful to the City in its evaluation process.
7. Provide Certificate of Insurance evidencing the coverage types and the minimum limits.
8. Provide acceptance of the terms and conditions noted in the attached sample agreement. Affirm that the firm does not discriminate against any individual because of race, religion, sex, color, age, handicap or national origin, and that these shall not be a factor in consideration for employment, selection of training, promotion, transfer, recruitment, rates of pay, or other forms of compensation, demotion, or separation.

EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Technical Factors

1. Responsiveness of the proposal in clearly stating an understanding of the services to be performed.
2. Appropriateness and adequacy of proposed procedures
3. Reasonableness of time estimated and total hours.
4. Approach to delivery of services.
5. Qualifications and relevant experience of firm.
6. Other factors that may be determined by the City of Bell Gardens to be necessary or appropriate in its discretion.

B. Cost

C. Right to Reject

The City of Bell Gardens reserves the right to reject any and all proposals submitted and to request additional information from all proposers. Any contract awarded will be made based on evaluation of all responses, applying all criteria and oral interviews, if necessary, is determined to be the best to perform the policy revision.

Any agreement entered into by the City of Bell Gardens and bidders is on a non-exclusive basis.

D. Interpretations

The City of Bell Gardens will be the sole and exclusive judge of quality and compliance with proposal specifications. The City of Bell Gardens reserves the right to award this contract in any manner it deems to be in the best interest of the City of Bell Gardens and make the selection based on its sole discretion.

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2. **Scope of Services.** <<Consultant shall provide the professional services described in the City's Request for Proposal ("RFP") attached hereto as Exhibit and incorporated herein by reference and Consultant's Response to City's RFP (the "Proposal"). A copy of said Proposal is attached hereto as Exhibit and incorporated herein by this reference.>>

[ALTERNATIVE]

<< Consultant shall diligently perform all the services described in the Scope of Services attached hereto as Exhibit and incorporated herein by reference. The City may elect to delete certain tasks of the Scope of Services at its sole discretion.>>

Notwithstanding services described above, the City may request and Consultant may agree to perform other services. The scope of such services and compensation shall be agreed to in writing, signed by both parties and shall become a part of this Agreement.

2.1. All professional services shall be performed by Consultant or under Consultant's supervision. All professional services to be provided by Consultant pursuant to this Agreement shall be provided by personnel experienced in their respective fields and in a manner consistent with the standards of care, diligence and skill ordinarily exercised by professional Consultants in accordance with sound professional practices.

2.2 Consultant acknowledges that City may enter into agreements with other consultants for services similar to the services that are subject to this Agreement or may have its own employees perform services similar to those services contemplated by this Agreement.

3. **Time of Performance.** <<Time is of the essence in the performance of services under this Agreement and the services shall be performed to completion in a diligent and timely manner. The failure by Consultant to perform the services in a diligent and timely manner may result in termination of this Agreement by City.>>

[ALTERNATIVE]

<< Time is of the essence in the performance of services under this Agreement and Consultant shall perform the services in accordance with the Project Schedule attached hereto as Exhibit and incorporated herein by reference. The failure by Consultant to strictly adhere to the schedule may result in termination of this Agreement by City.>>

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Notwithstanding the foregoing, Consultant shall not be responsible for delays due to causes beyond Consultant's reasonable control. However, in the case of any such delay in the services to be provided for the Project, each party hereby agrees to provide notice to the other party so that all delays can be addressed.

4. **Compensation.** <<City shall pay Consultant for the services on a time and expense not-to-exceed basis in accordance with the provisions of this Section and the Pricing Proposal submitted by Consultant attached hereto as Exhibit and incorporated herein by reference. Consultant's compensation for all work performed in accordance with this Agreement, including all reimbursable items and sub Consultant fees, shall not exceed <<dollar amount>> unless authorized in writing by the City and approved by the City Council.>>

[ALTERNATIVE]

<< Consultant shall be paid in accordance with the fee schedule set forth in Exhibit attached hereto and made a part of this Agreement (the "Fee Schedule"). Consultant's compensation shall in no case exceed <<dollar amount.>>>>

[ALTERNATIVE]

<< City shall pay Consultant for the services on a time and expense not-to-exceed basis in accordance with the provisions of and the Project Budget this Section and the Staff Hour and Fee Estimate as well as the Consultant's Schedule of Charges as set forth in Exhibit and incorporated herein by reference. Consultant's compensation for all work performed in accordance with this Agreement, including all reimbursable items and sub consultant fees, shall not exceed <<dollar amount>> without additional authorization from City.>>

4.1 Consultant shall submit monthly invoices to City describing the work performed the preceding month. Consultant's bills shall include the name of the person who performed the work, a brief description of the services performed and the specific Task in the Scope of Services to which it relates, the date the services were performed, the number of hours spent on all work billed on an hourly basis, and a description of any reimbursable expenditures. No billing rate changes shall be made during the term of this Agreement without the prior written approval of City. City shall pay Consultant no later than thirty (30) days after receipt of the monthly invoice by the City.

4.2 City shall reimburse Consultant only for those costs or expenses specifically approved in this Agreement, or specifically approved in advance by City. Unless otherwise approved, such costs shall be limited and in accordance with Schedule of charges set forth in the Proposal attached hereto as Exhibit and incorporated herein by reference.

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4.3 Consultant shall not receive any compensation for Additional Work without the prior written authorization of City. As used herein, "Additional Work" means any work that is determined by City to be necessary for the proper completion of the Project, but which is not included within the Scope of Services and which the parties did not reasonably anticipate would be necessary at the execution of this Agreement. Compensation for any authorized Additional Work shall be billed in accordance with the Billing Rates as set forth in Exhibit and on the terms set forth in this Article 4.

5. Contract Administration. The << identify city representative by title >> shall have the authority to act for City under this Agreement. The <<identify city representative by title >> or his/her authorized representative shall represent City in all matters pertaining to the services to be rendered pursuant to this Agreement. Consultant shall designate a representative for purposes of this Agreement who shall have the authority to act for Consultant under this Agreement.

6. Project Managers. City shall designate a Project Manager to work directly with Consultant in the performance of this Agreement. Consultant shall designate a Project Manager, who shall coordinate all phases of the Project. This Project Manager shall be available to City at all reasonable times during the Agreement term. Consultant has designated <<name of project manager >>, to be its Project Manager. Consultant shall not remove or reassign the Project Manager without the prior written consent of City. City's approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.

7. Indemnification. When the law establishes a professional standard of care for Consultant's Services, to the fullest extent permitted by law, Consultant shall indemnify, protect, defend, and hold harmless City and any and all of its officials, employees and agents from and against any and all losses, liabilities, damages, costs, and expenses, including legal counsel's fees and costs but only to the extent the Consultant (and its Sub consultants), are responsible for such damages, liabilities and costs on a comparative basis of fault between the Consultant (and its Sub consultants) and the City in the performance of professional services under this agreement.

Other than in the performance of professional services and to the full extent permitted by law, Consultant shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless City, and any and all of its employees, officials and agents from and against any liability (including liability for claims, suits, actions, arbitration proceedings, administrative proceedings, regulatory proceedings, losses, expenses or costs of any kind, whether actual, alleged or threatened, including legal counsel's fees and costs, court costs, interest, defense costs, and expert witness fees), where the same arise out of, are a consequence of, or are in any way attributable to, in whole or in part, the performance of this Agreement by Consultant or by any individual or City for which Consultant is legally liable, including, but not limited to officers, agents, employees, or subcontractors of Consultant.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing herein shall be construed to require Consultant to indemnify the Indemnified Parties from any Claim arising from the active negligence or willful misconduct of the Indemnified Parties. Nothing in this indemnity

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shall be construed as authorizing any award of attorney's fees in any action on or to enforce the terms of this Agreement. This indemnity shall apply to all claims and liability regardless of whether any insurance policies are applicable. The policy limits do not act as a limitation upon the amount of indemnification to be provided by the Consultant.

In the event the City indemnitees are made a party to any action, lawsuit, or other adversarial proceeding arising from Consultant's performance of this agreement, the Consultant shall provide a defense to the City indemnitees, or at the City's option, reimburse the City indemnitees their costs of defense, including reasonable legal counsels' fees, incurred in defense of such claims.

8. **Insurance.** Without limiting Consultant's indemnification of City, and prior to commencement of work, Consultant shall obtain, provide and maintain at its own expense during the term of this Agreement, a policy or policies of liability insurance of the type and amounts described below and in a form satisfactory to City.

A. **Certificates of Insurance.** Consultant shall provide certificates of insurance with original endorsements to City as evidence of the insurance coverage required herein. Insurance certificates must be approved by the City Attorney prior to commencement of performance or issuance of any permit. Current certification of insurance shall be kept on file with City at all times during the term of this Agreement.

Signature. A person authorized by the insurer to bind coverage on its behalf shall sign certification of all required policies.

C. **Acceptable Insurers.** All insurance policies shall be issued by an insurance company currently authorized by the Insurance Commissioner to transact business of insurance in the State of California, with an assigned policyholders' Rating of A (or higher) and Financial Size Category Class VII (or larger) in accordance with the latest edition of Best's Key Rating Guide, unless otherwise approved by the City Attorney.

D. **Coverage Requirements.**

i. **Workers' Compensation Coverage.** Consultant shall maintain Workers' Compensation Insurance (Statutory Limits) and Employer's Liability Insurance with limits of at least one million dollars (\$1,000,000). Consultant shall submit to City, along with the certificate of insurance, a Waiver of Subrogation endorsement in favor of City, its officers, agents, employees, and volunteers.

ii. **General Liability Coverage.** Consultant shall maintain commercial general liability insurance with coverage at least as broad as Insurance Services Office form CG 00 01, in an amount not less than two million dollars (\$2,000,000) per occurrence, four million dollars

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(\$4,000,000) general aggregate, for bodily injury, personal injury, and property damage, including without limitation, blanket contractual liability. Consultant's general liability policies shall be primary and non-contributory, and be endorsed using Insurance Services Office form CG 20 10 to provide that City and its officers, officials, employees, and agents shall be additional insureds under such policies. For construction contracts, an endorsement providing completed operations to the additional insured, ISO form CG 20 37, is also required.

iii. **Automobile Liability Coverage.** Consultant shall provide auto liability coverage for owned, non-owned, and hired autos using ISO Business Auto Coverage form CA 00 01, or the exact equivalent, with a limit of no less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per accident. If Consultant owns no vehicles, this requirement may be met through a non-owned auto endorsement to the CGL policy.

iv. **Professional Errors and Omissions Insurance.** Consultant shall maintain professional liability insurance that insures against professional errors and omissions that may be made in performing the Services to be rendered in connection with this Agreement, in the minimum amount of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per claim and in the aggregate. Any policy inception date, continuity date, or retroactive date must be before the effective date of this agreement, and Consultant agrees to maintain continuous coverage through a period no less than three years after completion of the services required by this agreement. The cost of such insurance shall be included in Consultant's bid.

Endorsements. Each general liability and automobile liability insurance policy shall be endorsed with the following specific language:

i. The City, its elected or appointed officers, officials, employees, agents and volunteers are to be covered as additional insureds with respect to liability arising out of work performed by or on behalf of the Consultant.

ii. This policy shall be considered primary insurance as respects to City, its elected or appointed officers, officials, employees, agents and volunteers as respects to all claims, losses, or liability arising directly or indirectly from the Consultant's operations or services provided to City. Any insurance maintained by City, including any self-insured retention City may have, shall be considered excess insurance only and not contributory with the insurance provided hereunder.

iii. This insurance shall act for each insured and additional insured as though a separate policy had been written for each, except with respect to the limits of liability of the insuring company.

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iv. The insurer waives all rights of subrogation against City, its elected or appointed officers, officials, employees, agents and volunteers.

v. Any failure to comply with reporting provisions of the policies shall not affect coverage provided to City, its elected or appointed officers, officials, employees, agents or volunteers.

vi. The insurance provided by this policy shall not be suspended, voided, canceled, or reduced in coverage or in limits, by either party except after thirty (30) calendar days (10 calendar days written notice of non-payment of premium) written notice has been received by City.

8.1 Nothing in this Section shall be construed as limiting in any way, the indemnification provision contained in this Agreement, or the extent to which Consultant may be held responsible for payments of damages to persons or property.

9. **Nondiscrimination.** In the performing of this Agreement, Consultant shall not discriminate against any subcontractor, employee or applicant for employment because of race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, marital status, sex, age, or sexual orientation race, religion, color, national origin, handicap, ancestry, sex or age.

10. **Independent Contractor.** It is understood that City retains Consultant on an independent contractor basis and Consultant is not an agent or employee of City. The manner and means of conducting the work are under the control of Consultant, except to the extent they are limited by statute, rule or regulation and the expressed terms of this Agreement. Nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to constitute approval for Consultant or any of Consultant's employees or agents, to be the agents or employees of City. Consultant shall have the responsibility for and control over the means of performing the work, provided that Consultant is in compliance with the terms of this Agreement. Anything in this Agreement that may appear to give City the right to direct Consultant as to the details of the performance or to exercise a measure of control over Consultant shall mean only that Consultant shall follow the desires of City with respect to the results of the services.

10.1 The Consultant shall at all times remain an independent Contractor with respect to the services to be performed under this Agreement and shall be responsible for the payment of Federal and State Employer Withholding Taxes, Unemployment Insurance Taxes, FICA Taxes, Retirement, Life and/or Medical Insurance, and Worker's Compensation Insurance for the employees of the Consultant or any other person performing services under this Agreement. Consultant and its employees are not entitled to the rights or benefits afforded to City's employees, including disability or unemployment insurance, workers' compensation, medical insurance, sick leave, or any other employment benefit. Consultant agrees to indemnify and hold City harmless from any claims, costs, losses, fees, penalties, interest, or damages suffered by City as a result of any claim by any person or entity contrary to the provisions of this Section 10.

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11. Ownership of Documents. All documents, information and materials of any and every type prepared by the Consultant pursuant to this Agreement shall be the property of the City. Such documents shall include but not be limited to all findings, reports, documents, information and data including, but not limited to, electronic media, computer tapes or discs, files, and tapes furnished or prepared or accumulated by the Consultant in performing work under this Agreement, whether completed or in process

12. Confidentiality. All City information disclosed to Consultant during the course of performance of services under this Agreement shall be treated as confidential and shall not be disclosed to any other persons or parties except as authorized by City, excepting that information which is public record and subject to disclosure pursuant to the Public Records Act, or otherwise required by law. All documents, including drafts, notes and communications that result from the services in this Agreement, shall be kept confidential unless City authorizes in writing the release of information, excepting that information which is public record and subject to disclosure pursuant to the Public Records Act, or otherwise required by law..

13. Access to Records. Consultant shall maintain all books, records, documents, accounting ledgers, and similar materials relating to work performed for City under this Agreement on file for at least three (3) years following the date of final payment to Consultant by City. Any duly authorized representative(s) of City shall have access to such records for the purpose of inspection, audit and copying at reasonable times, during Consultant's usual and customary business hours. Consultant shall provide proper facilities to City's representative(s) for access and inspection. Consultant shall be entitled to reasonable compensation for time and expenses relate to such access and inspection activities, which shall be considered to be an additional service to the City, subject to the provisions of Section 4 hereinabove.

14. Conflict of Interest. The Consultant or its employees may be subject to the provisions of the California Political Reform Act of 1974 (the "Act"), which (1) requires such persons to disclose any financial interest that may foreseeably be materially affected by the work performed under this Agreement, and (2) prohibits such persons from making, or participating in making, decisions that will foreseeably financially affect such interest.

If subject to the Act, Consultant shall conform to all requirements of the Act. Failure to do so constitutes a material breach and is grounds for immediate termination of this Agreement by City. Consultant shall indemnify and hold harmless City for any and all claims for damages resulting from Consultant's violation of this Section.

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Consultant represents that neither Consultant, nor any of its employees, agents or subcontractors, have a conflict of interest with respect to the work to be performed under this Agreement, nor shall such individuals, during this term of this Agreement, acquire any interest, which would conflict in any manner with the performances of services hereunder.

15. **Assignment.** This is a personal service contract, and the duties set forth herein shall not be delegated or assigned to any person or entity without the prior written consent of City. Consultant may engage a subcontractor(s) as permitted by law and may employ other personnel to perform services contemplated by this Agreement at Consultant's sole cost and expense.

16. **Compliance with Laws, Rules, Regulations.** Consultant shall perform the services required by this Agreement in compliance with all applicable Federal and California employment laws including, but not limited to, those laws related to minimum hours and wages; occupational health and safety; fair employment and employment practices; workers' compensation insurance and safety in employment; and all other Federal, State and local laws and ordinances applicable to the services required under this Agreement. Consultant shall indemnify and hold harmless City from and against all claims, demands, payments, suits, actions, proceedings, and judgments of every nature and description including attorneys' fees and costs, presented, brought, or recovered against City for, or on account of any liability under any of the above-mentioned laws, which may be incurred by reason of Consultant's performance under this Agreement.

17. **Integration; Amendment.** This Agreement represents the entire understanding of City and Consultant as to those matters contained herein. No prior oral or written understanding shall be of any force or effect with respect to those matters covered in it. This Agreement may not be modified or altered except by amendment in writing sign by both parties.

18. **Severability.** If any part of this Agreement is found to be in conflict with applicable laws, such part shall be inoperative, null, and void insofar as it is in conflict with said laws, but the remainder of the Agreement shall continue to be in full force and effect.

19. **Waiver/Validity.** Consultant agrees that waiver by City of any one or more of the conditions of performance under this Agreement shall not be construed as waiver of any other condition of performance under this Agreement. The acceptance by the City of the performance of any work or services by Contractor shall not be deemed to be a waiver of any term or condition of this Agreement.

20. **Jurisdiction.** City and Consultant agree that the law governing this Agreement shall be that of the State of California. Any suit brought by either party against the other arising out of the performance of this Agreement shall be filed and maintained in the County of Los Angeles.

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21. **Notice.** Any notices required to be given pursuant to this Agreement shall be deemed to have been given by their deposit, postage prepaid, in the United States Postal Service, addressed to the parties as follows:

To City:
City of Bell Gardens
7100 Garfield Avenue
Bell Gardens, California
90201 Attn: <<name>>

To Consultant:
<<consultant>>
<<address>>
<<city, state, zip>>
Attn: <<name>>

Nothing hereinabove shall prevent either City or Consultant from personally delivering any such notices to the other.

22. **Termination.** City may, in its sole discretion, terminate this Agreement at any time and for any reason whatsoever by giving written notice of such termination to Consultant. In the event of such termination, Consultant shall immediately stop rendering services under this Agreement unless directed otherwise by the City. In the event of such termination, Consultant shall be entitled to compensation for all services rendered and work performed for City to the date of such termination.

23. **Order of Precedence.** In the event of an inconsistency in this Agreement and any of the attached Exhibits, the terms set forth in this Agreement shall prevail. If, and to the extent this Agreement incorporates by reference any provision of the RFP or the Response, such provision shall be deemed a part of this Agreement. Nevertheless, if there is any conflict among the terms and conditions of this Agreement and those of any such provision or provisions so incorporated by reference, this Agreement shall govern over both the Response and the RFP and the Response shall govern over the RFP.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement on the dates set forth below.

<<consultant>>

Date: _____, 20__

by: <<name and title>>
CITY OF BELL GARDENS, a
California municipal corporation

TEMPLATE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT

Date: _____, 20__

by: <<**name and title**>>

**ATTEST:
CITY CLERK**

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Rick R. Olivarez, City Attorney