

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

BETTER BUILDER® PROGRAM PROJECT

In 2018, Travis County launched its Travis County Better Builder® Program. The Travis County Better Builder® Program is a comprehensive construction contract compliance program based on Better Builder® standards. These standards pertain to wage rates and payment of wages; safety training and compliance with safety, environmental and legal statutes, regulations and codes; independent on-site monitoring; workforce training programs (apprenticeship training); and a preference for a living wage minimum.

The Travis County Better Builder® Program includes pre-screening inquiries, enhanced monitoring protocols, and robust compliance assistance for the duration of the construction project. Compliance assistance includes reviewing certified payroll records of both the prime contractor and all subcontractors to ensure all workers are receiving correct wages. Accordingly, the prime contractor must submit these certified payroll records once per month, at a minimum. Ultimately, the program is designed to incentivize developers and construction contractors to not only adhere to contractual obligations and applicable legal (regulatory) requirements, but to go “above and beyond” what is legally or contractually required in furtherance of Better Builder® values and standards.

This project has been selected as a “Travis County Better Builder® Project.” This designation means that all Better Builder® certifications, questionnaires, safety plans, OSHA-10 training cards, OSHA logs and associated supporting documentation (the “Better Builder® Documents”) must be submitted to the Travis County Contract Compliance Program in order to be considered responsive and eligible for contract award. The Better Builder® Documents are listed below and may be found on the Travis County Contract Compliance Program webpage. [Link: [TCPO Contract Compliance Program](#)]

*****IMPORTANT*****

Bidders/Proposers are advised to read the instructions in this Notice to Bidders carefully to ensure that they have a full understanding of all Better Builder® Documents. Bidders/Proposers should instruct their subcontractors to do the same. The Better Builder® Documents are required Contract Documents.

Upon receipt of notice that Bidder is the apparent low bidder or that Proposer has been short-listed, Bidder/Proposer and its subcontractors must submit the following certifications:

- Travis County Safety Record Questionnaire (prime contractor and all subcontractors) and OSHA Logs, Summaries and Health & Safety Plan as described in the SRQ
- Travis County Workforce Training Program Certification (prime contractor only)

- Travis County Living Wage Certification (prime contractor only)
- Travis County OSHA Training Certification (prime and all subs)
- Travis County Employee Classification Certification (prime and all subs)
- Travis County Apprentice Designation Certification (prime and all subs)
- Travis County Wage Law Compliance Certification (prime and all subs)

*The certifications listed above must be returned to the Travis County Contract Compliance Program before a contract will be recommended for award. Bidders/Proposers who fail to submit these certifications, together with the associated required documentation, **will be considered non-responsive**.*

Be advised that the Workforce Training Program Certification requires outreach to subcontractors who hire students or graduates of DOL-registered apprenticeship programs. Documentation must be submitted demonstrating such outreach together with this Certification.

The Travis County Contract Compliance Program will review these documents to verify that Bidders/Proposers and their subcontractors are responsible contractors and are in compliance with the Better Builder® standards and associated contractual requirements.

WE STRONGLY URGE BIDDERS/PROPOSERS (AND THEIR SUBCONTRACTORS) ON THIS PROJECT TO READ ALL BETTER BUILDER® DOCUMENTS TO ENSURE THEY UNDERSTAND THEIR CONTENTS AND ARE PREPARED TO SUBMIT ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION WITHIN THE SUBMISSION DEADLINE.

THE BETTER BUILDER® DOCUMENTS ARE CONSIDERED INTEGRAL CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS AND WILL BE INCORPORATED INTO THE CONTRACT AS BIDDING/PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS UPON CONTRACT AWARD.

All of the above-listed Better Builder® Documents may be found in the “Better Builder documents” folder on the following Travis County Purchasing Office webpage:
<https://www.traviscountytexas.gov/purchasing/contract-compliance-program>

Bidders/Proposers may direct any questions to the Contract Compliance Program staff:

Tenley Aldredge, M.I.A., J.D.
Director
Tenley.Aldredge@traviscountytexas.gov

Andrew Artzt, J.D.
Contract Compliance Officer
Andrew.Artzt@traviscountytexas.gov

Jacqueline Childress, J.D.
Contract Compliance Officer
Jacqueline.Childress@traviscountytexas.gov

Kimberly Effinger
Contract Compliance Officer
Kimberly.Effinger@traviscountytexas.gov

Dennis Reyna
Contract Compliance Monitor
Dennis.Reyna@traviscountytexas.gov

Patrick E. Tuohy
Contract Compliance Monitor
Patrick.Tuohy@traviscountytexas.gov