



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
FOR
457(B) PLAN INVESTMENT ADVISORY AND
CONSULTING SERVICES
RFP #24-04

Issue Date:	February 19, 2024
Pre-Proposal Question Deadline:	March 4, 2024 @ 4:00 PM
Proposal Deadline:	March 11, 2024 @ 2:00 PM
Proposal Delivery Location:	City Clerk's Office 800 Cushman Street Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
Proposal Review:	March 11- March 29, 2024
Purchasing Contact:	Christina Rowlett, Purchasing Agent Phone: 907.459.6779 <u>Preferred Method of Contact</u> Email: purchasing@fairbanks.us

This is not an order. The attached terms and conditions shall become part of the contract resulting from this Request for Proposal. Proposals shall be submitted in the indicated format. Original signatures must be submitted on the form provided herein.

Table of Contents

Announcement	Page 3
Section 1 – Instructions	Page 4
Section 2 – Specifications / Scope of Work	Page 8
Section 3 – Terms and Conditions	Page 11
Section 4 – Submission Requirements and Required Documents	Page 15
1. Proposal Form	Page 18
2. Non-Collusion Statement	Page 20
3. Fee and Compensation Balance Schedule	Page 21
Section 5 – Proposal Evaluation and Selection Process	Page 22

Announcement Request for Proposal

The City of Fairbanks is requesting proposals from firms qualified and interested in providing:

457(B) PLAN INVESTMENT ADVISORY AND CONSULTING SERVICES

RFP #24-04

DESCRIPTION: The City of Fairbanks and the City of Fairbanks Deferred Compensation Board is seeking an investment advisor and consulting firm to provide ongoing review, assessment, and recommendations for the City of Fairbanks 457(b) Plan.

PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS: A copy of this RFP can be obtained on the City of Fairbanks website, www.fairbanksalaska.us. It is the Offeror's sole responsibility to check this website for additional information and / or addendums. Any RFP may also be requested by contacting the Purchasing Agent listed in this document. If you have any questions call the Purchasing Agent listed in this document.

Sealed proposals are due **PRIOR** to the deadline of **March 11, 2024, 2:00 PM**. Sealed proposals must be delivered to the City of Fairbanks, City Clerk's Office, located at 800 Cushman Street, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701. Late proposals will not be accepted – **NO EXCEPTIONS**. It is the Offeror's responsibility to confirm the proposal documents are received.

PUBLISHED: Fairbanks Daily News Miner on 2/17-18/2024

Section 1 – Instructions

1. **Communications:** The only communication concerning modifications, clarifications, questions, amendments, and addendums will be processed through the Purchasing Agent listed on the cover page. No contact with any other agents of the City is permitted, and will be grounds for disqualification. Any exceptions to this will be clarified in this document.
2. **Pre-Proposal Questions and Information:** If an Offeror finds a discrepancy, error, or omission in this document they are instructed to contact the Purchasing Agent, listed on the cover page, who will send written clarification to all prospective offerors and posted on the City of Fairbanks website. All questions must be submitted to the Purchasing Agent in writing via e-mail: purchasing@fairbanks.us or by mail: City of Fairbanks – Purchasing, 800 Cushman Street, Fairbanks, AK 99701, by the deadline listed on the cover page of this document. All answers will be issued in writing.
3. **Mandatory Pre-Proposal Meeting:** A pre-proposal meeting may be held for this RFP. If so, the date, time, and location will be listed on the cover page of this document. Project Managers and other staff may be available at this meeting to answer questions that have been submitted. Additional questions may be answered at this meeting and, if so, they will be documented and issued in an addendum. All questions and answers will be formalized and issued in an addendum. Attendance at this meeting is mandatory. – **DOES NOT APPLY** –
4. **Modifications:** Clarifications, questions, amendments, and addendums may be made to this document by the City at any time prior to the proposal submittal deadline. It is the Offeror's sole responsibility to check the City website for these updates and or addendums.
5. **Proposal Submission:** All required documents must be submitted by mail, express service or hand delivered, in a sealed envelope, box, or package and clearly marked with the RFP title, RFP number, submittal date and time, and the Offeror's company name, address, phone number, and contact name.

All required documents must be delivered to the City Clerk's office at 800 Cushman Street, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701 prior to the deadline listed on the cover page of this document. This responsibility rests entirely on the Offerors, regardless of delays with mailing or any other reasons. Proposals can be accepted by the Clerk's office Monday – Friday between 8:00am – 5:00pm, except for City Holidays, which are listed on the City of Fairbanks website. The Clerk's time stamp is the official time stamp of receipt.

- a. The accepting and opening of a proposal document does not constitute the City's acceptance of the Offeror as a responsive and responsible Offeror. By accepting and opening a proposal, the City only presumes the Offeror is familiar with the proposal documents and agrees and understands all requirements in this document.
- b. All prices and notations must be typed or written in ink. Pencil markings will not be accepted. Any mistakes must be crossed out and initialed by the person signing the proposal.
- c. Proposals will not be accepted via facsimile or email.

- d. All costs associated with preparation and presentation of this proposal are the Offerors' responsibility. No pre-proposal costs will be reimbursed to any Offeror. All documentation submitted to the City will become property of the City.
6. **Confidential and Proprietary Information:** If any information is confidential, it should be placed in a separate file and marked CONFIDENTIAL. If any information is proprietary, an original shall be delivered which is clearly marked PROPRIETARY and an additional copy shall be submitted omitting the proprietary information for city use. The copy containing proprietary information will be solely for city use and then disposed of after the proposal is awarded. The omitted copy will remain on file as part of the RFP documents for future use or records requests.
7. **Exceptions:** Any exception must be clearly defined and referenced to the proper section or paragraph of this document. The exception must include the Offeror substitution language and explanation as to the reason why this would provide an equivalent or better service or product. If no exceptions are explained in this proposal submittal, the City will assume the Offeror can perform accordingly.
8. **Bid Guarantee:** Per the Fairbanks General Code Sec. 54-163, bid security is required for all construction contracts. Bid security must be in an amount equal to at least:
 - a. Ten percent (10%) of bid amount if bid amount does not exceed \$100,000; or
 - b. Ten percent (10%) of the first \$100,000 and five percent (5%) of the amount of the bid over \$100,000, up to a maximum of \$200,000 in security.
9. **Duplicate Proposals:** The City will only accept one (1) proposal per Offeror, including its subsidiaries, affiliated companies, organizations, or franchises. If multiple proposals are received from the same Offeror, all proposals from the Offeror will be rejected.
10. **Withdrawal or Corrections:** Proposals may be withdrawn by written notice prior to the submittal deadline. Corrections may be made to proposals submitted if prior to the submittal deadline.
11. **Rejection:** The City reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any minor informalities or irregularities in proposals received if it is determined by the Purchasing Agent that it is in the City's best interest to do so. If any Offeror fails to provide any requested information in the consideration stage of the evaluation process, its proposal will be deemed non-responsive and rejected without any further evaluation. The City may reject any proposals from any Offeror which is in arrears or in default to the City on any contract, debt, or other obligation. The City may reject a proposal if the Offeror has been debarred per Fairbanks General Code Sec. 54-297, or has violated any other section of the Fairbanks General Code. The City may reject a proposal if the Offeror has been debarred by the State of Alaska or any Federal agency. The City has the right to reject all non-conforming, non-responsive, and unbalanced proposals.
12. **Procurement Policy:** Procurement for the City is based on the Fairbanks General Code Sec. 54 – Procurement and any applicable State of Alaska statutes. The Fairbanks General Code is available online at www.fairbanksalaska.us.

13. **Non-Discrimination:** The City will not contract with any persons or entities that discriminate against employees or applicants for any reasons other than those related to job performance. Prospective Offerors will comply with all Federal, State, and local laws and policies that prohibit discrimination in the workplace. The City will not discriminate because of race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, change in marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, physical or mental disabilities, genetic information, or political affiliation.
14. **Proposal Signatures:** An authorized official must sign all proposal documents for the offeror. This signature will represent the company or entity and its ability to commit to the requirements in this document.
15. **Contract Award:** The City has the right to award by item, group of items, total proposal, or any combination found to be in the best interest of the City. The City also reserves the right to contract with multiple entities for the same or like goods or services, if it is found to be in the City's best interest. The Notice of Intent to Award or Notice of Award is made to the successful bidder within ten (10) business days of the proposal's close date. Notice of Intent to Award and/or Notice of Award will be submitted to the Offeror in writing.
16. **No Response:** If an Offeror does not respond to this document, the City will continue to keep the Offeror's information for future proposals unless they specifically ask to be removed from the bidders' list.
17. **Public Records:** All proposals are subject to public records requests after award, with the exception of confidential and proprietary information. See paragraph 6 above for more information.
18. **Local Bidder Preference:** Per Fairbanks General Code Sec. 54-168, the City may award a contract based on solicited bids to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder after a local bidder's preference has been applied. Local bidder preference is the lesser 5% or \$5,000 for this contract. Local bidder preference does not apply to bids involving federal funds.
19. **Disqualification of Offerors:** Any one or more of the following reasons may cause proposals to be rejected:
 - a. Communication with any employees or agents of the City during the RFP process, excluding those specifically listed in this document.
 - b. Evidence of collusion or other anticompetitive practices among Offerors.
 - c. Lack of competency as revealed by financial, experience, or equipment statements.
 - d. Lack of responsibility as shown by past work with the City.
 - e. Uncompleted work under other current contracts which, in the judgment of the City, may prevent the prompt completion of additional work outlined in this document.
20. **Discussions:** Discussion with Offerors may commence after opening of all proposals to further clarify and or ensure full understanding of solicitation requirements.
21. **Subcontractors:** A Offeror must provide within 7 calendar days of receipt of Notice of Intent to Award a disclosure of all subcontractors that will be used for this proposal regardless of the dollar amount and the services they will. The list must include the company or subcontractor's name, business location, and evidence of the subcontractor's state business license.

22. **Offeror's Responsibilities:** The Offeror must be capable of providing all goods or services in this document, described in Section 2 – Specifications and / or Scope of Work. The Offeror must maintain these qualities until completion of the contract. If requested by the City, Offeror may be required to provide proof that Offeror is the manufacturer or an authorized dealer or reseller. City requires a manufacturer's warranty with all first holder benefits when applicable. The successful Offeror is responsible for all goods and services in this document whether they are provided or performed by successful Offeror or their subcontractor.
23. **City Participation:** The City of Fairbanks will provide appropriate personnel to support the successful Offeror during the course of the contract. The Project Manager will be named in this document or the Purchasing Agent will act as contact until additional personnel are named specifically.
24. **Disclosure of Contents:** All information in this document will be held in confidence and not discussed with other Offerors until award. All proposals, excluding confidential and proprietary information, become the property of the City upon opening. (Please review paragraph 5 above for additional information.)
25. **Unusual Circumstances:** Where any unusual circumstances unforeseen by the City or the Contractor significantly affect the Contractor's ability or cost in providing goods or services, the Contractor may request cancellation of contract or adjustment to the costs. "Significantly" in this paragraph is defined as being beyond the control of the Contractor. The request must be documented in writing and may be denied.
26. **Contract Commencement:** Commencement of a contract by the successful Offeror shall not begin until all necessary documents are received and reviewed; all City approvals have been completed, including City Council approval for projects over \$250,000; and a purchase order is complete. Commencement of a contract without these requirements will be at the Offeror's sole risk and not compensated by the City.

Section 2 – Specifications and/or Scope of Work

- 1. Background:** The City of Fairbanks and the City of Fairbanks Deferred Compensation Board (the “Board”) is seeking an investment advisor and consulting firm (consultant) to provide ongoing review, assessment, and recommendations for the City of Fairbanks 457(b) Plan (the “Plan”). The City of Fairbanks offers a deferred compensation plan to its full-time permanent employees as outlined in Section 457 of the Internal Revenue Code. The City of Fairbanks Council authorizes a six-member board to oversee the Plan. The board meets quarterly.

The City of Fairbanks has contracted with MetLife as administrator to provide Plan administration activities including coordination, maintenance, education, and communication of the investment options to participants. MetLife is also responsible for holding and investing plan assets in accordance with the terms of the contract and has been the administrator since January 30, 2015. The current contract will end on December 31, 2024. As of September 30, 2023, the Plan had a market value of \$8,193,645 with 136 participants.

The Plan is supported by a percentage fee, assessed on participant accounts monthly. The annual administrative fee, collected on all participant balances is .28% of market value. There is no minimum and no cap on the administration fees. There are no per-participant fees, other than managed accounts or loans. The Plan offers an in-plan Roth option and loans. The current Plan investment options as of September 30, 2023, are as follows:

Option Name	Fund Manager	Fund Ticker	Market Value
Stable Value	MetLife Strategic Value Annuity	N/A	\$9,643
Intermediate Bond	Dodge & Cox Income X	DOXIX	\$112,425
Opportunistic Bond	Loomis Sayles Bond Instl	LSBDX	\$17
Large Cap Value	DFA US Large Cap Value I	DFLVX	\$490,396
S&P 500 Index	Vanguard 500 Index Admiral	VFIAX	\$2,402,759
Large Cap Growth	Vanguard Growth Index Admiral	VIGAX	\$1,404,835
Mid Cap Index	Vanguard Mid Cap Index Admiral	VIMAX	\$679,871
Small Cap Value	DFA US Targeted Value I	DFVFX	\$590,344
Small Cap Growth	Vanguard Small Cap Growth Index Admiral	VSGAX	\$182,255
Foreign Value	Dodge & Cox International Stock X	DOXFX	\$141,700
Foreign Growth	ClearBridge International Growth I	LMGNX	\$287,129
Real Estate	Cohen & Steers Instl Realty Shares	CSRIX	\$336,017
Commodities	PIMCO Commodities Plus Strategy Intl	PCLIX	\$412,573
Target Date Income	Vanguard Target Retirement Income	VTINX	\$0
Target Date 2020	Vanguard Target Retirement 2020	VTWNX	\$61,173
Target Date 2025	Vanguard Target Retirement 2025	VITVX	\$127,474
Target Date 2030	Vanguard Target Retirement 2030	VTHRFX	\$27,358
Target Date 2035	Vanguard Target Retirement 2035	VTTHX	\$429,487
Target Date 2040	Vanguard Target Retirement 2040	VFORX	\$81,389

Target Date 2045	Vanguard Target Retirement 2045	VTIVX	\$241,317
Target Date 2050	Vanguard Target Retirement 2050	VFIFX	\$78,223
Target Date 2055	Vanguard Target Retirement 2055	VFFVX	\$80,764
Target Date 2060	Vanguard Target Retirement 2060	VTTSX	\$15,690
Target Date 2065	Vanguard Target Retirement 2065	VLXVX	\$505
Target Date 2070	Vanguard Target Retirement 2070	VSVNX	\$0
			\$8,193,344

2. General: The consultant will conduct a quarterly analysis of the performance of the Plan’s investment options and present that analysis to the Board at its quarterly meeting. In addition, the consultant will present recommendations and other services as stated within this proposal.

3. Minimum Requirements:

The consultant must meet the following minimum requirements:

- Must have five years of experience in investment consulting services to government 457(b) plans.
- Must demonstrate that services are provided for at least five defined contribution plans.
- Must demonstrate that administrative and technical staff have the market experience and breadth to provide the service.

A proposer’s failure to meet these minimum requirements will cause their proposal to be considered non-responsive and their proposal will be eliminated from further consideration.

Investment Performance Monitoring

The consultant will conduct quarterly fund performance reviews that include at a minimum:

- Providing a general overview of the current market conditions and performance, including stocks, bonds, international markets, and industry sectors.
- Reviewing the Plan’s portfolio of funds, including investment style, plan expenses and risk/reward profiles.
- Conducting a comparison of Plan investment options in each asset category to appropriate benchmarks.
- Providing historical performance returns, major holdings, sector weightings, manager information, and portfolio statistics of the funds.
- Monitoring and reporting on manager and/or fund investment strategy changes.

Investment Option Selection:

The consultant will provide ongoing assistance with investment options to include:

- Assisting with adding and/or eliminating investment options by reviewing funds in accordance with the Board’s policy and MetLife contract.
- Conducting fund searches and making recommendations for a replacement option and/or new fund.
- Informing the Board of industry and plan sponsor trends, as well as new investment products or methods of offering investment products.
- Monitoring administrative fees and collection. Recommending any changes to fees, to ensure that plan revenue is sufficient to cover plan expenses and revenue requirement.

Investment Policy:

The consultant will assist with maintaining the Plan’s Investment Policy to include:

- Providing ongoing review and advice to avoid administrative, legal, and regulatory complications.
- Assisting the Board with application of the policy to decision making.
- Reviewing and assisting the Board in updating the current Plan policy.

Education and Training:

The consultant will provide expert comprehensive guidance to the Board to assist in the oversight of the Plan to include:

- Attending regular board meetings and special meetings as requested.
- Advising the Board of key trends and recent developments in fiduciary responsibility, plan administration, plan design and committee oversight structures.
- Assisting the Board in annual evaluation of the Plan provider goals including the participant education program.

Communication:

The consultant will assist the Board with the following participant level communications to include:

- Aiding in drafting the Board’s explanation to participants in fund change letters issued to all participants before a fund change takes place.
- Providing advice and assistance in developing and evaluating participant communication strategy.

Miscellaneous:

The consultant will also provide services to include:

- Assisting the Board in keeping the Plan Document updated to meet regulatory requirements.
- Responding to informational requests from the Board in a timely manner.

- 4. Contract Term:** The contract will be for **five** years, with no options to renew. It is anticipated this contract will commence on or around **April 1, 2024**. The City and successful proposer may extend current contract if in the best interest of both parties and authorized by City Council.
- 5. Award:** The City of Fairbanks anticipates awarding this contract as a whole.

Section 3 – Standard Terms and Conditions

1. **Assignment / Transfer:** Assignment or transfer of this Agreement or Contract without written consent of the City of Fairbanks may be construed by the City as a breach of contract sufficient to cancel any Agreement or Contract at the discretion of the City.
2. **Inspection:** All goods and services are subject to inspection and approval by the City at all reasonable times, including inspection during manufacturing. Inspection and approval by City at Contractor's place of business or work site does not preclude rejection for defects upon discovery by subsequent inspection. Any goods or services rejected by the City shall be promptly repaired or replaced at Contractor's expense. Any and all costs incurred by the City in connection with the return of goods or rejection of services shall be at the Contractor's risk and expense.
3. **Risk of Loss:** Regardless of FOB point, Contractor agrees to bear all risks of loss, injury, or destruction of goods and materials ordered herein which occur prior to delivery and acceptance. Such loss, injury, or destruction shall not release Contractor from any obligation hereunder.
4. **Warranty:** Contractor warrants that it has good and merchantable title to the goods sold hereunder and that said goods shall conform to the descriptions and applicable specifications. Such goods shall be of good merchantable quality and fit for the known purposes for which sold, and are free and clear of all liens and encumbrances. Contractor and City agree that this order does not exclude, or in any way limit, other warranties provided for in this Agreement or Contract or by law.
5. **Excise and Sales Tax:** The prices herein must not include any Federal excise taxes or sales taxes imposed by any State or Municipal Government. Such taxes, if included, must be deducted by the Contractor when submitting invoice for payment. An Exemption Certificate is available upon request.
6. **Invoices:** Invoices for goods must be submitted on date of complete shipment. Invoices for services must be submitted within 45 days after completion of services. Payment will be delayed if the invoice fails to reference the purchase order number, ordering department, unit prices, quantities, totals, and a full description of the order that matches the purchase order. The City will provide payment 30 days after satisfactory delivery, acceptance, and receipt of invoice.
7. **IRS Form W-9 and Vendor Information:** Contractor must have on file with the City a current IRS Form W-9 and complete a vendor registration form before City will issue a purchase order to the Contractor.
8. **Compliance with Laws:** Contractor represents and warrants that the performance of this order and furnishing goods or services required shall be in accordance with the applicable standards, provisions, and stipulations of all pertinent Federal, State, and City laws, rules, regulations, resolutions, and ordinances including, but not limited to, the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Equal Employment Opportunity rules and regulations, and the Occupational Safety and Health Acts.

9. **Amendments:** No amendments, modifications, or supplements to this contract shall be binding unless in writing and signed by all authorized representatives of both parties.
10. **Termination:** When it is in the City's best interest, City may unilaterally cancel this Agreement or Contract at any time whether or not Contractor is in default of any of its obligations hereunder. With any such cancellation, Contractor agrees to waive any claim for damages, including loss of anticipated profit on account hereof. However, the City agrees that Contractor shall be paid for items and/or services already accepted by City, but in no event shall the City be liable for any loss of profits on the order or portion thereof so terminated. Either party may terminate this Agreement or Contract at any time for the failure of the other to comply with any of its material terms and conditions. All Offerors recognize that the City is a government entity and that payment obligation is subject to yearly appropriations by the City's governing body and that if funds are not appropriated, this Agreement or Contract will terminate without penalty to either party.
11. **Waiver of Breach:** No waiver by either party of any breach of any of the covenants or conditions herein contained performed by the other party shall be construed as a waiver of any succeeding breach of this same or of any other covenant or condition.
12. **Complete Agreement:** The parties agree that the conditions of purchase stated herein and the Offeror's proposals set forth their entire Agreement or Contract and there are no promises or understandings other than those stated herein, and that any prior negotiations between the City and Contractor or terms and conditions set forth in the Contractor's quotation, order, or sales acknowledgment shall not constitute a part of the Agreement or Contract between the City and Contractor concerning this purchase. The terms "Agreement" and "Contract" as used in this clause shall include any future written amendments, modifications, or supplements made in accordance herewith.
13. **Liability and Indemnity:** To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Contractor shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the City, its officers, and employees from and against any and all loss, expense, damage, claim, demand, judgment, fine, charge, lien, liability, action, cause of action, or proceedings of any kind whatsoever (whether arising on account of damage to or loss of property, or personal injury, emotional distress or death) arising directly or indirectly in connection with the performance or activities of the Contractor hereunder, whether the same arises before or after completion of the Contractor's operations or expiration of this Agreement or Contract, except for damage, loss or injury resulting from the City's gross negligence or willful misconduct solely.
14. **Insurance Requirements:** Contractor must furnish a certificate of insurance within ten (10) days of receipt of the Notice-of-Intent to Award and must endorse policies to provide for a thirty (30) day prior notice to the City of cancellation, non-renewal, or material change of the policies. Failure to furnish satisfactory evidence of insurance or lapse of policy is a material breach of the contract and grounds for termination of this Agreement or Contract. Each policy shall be endorsed with a waiver of subrogation in favor of the City. All other insurance policies required of the Contractor shall be endorsed to provide that such insurance shall apply as primary insurance and that any insurance or self-insured carried by the City will be excess only and will not contribute with the insurance required by this Agreement or Contract. All other insurance policies required of the Contractor and subcontractors shall be endorsed to name the City as

additional insured. All insurance shall be on an occurrence form acceptable to the City and having an A.M. Best rating of "A" or better.

- a. Workers' Compensation and Employers' Liability Insurance as required by any applicable law or regulation. Employers' liability insurance shall be in the amount no less than \$500,000 each accident for bodily injury, \$500,000 policy limit for bodily injury by disease and \$500,000 each employee for bodily injury by disease. The Contractor shall be responsible for Workers' Compensation Insurance for any subcontractor who directly or indirectly provides services under this contract. This coverage must include statutory coverage for states in which employees are engaging in work. If there is an exposure of injury to Contractor's employees under the U.S. Longshoremen's Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, the Jones Act, or under laws, regulations or statutes applicable to maritime employee, coverage shall be included for such injuries or claims.
- b. Commercial General Liability Insurance: The Contractor is required to provide Commercial General Liability (CGL) insurance with limits not less than \$5,000,000 for any contract over \$1,000,000 and not less than \$1,000,000 for contracts under \$1,000,000 combined single limit per occurrence and \$5,000,000 for any contract over \$1,000,000 and not less than \$1,000,000 for contracts under \$1,000,000, in the aggregate not excluding premises operations, independent Contractors, products, and completed operations, broad form property damage, blanket contractual, explosion, collapse and underground hazards. Limits may be a combination of primary and excess (umbrella) policy forms.
- c. Comprehensive Automobile Liability Insurance: Covering all owned, hired and non-owned vehicles with coverage limits not less than \$1,000,000 single limit per occurrence bodily injury and property damage.
- d. Property Insurance: The Contractor shall submit to the City evidence of All Risk Builder's Risk Insurance for all physical loss, including earthquake and flood (100% completed value basis) upon the entire work naming the City, the Contractor and the subcontractors as additional insured parties and as their interests may appear to the full contract sum thereof, until the project is completed by the Contractor and accepted by the City. The policy, by endorsement, shall specifically permit partial or beneficial occupancy at or prior to substantial completion or final acceptance of the entire work.

PROOF OF INSURANCE: The Contractor shall furnish the City with a Certificate of Insurance or, where requested by the City, the policy declaration page with required endorsements attached thereto showing the type, amount, effective dates, and dates of expiration of all policies. All endorsements shall reference the policy number and the project name and project number. The owner is the City of Fairbanks and is to be identified on all certificates and endorsements.

Without limiting its indemnification, the Contractor shall maintain, until termination of Agreement or Contract or completion and acceptance of the project by the City, occurrence type coverage of the kinds and minimum amounts set forth above. All insurance limits are minimum. If the Contractor's policy contains higher limits, the City shall be entitled to coverage to the extent of such higher limits. The City, at its sole discretion, may raise or lower the limit.

15. **Records:** The City reserves the right to inspect all vendor documents relating to this Agreement or Contract for up to three (3) years after expiration.

16. **Acceptance of Proposals:** As soon as practicable after opening, proposals valued over \$250,000, the City Council is the approving body. The rights and obligations of the contract will become effective and binding upon the contracting parties only after formal execution of a purchase order signed by the Purchasing Agent or a contract form signed by the Contractor and City Mayor. No other act whether oral, written or implied shall constitute acceptance of a proposal.
17. **Postponement:** The City reserves the right to postpone the date of the opening of proposals and will give written notice of any such postponement to all known holders of the contract documents.
18. **Delivery:** Successful Offerors may be required to provide reasonable evidence from their source of supply or manufacturer to justify the delivery dates furnished in their proposal. Any unreasonable deviation from the proposed delivery dates shall constitute a breach of contract and shall entitle the City to cancel all obligations to the Contractor.
19. **Time is of the essence:** The Offeror is expected to deliver goods or services that conform in all material respects to the contract specifications on or before the date provided herein. This date may be amended by written agreement between both parties.
20. **Safety Data Sheets:** For all materials supplied under this offer, the Offeror will provide to the City the applicable Safety Data Sheet (SDS). SDS must be received prior to final payment. -
21. **Cooperative Purchasing:** Any other State of Alaska government entity may exercise their option to use this same contract to make similar purchases of like items, based on similar quantity. The City is not liable for any other State of Alaska government entity or their purchases.
22. **Facility Security and Background Checks:** For all services provided at the Fairbanks Police Department, located at 911 Cushman Street, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701, access is controlled by the rules, regulations, and laws related to the Federal Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) and the Alaska Public Safety Information Network (APSIN). All vendors are considered a visitor or guest unless they are fully cleared by APSIN, including a background check and fingerprinting. Ultimately, the State of Alaska has the authority to award APSIN clearance and it may be denied. If APSIN clearance is not necessary, a criminal history check will be required, which may allow access to the building with fully cleared personnel. All visitors and guests will have to be accompanied by fully cleared personnel while in the building. If you are the successful Offeror and your services are to be performed within this facility you will be provided with the proper paperwork based on the appropriate level of access required.

Section 4 – Submission Requirements and Required Documents

Format and Content:

The City discourages overly lengthy and costly proposals. For the City to evaluate proposals fairly and completely, proposers must follow the format set out herein and provide all information requested.

Submittal Requirement:

Proposals shall be in accordance with the maximum number of pages and content requirements indicated in the table below, double-sided pages are considered two pages. Proposals shall not be written in a font size smaller than ten points. Each section of the proposal shall be identified and assembled in the order listed under Proposal Content Requirements. Materials not identified or germane to the proposed agreement will be discarded without evaluation. Failure to provide a proposal in conformance with these requirements may cause a proposal to be declared non-responsive and eliminated from further consideration. **Proposers must submit one original (identified) and six copies.**

Maximum Pages	Proposal Content Requirements
2	Item 1: Proposal Form (with original signature)
3	Item 2: Executive Summary
15	Item 3: Experience and Qualifications
3	Item 4: Other Information
1	Item 5: Fee Schedule
1	Item 6: Letter of Intent
25	Maximum Pages for RFP Submittal

Proposal Form:

Proposers must include a fully completed and signed Proposal Form as the cover sheet to the RFP. Failure to include this form fully completed with an original signature shall cause the proposal to be declared non-responsive and eliminated from further consideration.

Executive Summary:

The proposer must clearly identify the qualifications to meet the minimum requirements. The executive summary must also include the following:

- Describe your relevant experience and background in meeting all services outlined in the scope of work.
- Provide an overview of your firm's services and management approach. The narrative should demonstrate the proposer's ability to customize services.
- Please identify the individuals who would perform the services and provide the following information:
 - Name
 - Title

- Proposed Role with the Board
- Total years of investment consulting experience with defined contribution 457(b) or similar plans
- Years of investment consulting experience with the firm
- Number and size of assigned accounts

Experience and Qualifications:

The proposer must provide the following information:

- What is the firm's complete name and the name of the primary consultant and location from which the consulting work will be done?
- What is your firm's corporate history and within the past three years have there been any significant developments such as changes in ownership, restructuring, or personnel restructuring? Do you anticipate future significant changes?
- Describe the ownership structure of your firm giving specific details regarding any parent or affiliates.
- Within the last five years, has your firm or any officer or principal been involved in any business litigation or other legal proceedings relating to your consulting activities? If so, provide an explanation.
- Does your firm specifically acknowledge their role as a fiduciary to the Plan?
- Is your firm a regulated investment company, registered as an investment advisor under the Investment Advisors Act of 1940, as amended?
- How many clients do you have where you are providing services like those required by this RFP?
- Provide data relating to turnover ratios of your consulting, research, and technical staff over the last three years.
- Provide three references for defined contribution plans clients. For each reference provide contact information to include name, title, company, address, and phone number.
- Please provide the number of clients that have terminated your services in the last five years.
- Please provide the number of new clients gained in the last five years. Indicate if these new clients have terminated services.

Other Information:

Proposers may provide supplemental information that will be valuable to the selection committee in evaluating the qualifications of the firm, qualifications of personnel, and merits of the proposal. The proposer may feature elements which distinguishes it from other potential proposers.

Fee Schedule:

Proposers are to complete the Fee Schedule. The Proposer shall state prices in the units of issue on this RFP. Prices quoted must be in U.S. funds and include all applicable costs to provide the services. Prices quoted in this RFP must be exclusive of federal, state, and local taxes. If the Proposer believes that certain taxes are payable by the City, the Proposer may list such taxes separately, directly below the RFP price for the affected item. The price indicated is subject to review by the City for any subsequent renewal. Cost or price information shall not be included in any other part of the Proposer's proposal unless specifically requested.

Letter of Intent:

Proposers must submit a letter of intent to meet the insurance and bond requirements.

Sample Reports:

Proposers must provide samples of the following reports; the maximum number of pages does not apply to this request.

- Sample Performance Report
- Sample Communication Report/Letter
- Firm's Standard Contract

PROPOSAL FORM

City of Fairbanks

457(B) PLAN INVESTMENT ADVISORY AND CONSULTING SERVICES

RFP# 24-04

Failure to complete this form shall result in your Offer being deemed non-responsive and rejected without any further explanation.

Offer and Obligation:

The undersigned hereby offers, and agrees to be bound and obligated to this offer, to furnish the goods and / or services in compliance with all Terms and Conditions, Scope of Work, Specifications, and Addendums in this solicitation and, if awarded, enter into an Agreement or Contract with the City.

Addendums:

The undersigned has read, understands, and is fully cognizant of all parts of this solicitation, together with any addendum issued in connection with this document. The undersigned hereby acknowledges receipt of the following addendum(s). In addition, the undersigned has completely and appropriately filled out and submitted all required forms. Initial next to each applicable addendum number(s) or, if none, leave blank.

Addendum #1 _____ Addendum #2 _____ Addendum #3 _____ Addendum #4 _____

If additional addendums were issued, list numbers here and initial. _____

Compliance:

The undersigned hereby accepts all administrative requirements of the solicitation and will be in compliance with such requirements. By submitting this Proposal Form, the Offeror represents that they are in compliance with all applicable provisions of the City of Fairbanks Code of Ordinances Chapter 54 – Procurement, and if awarded a contract to provide the construction, goods, or services required in this solicitation will comply for the entire length of the Agreement or Contract.

Non – Collusion:

The undersigned, by submission of this Proposal Form, hereby declares that this offer is made without collusion with any other business or person making any other offer, or which otherwise would make an offer.

Performance Guarantee:

The undersigned further agrees that if awarded the Agreement or Contract, it will submit to the City any required performance guarantee (i.e. irrevocable letter of credit or cash deposit), if applicable.

Proposal Price:

The undersigned agrees to abide by the pricing contained on the Price Form.

NO OFFER WILL BE ACCEPTED WHICH HAS NOT BEEN MANUALLY SIGNED IN INK IN THE APPROPRIATE SPACE BELOW

I certify, under penalty of perjury, that I have the legal authorization to bind the company hereunder:

For clarification of this offer, contact:

Company Name

Name

Address

Title

City State Zip

Phone

Signature of Person Authorized to Sign

Email

Printed Name

Title

Federal Tax ID

City of Fairbanks Business License Number

Alaska Business License Number

Contractor's License Number

NON-COLLUSION STATEMENT

City of Fairbanks

457(B) PLAN INVESTMENT ADVISORY AND CONSULTING SERVICES

RFP# 24-04

Failure to complete this form shall result in your Offer being deemed non-responsive and rejected without any further explanation.

This is to certify that the undersigned Offeror has neither directly nor indirectly, entered into any agreement, participated in any collusion, nor otherwise taken any action in restraint of free competitive bidding in connection with this Proposal submitted to the City of Fairbanks for RFP #24-04, 457(B) PLAN INVESTMENT ADVISORY AND CONSULTING SERVICES.

Signature of Person Authorized to Sign

Printed Name

Title

Company Name

- Corporation
- Partnership
- Individual

Subscribed and sworn before me this _____ day of _____, 2024.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires

PROPOSAL FEE FORM

City of Fairbanks

457(B) PLAN INVESTMENT ADVISORY AND CONSULTING SERVICES

RFP# 24-04

Failure to complete this form shall result in your Offer being deemed non-responsive and rejected without any further explanation.

Using the information provided in Scope of Work, please provide the following information:

Total Annual Cost \$ _____

The proposer shall state prices in the units of issue on this RFP. Prices quoted for commodities or services must be in U.S. funds and include applicable federal duty, brokerage fees, packaging, and transportation cost to the FOB point so that upon transfer of title the commodity can be utilized, or the services can be provided, without further cost. Prices quoted in this RFP must be exclusive of federal, state, and local taxes. If the proposer believes that certain taxes are payable by the City, the proposer may list such taxes separately, directly below the RFP price for the affected item. The price indicated is subject to review by the City for any subsequent renewal.

Section 5 – Proposal Evaluation and Selection Process

Initial Evaluation:

Initially, the City Purchasing Manager will review all proposals to determine if they are administratively responsive to the RFP. Proposals that are administratively responsive will be distributed to the evaluation committee. The committee will determine if the proposal meets all minimum requirements. Proposals that pass the minimum requirements evaluation will be evaluated based on the evaluation criteria described below.

Evaluation Criteria:

Each criterion identified below has an assigned weight that is used to establish their relative importance in the evaluation process. The criterion for this RFP is listed and defined in further detail below.

<u>Criterion</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Minimum Qualifications	30
Experience and Qualifications	25
Other Information	5
Fee Schedule	40
Total Weight of All Criterion equals	100

- **Minimum Qualifications (Weight of 30)** - How well has the proposer demonstrated the ability to meet the City's minimum qualifications?
- **Experience and Qualifications (Weight of 25)** - How well has the firm demonstrated experience in completing similar services?
- **Other Information (Weight of 5)** - How well has the proposer demonstrated the capacity to provide additional services?
- **Fee Schedule (Weight of 40)** - The maximum score will be awarded to the firm offering the lowest cost. Proportional scores will be assigned to other proposers.

Award:

The award shall be made to the responsive proposer whose proposal conforms to the solicitation and is determined in writing to be the most advantageous to the City taking into consideration cost/price and the evaluation factors set forth in this RFP. The City anticipates awarding this contract in whole on or around April 1, 2024.