

**HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL
GENERAL PROVISIONS
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT**

This Intergovernmental Agreement is made and entered into this ___ day of _____, 20___, by and between the Houston-Galveston Area Council, hereinafter referred to as H-GAC, having its principal place of business at 3555 Timmons Lane, Suite 120, Houston, Texas 77027 and, hereinafter referred to as the Contractor, having its principal place of business at

_____.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, H-GAC hereby engages the Contractor to perform certain services in accordance with the specifications of the Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Contractor has agreed to perform such services in accordance with the specifications of the Agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, H-GAC and the Contractor do hereby agree as follows:

ARTICLE 1 LEGAL AUTHORITY

The Contractor warrants and assures H-GAC that it possesses adequate legal authority to enter into this Agreement. The Contractor's governing body, where applicable, has authorized the signatory official(s) to enter into this Agreement and bind the Contractor to the terms of this Agreement and any subsequent amendments hereto.

ARTICLE 2 APPLICABLE LAWS

The Contractor agrees to conduct all activities under this Agreement in accordance with all applicable rules, regulations, directives, standards, ordinances and laws in effect or promulgated during the term of this Agreement. Such standards and laws shall include, to the extent applicable, the Uniform Grant and Contract Management Standards ("UGMS") promulgated by the State of Texas and the state and federal statutes referenced therein.

ARTICLE 3 INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR

The execution of this Agreement and the rendering of services prescribed by this Agreement do not change the independent status of H-GAC or the Contractor. No provision of this Agreement or act of H-GAC in performance of the Agreement shall be construed as making the Contractor the agent, servant or employee of H-GAC, the State of Texas or the United States Government. Employees of the Contractor are subject to the exclusive control and supervision of the Contractor. The Contractor is

solely responsible for employee payrolls and claims arising therefrom. The Contractor shall notify H-GAC of the threat of lawsuit or of any actual suit filed against the Contractor pertaining to this Agreement or which would adversely affect the contractor's ability to perform services under this Agreement.

ARTICLE 4 WHOLE AGREEMENT

The General Provisions, Special Provisions and Attachments, as provided herein, constitute the complete agreement between the parties hereto, and supersede any and all oral and written agreements between the parties relating to matters herein. Except as otherwise provided herein, this Agreement cannot be modified without written consent of the parties.

ARTICLE 5 SCOPE OF SERVICES

The services to be performed by the Contractor are outlined in the Special Provisions of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 6 PERFORMANCE PERIOD

This Agreement shall be performed during the period which begins _____ and _____ ends _____.

ARTICLE 7 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Reporting requirements are set forth in the Special Provisions of this Agreement. If the Contractor fails to submit to H-GAC in a timely and satisfactory manner any report required by this Agreement, or otherwise fails to satisfactorily render performances hereunder, H-GAC may withhold payments otherwise due and owing the Contractor hereunder. If H-GAC withholds such payments, it shall notify the Contractor of its decision and the reasons therefore. Payments withheld pursuant to this Article may be held by H-GAC until such time as the delinquent obligations for which funds are withheld are fulfilled by the Contractor. The Contractor's failure to timely submit any report may also be considered cause for termination of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 8 PAYMENTS

The Contractor agrees that payments are predicated upon properly documented and verified proof of performance delivered and costs incurred by the Contractor in accordance with the terms of this Agreement and shall be paid in accordance with the Compensation Schedule in the Special Provisions.

ARTICLE 9 NON-FUNDING CLAUSE

Each payment obligation of H-GAC created by this Agreement is conditioned upon the availability of state or federal funds appropriated or allocated for the payment of such obligations. H-GAC shall not be otherwise obligated or liable for any future payments due or for any damages as a result of interruption of payment or termination under this Article.

ARTICLE 10 INSURANCE

The Contractor shall maintain insurance coverage for work performed or services rendered under this Agreement as specified in the Special Provisions.

ARTICLE 11 REPAYMENTS

The Contractor understands and agrees that it shall be liable to repay and shall repay upon demand to H-GAC any amounts determined by H-GAC, its independent auditors, or any agency of state or federal government to have been paid in violation of the terms of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 12 SUBCONTRACTS

Except as may be set forth in the Special Provisions, the Contractor agrees not to subcontract, assign, transfer, convey, sublet or otherwise dispose of this Agreement or any right, title, obligation or interest it may have therein to any third party without prior written approval of H-GAC.

The Contractor acknowledges that H-GAC is not liable to any subcontractor(s) of the Contractor.

The Contractor shall ensure that the performance rendered under all subcontracts shall result in compliance with all the terms and provisions of this Agreement as if the performance rendered was rendered by the Contractor.

ARTICLE 13 AUDIT

As a recipient of state or federal assistance through this Agreement, the Contractor acknowledges that it is subject to the Single Audit Act of 1996, P.L. 98-502, (hereinafter referred to as "Audit Act"), OMB Circular No. A-133, and the State of Texas Single Audit Circular incorporated in UGMS.

The Contractor shall have an audit made in accordance with the Single Audit, requirements of the most recently adopted UGMS and OMB Circular A-133 for any of its fiscal years in which Contractor expends more than \$500,000 in state or federal financial assistance.

The Contractor will provide H-GAC a copy of the single audit, including management letter and reporting package required by federal and state rules within 30 days after receipt of the auditor's report, or nine months after the end of the audit period.

H-GAC reserves the right to conduct or cause to be conducted an independent audit of all funds received under this Agreement which may be performed by the local government audit staff, a certified public accountant firm, or other auditors as designated by the H-GAC. Such audit will be conducted in accordance with State law, regulations, and policy, and generally accepted auditing standards and established procedures and guidelines of the reviewing or audit agency(ies).

The Contractor understands and agrees that the Contractor shall be liable to the H-GAC for any costs disallowed or overpayment as a result of audit or inspection of records kept by the Contractor on work performed under this Agreement.

ARTICLE 14 EXAMINATION OF RECORDS

The Contractor shall maintain during the course of the work, complete and accurate records of all of the Contractor's costs and documentation of items which are chargeable to H-GAC under this Agreement. H-GAC, through its staff or designated public accounting firm, the State of Texas and the United State Government, shall have the right at any reasonable time to inspect, copy and audit those records on or off the premises by authorized representatives of its own or any public accounting firm selected by it. The right of access to records is not limited to the required retention period, but shall last as long as the records are retained. Failure to provide access to records may be cause for termination of the Agreement. The records to be thus maintained and retained by the Contractor shall include (without limitation): (1) personnel and payroll records, including social security numbers and labor classifications, accounting for total time distribution of the Contractor's employees working full or part time on the work, as well as cancelled payroll checks, signed receipts for payroll payments in cash, or other evidence of disbursement of payroll payments; (2) invoices for purchases, receiving and issuing documents, and all other unit inventory records for the Contractor's stocks or capital items; and (3) paid invoices and cancelled checks for materials purchased and for subcontractors' and any other third parties' charges.

The Contractor further agrees to include in all its subcontracts permitted pursuant to Article 12 hereof, a provision to the effect that the subcontractor agrees that H-GAC and its duly authorized representatives shall, until the expiration of four (4) years after final payment under the subcontract or until all audit findings have been resolved, have access to and the right to examine and copy any directly pertinent books, documents, papers, invoices and records of such subcontractor involving transactions relating to the subcontract.

ARTICLE 15 RETENTION OF RECORDS

The Contractor shall maintain all records pertinent to this Agreement, including but not limited to those records enumerated in Article 14, and all other financial, statistical, property, participant records, and supporting documentation for a period of no less than four (4) calendar years from the later of the date of acceptance of the final contract closeout or the date of the final audit required

under Article 13 of this Agreement. If any litigation, claim, negotiation, audit or other action involving the records has been started before the expiration of the retention period, the records shall be retained until completion of the action and resolution of all issues which arise from it, or until the end of the regular four (4) year period, whichever is later.

ARTICLE 16 CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS

Any alterations, additions, or deletions to the terms of this Agreement which are required by changes in federal law or regulations are automatically incorporated into this Agreement without written amendment hereto, and shall become effective on the date designated by such law or regulation; provided if the Contractor may not legally comply with such change, the contractor may terminate its participation herein as authorized by Article 17.

H-GAC may, from time to time, require changes in the scope of the services of the Contractor to be performed hereunder. Such changes that are mutually agreed upon by and between H-GAC and the Contractor in writing shall be incorporated into this Agreement.

ARTICLE 17 TERMINATION PROCEDURES

The Contractor acknowledges that this Agreement may be terminated under the following circumstances:

1) Convenience

H-GAC may terminate this Agreement in whole or in part without cause at any time by written notice by certified mail to the Contractor whenever for any reason H-GAC determines that such termination is in the best interest of H-GAC. Upon receipt of notice of termination, all services hereunder of the Contractor and its employees and subcontractors shall cease to the extent specified in the notice of termination. In the event of termination in whole, the Contractor shall prepare a final invoice within 30 day days of such termination reflecting the services actually performed which have not appeared on any prior invoice, such invoice shall be satisfactory to the Executive Director or his designee. H-GAC agrees to pay the Contractor, in accordance with the terms of the Agreement, for services actually performed and accruing to the benefit of H-GAC, less payment of any compensation previously paid.

The Contractor may cancel or terminate this Agreement upon thirty (30) days written notice by certified mail to H-GAC. The Contractor may not give notice of cancellation after it has received notice of default from H-GAC. In the event of such termination prior to completion of the Agreement provided for herein, H-GAC agrees to pay services herein specified on a prorated basis for work actually performed and invoiced in accordance with the terms of this Agreement, less payment of any compensation previously paid.

2) Default

H-GAC may, by written notice of default to the Contractor, terminate the whole or any part of the Agreement in any one of the following circumstances:

- (1) If the Contractor fails to perform the services herein specified within the time specified herein or any extension thereof; or
- (2) If the Contractor fails to perform any of the other provisions of this Agreement for any reason whatsoever, or so fails to make progress or otherwise violates the Agreement that completion of the services herein specified within the agreement term is significantly endangered, and in either of these two instances does not cure such failure within a period of ten (10) days (or such longer period of time as may be authorized by H-GAC in writing) after receiving written notice by certified mail of default from H-GAC.

In the event of such termination, all services of the Contractor and its employees and subcontractors shall cease and the Contractor shall prepare a final invoice reflecting the services actually performed pursuant to the Agreement which have not appeared on any prior invoice. Such invoice must be satisfactory to the Executive Director of H-GAC or his designee. H-GAC agrees to pay the Contractor, in accordance with the terms of this Agreement, for services actually performed and accruing to the benefit of H-GAC as reflected on said invoice, less payment of any compensation previously paid and less any costs or damages incurred by H-GAC as a result of such default, including incremental costs that H-GAC will incur to have the Agreement completed by a person other than the contractor.

ARTICLE 18 SEVERABILITY

All parties agree that should any provision of this Agreement be determined to be invalid or unenforceable, such determination shall not affect any other term of this Agreement, which shall continue in full force and effect.

ARTICLE 19 COPYRIGHTS

The state or federal awarding agency and H-GAC reserve a royalty-free, nonexclusive, and irrevocable license to reproduce, publish or otherwise use, and to authorize others to use, for state or federal government or H-GAC purposes:

- (a) The copyright of all maps, data, reports, research or other work developed under this Agreement; and

- (b) Any copyrights or rights of use to copyrighted material which the Contractor purchases with funding under this Agreement. All such data and material shall be furnished to H-GAC on request.

ARTICLE 20 OWNERSHIP OF MATERIALS

Except as may be specified in the Special Provisions, all data, reports, research, etc., developed by the Contractor as a part of its work under this Agreement shall become the property of the H-GAC upon completion of this Agreement, or in the event of termination or cancellation hereof, at the time of payment under ARTICLE 8 for work performed. All such data and material shall be furnished to H-GAC on request.

ARTICLE 21 FORCE MAJEURE

To the extent that either party to this Agreement shall be wholly or partially prevented from the performance within the term specified of any obligation or duty placed on such party by reason of or through strikes, stoppage of labor, riot, fire, flood, acts of war, insurrection, accident, order of any court, act of God, or specific cause reasonably beyond the party's control and not attributable to its neglect or nonfeasance, in such event, the time for the performance of such obligation or duty shall be suspended until such disability to perform is removed. Determination of force majeure shall rest solely with the H-GAC.

ARTICLE 22 NON-DISCRIMINATION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

The Contractor agrees to comply with all federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§ 1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. § 794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1974, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§ 6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to the nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§ 523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. 290 dd-3 and 290 ee-3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. § 3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in any specific statute(s) applicable to any Federal funding for this Agreement; and (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to this Agreement.

ARTICLE 23 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officer, member or employee of the Contractor or subcontractors, no member of the governing body of the Contractor, and no other public officials of the Contractor who exercise any functions or responsibilities in the review or approval of this Agreement, shall participate in any decision relating to this Agreement which affects his or her personal interest, or shall have any personal or pecuniary interest, direct or indirect, in this Agreement.

ARTICLE 24 POLITICAL ACTIVITY; LOBBYING

No funds provided under this Agreement may be used in any way to attempt to influence in any manner a member of Congress to favor or oppose any legislation or appropriation by Congress, or for lobbying with state or local legislators. The Contractor, if a recipient of federal assistance exceeding \$100,000 through an H-GAC subcontract, will comply with section 319, Public Law 101-121 (31 U.S.C. 1352).

ARTICLE 25 SECTARIAN INVOLVEMENT PROHIBITED

The Contractor shall ensure that no funds under this Agreement are used, either directly or indirectly, in the support of any religious or anti-religious activity, worship, or instruction.

ARTICLE 26 CRIMINAL PROVISIONS AND SANCTIONS

The Contractor agrees that it will perform the Agreement activities in conformance with safeguards against fraud and abuse as set forth by the H-GAC, the State of Texas, and the acts and regulations of the funding entity. The Contractor agrees to promptly notify H-GAC of suspected fraud, abuse or other criminal activity through the filing of a written report within twenty-four (24) hours of knowledge thereof and to notify H-GAC of any accident or incident requiring medical attention arising from its activities under this Agreement within twenty-four (24) hours of such occurrence.

Theft or willful damage to property on loan to the Contractor from H-GAC, if any, shall be reported to local law enforcement agencies and H-GAC within two (2) hours of discovery of any such act.

The Contractor further agrees to cooperate fully with H-GAC, local law enforcement agencies, the State of Texas, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and any other duly authorized investigative unit in carrying out a full investigation of all such incidents.

ARTICLE 27 TITLES NOT RESTRICTIVE

The titles assigned to the various Articles of this Agreement are for convenience only. Titles shall not be considered restrictive of the subject matter of any Article, or part of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 28 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF FUNDING SOURCE

The Contractor shall give credit to Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and H-GAC as the funding source for this Agreement in all oral presentations, written documents, publicity, and advertisements regarding any of the Contractor's activities which arise from this Agreement.

ARTICLE 29 DISPUTES

Any and all disputes concerning questions of fact or of law arising under this Agreement which are not disposed of by agreement shall be decided by the Executive Director of H-GAC or his designee, who shall reduce his decision to writing and provide notice thereof to the Contractor. The decision of the Executive Director or his designee shall be final and conclusive unless, within thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of such copy, the Contractor requests a rehearing from the Executive Director of H-GAC. In connection with any rehearing under this Article, the Contractor shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard and offer evidence in support of its position. The decision of the Executive Director after any such rehearing shall be final and conclusive. The Contractor may, if it elects to do so, appeal the final and conclusive decision of the Executive Director to a court of competent jurisdiction. Pending final decision of a dispute hereunder, the Contractor shall proceed diligently with the performance of the Agreement and in accordance with H-GAC's final decision.

ARTICLE 30 GOVERNING LAW; VENUE

This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Texas. Venue and jurisdiction of any suit or cause of action arising under or in connection with the Agreement shall lie exclusively in Harris County, Texas, unless the laws of the State of Texas specifically establish venue in some other county.

ARTICLE 31 ORDER OF PRIORITY

In the case of any conflict between the General Provision, the Special Provisions, and Attachments to this Agreement, the following order of priority shall be utilized: Special Provision, General Provisions, and Attachments.

H-GAC and the Contractor have executed the Agreement as of the date first written above.

Jack Steele, Executive Director
Houston-Galveston Area Council

Date