

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)

) ORDINANCE NUMBER #2014-02

COUNTY OF GEORGETOWN)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND GEORGETOWN COUNTY PROCUREMENT ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE A REVISED METHOD FOR COUNTY VENDOR PREFERENCE

WHEREAS, Georgetown County Council desires to further its support of local businesses when awarding contracts for the provision of supplies and construction services to the County through its established procurement procedures.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by Georgetown County Council, duly assembled, that the Georgetown County Procurement Ordinance Number 2008-09, as previously amended on November 9, 2010, and currently codified as Chapter 2, Administration, Article III, Purchasing and Procurements, Section 2-50 Local Preference Option, shall be amended as follows:

Sec 2-50. Local Preference Option

1. A vendor shall be deemed a Local Georgetown County vendor for the purposes of this Section if such vendor is an individual, partnership, association or corporation that is authorized to transact business within the State, maintains an office in Georgetown County, and maintains a representative inventory or commodities within the County on which the bid is submitted, and has paid all taxes duly assessed.
2. This option allows the lowest local Bidder whose bid is ~~the lesser of 10,000 or~~ within five-percent (5%) of the lowest non-local Bidder to match the bid submitted by the non-local Bidder and thereby be awarded the contract. This preference shall apply only when (a) the total dollar purchase is \$10,000 or more; (b) the vendor has a physical business address located and operating within the limits of Georgetown County and has been doing business in the County for a period of twelve (12) months or more; and (c) the vendor provides proof of payment of all applicable Georgetown County taxes and fees if so requested.
3. Should the lowest responsible and responsive Georgetown County bidder not exercise its right to match the bid as granted herein, the next lowest qualified Georgetown County bidder shall have that right and so on. The right to exercise the right to match the bid shall be exercised within 24 hours of notification of the right to match the non-Georgetown County bidder's bid.
4. In order to qualify for the local preference authorized by this Section, the vendor seeking same shall be required to submit with its bid a statement containing relevant information which demonstrates compliance with the provisions of this Section. This statement shall be on a form provided by the County purchasing department and shall be signed under penalty of perjury. Failure to provide such affidavit at the time the bidder submits its bid shall constitute a waiver of any claim for preference.
5. For all contracts for architecture, professional engineering, or other professional services governed by Section 2-56, Architect-Engineer and Land Surveying Services – Public Announcement and Selection Process, the county shall include the local

business status of a firm among the factors considered when selecting which firms are "most highly qualified". In determining which firm is the "most qualified" for purposes of negotiating a satisfactory contract, preference shall be given to a local business where all other relevant factors are equal.

6. Local preference shall not apply to the following categories of contracts: (a) Goods or services provided under a cooperative purchasing agreement or similar "piggyback" contract; (b) Contracts for professional services except as provided for in section five (§5) above; (c) Purchases or contracts which are funded, in whole or in part, by a governmental or other funding entity, where the terms and conditions of receipt of the funds prohibit the preference; (d) Purchases or contracts made pursuant to a noncompetitive award process, unless otherwise provided by this section; or (e) Any bid announcement which specifically provides that the general local preference policies set forth in this section are suspended due to the unique nature of the goods or services sought, the existence of an emergency as found by either the county council or county administrator, or where such suspension is, in the opinion of the county attorney, required by law.

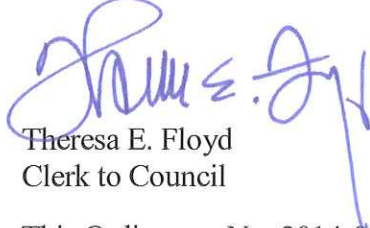
Except as amended hereby, the Georgetown County Procurement Ordinance No. 2008-09, as previously adopted, shall continue in full force and effect.

DONE, RATIFIED AND ADOPTED THIS 25th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2014.

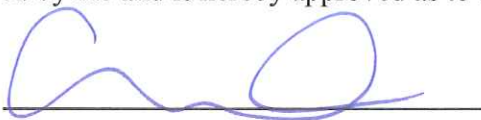


Johnny Morant (Seal)
Chairman, Georgetown County Council

ATTEST:


Theresa E. Floyd
Clerk to Council

This Ordinance, No. 2014-02, has been reviewed by me and is hereby approved as to form and legality.



Wesley P. Bryant
Georgetown County Attorney

First Reading: 01-14-2014
Second Reading: 02-11-2014
Third Reading: 02-25-2014