TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY COUNTY OF UNION

PUBLIC NOTICE

Ms. Patricia Donahue Township Clerk Phone: 908-709-7210 Fax: 908-276-4859

E-mail: p-donahue@cranfordnj.org

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR PLANNING SERVICES FOR THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

The Township of Cranford is soliciting proposals through a fair and open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq.

Beginning on Thursday, October 21st, 2021, submission packages may be obtained at the Township Clerk's Office, (908) 709-7210, during regular business hours, 8:30 A.M. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays, or by downloading the documents on the Township's website: https://www.cranfordnj.org/bids. Registration on the Township's website is required.

Sealed Request for Proposals (RFP's) responses shall contain: one original; one hard copy and one digital copy (i.e., USB stick or thumb drive) of the submission. Such RFP responses should be enclosed in an opaque sealed envelope, plainly marked, "Planning Services for the Zoning Board of Adjustment" and shall show the name and address of the bidder. RFP's may be hand delivered to the Clerk's Office in the Township Building or may be forwarded by personal service, certified mail, U.S. Post and other mail delivery services. The sealed envelope containing the proposal and marked as directed above, must be enclosed in another envelope properly addressed as follows:

Patricia Donahue,
c/o November 10th RFP Opening – **Planning Services for the Zoning Board of Adjustment**Township Clerk
Township of Cranford
Municipal Building
8 Springfield Avenue
Cranford, NJ 07016

Notice is hereby given that sealed RFP responses will be received by the Township Clerk of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey, at the Municipal Building, located at 8 Springfield Avenue, 2nd Floor, Cranford, New Jersey, 07016, on Wednesday, November 10th, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, and publicly opened with the contents of same publicly announced for 2022 Planning Services for the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Respondents shall comply with the requirements of <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 10:5-31 et seq. and <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 17:27. A copy of a New Jersey Business Registration Certificate shall be included with the RFQP.

By order of the Township Committee: Kathleen Prunty, Mayor Jamie Cryan, Township Administrator Patricia Donahue, Township Clerk

GENERAL INFORMATION & SUMMARY

Organization Requesting Proposal

Zoning Board of Adjustment of the Township of Cranford 8 Springfield Avenue Cranford, New Jersey 07016

Contact Person

Jamie Cryan Township Administrator 908-709-7206

Purpose of Request

The Township of Cranford is requesting proposals from qualified individuals and firms ("contractor(s)" or "proposer(s)") to provide planning services for the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Proposals will be evaluated in accordance with the criteria set forth in this RFP. One or more individuals/firms may be selected to provide services.

The Township of Cranford (the "Township") is soliciting Proposals from interested persons and/or firms for the provision of professional services as more particularly described herein. Through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process described herein, persons and/or firms interested in assisting the Zoning Board with the provision of such services must prepare and submit a Proposal in accordance with the procedure and schedule in the RFP. The Township will review Proposals only from those persons and/or firms that submit a Proposal which includes all the information required to be included as described herein, as determined in the sole and absolute discretion of the Township. The Township intends to qualify persons and/or firms that (a) possess the profession, financial and administrative capabilities to provide the proposed services and (b) will agree to work under the compensation terms and conditions determined by the Township to provide the greatest benefit to the taxpayers of Cranford.

Term

The services of successful respondents may be procured on an as needed basis for one (1) year.

Defined Terms

The following definitions shall apply to and are used in this Request for Proposal:

"Zoning Board of Adjustment"- refers to the Zoning Board of Adjustment of the Township of Cranford.

"Proposal" - refers to the complete responses to this RFP submitted by the respondents.

"Qualified Respondent" – refers to a respondent who (in the sole and absolute discretion of the Zoning Board of Adjustment) has satisfied the qualification criteria set forth in this RFP.

"RFP" – refers to this Request for Proposal, including any amendments thereof or supplements thereto.

"Respondent" or "Responders" – refers to the interested persons and/or firm(s) that submit a Proposal.

"Township" – refers to the Township of Cranford.

Contract Form

If selected, a respondent shall be required to execute the Township's form contract, which includes, among other things, indemnification, insurance, termination and licensing provisions. A complete copy of a draft Township form contract is available upon request.

It is also agreed and understood that the acceptance of the final payment by contractor shall be considered a release in full of all claims against the Zoning Board of Adjustment and the Township arising out of, or by reason of, the work done and materials furnished under this contract.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR PLANNING SERVICES FOR THE ZONING BOARD

1. Township of Cranford and Zoning Board of Adjustment Facts and Figures

The Township of Cranford is a legal, governmental entity. The Township was incorporated in 1871 and operates under N.J.S.A. 40A:63-1 et seq., the Township form of government. The Township is governed by a Township Committee. The Township Committee sets policy, adopts the operating and capital budgets for the Township, enacts ordinances and sets the direction of how the township of Cranford will provide government services. The Township Administrator carries out the policies adopted by the Township Committee.

The Township's population is approximately 23,600 and it consists of approximately 4.9 square miles of area. The Township provides a full range of municipal services.

The Township's Zoning Board of Adjustment is established as per N.J.S.A. 40:55D-69 et seq. and § 136-3 of the Township's Land Development Code. The Zoning Board of Adjustment consists of seven members and two alternates and typically meets twice per month, as per the by-laws.

2. Nature/Scope of Services

The Zoning Board of Adjustment hereby solicits Proposals from respondents that have expertise in providing Planning Services. The planning firm may have a close working relationship with the Zoning Board of Adjustment and any of the following offices: The Office of the Township Administrator, the Department of Engineering and Public Works, Office of the Township Attorney, Office of Planning and Zoning, Zoning Board of Adjustment.

The Zoning Board of Adjustment may utilize a number of services to be provided by outside professional planning consulting firms. The Zoning Board of Adjustment is seeking proposals from respondents to be prequalified on a fair and open basis to perform such

planning consulting services. Firms may submit proposals to perform some or all of the following types of work:

- Site and land use planning.
- Advising the Zoning Board of Adjustment on site plan and subdivision review, including preparation of review memoranda.
- Attending meetings of the Zoning Board of Adjustment when required.
- Review of land use ordinances.
- Advising the Zoning Board of Adjustment with respect to affordable housing obligations.

Please provide qualifications for any or all of the areas listed above that the respondent is interested in being considered for.

3. Submission Requirements

- 1. A certificate of insurance evidencing the respondent's Errors and Omissions Insurance with a limit of liability of an amount not less than \$2 million each claim and aggregate if respondent is a corporation or limited liability partnership; or no less than \$1,000,000.00 each claim and aggregate if respondent is an individual, sole-proprietor, or single-member limited liability company.
- 2. Respondents must have a minimum of five (5) years of experience in providing planning services and a minimum of five (5) years servicing municipalities and other local governmental entities;
- 3. Respondents should submit a Proposal that contains the following:
 - a. The name of the respondent, the principal place of business and, if different, the place where the services will be provided.
 - b. A description of respondent's overall experience in providing the type of services sought in the RFP. At a minimum, the following information/past experience should be included as appropriate to the RFP: (i) description and scope of work by Respondent; (ii) explanation of perceived relevance of the experience to the RFP; and (iii) the education, qualifications, experience, and training of all persons who would be assigned to provide services along with their names and titles.
 - c. A narrative statement of the respondent's understanding of the Township's needs and goals.
 - d. If the respondent has performed any services for the Township that are not yet complete, specifically list all open matters and describe all ongoing services.

- e. A listing of all other engagements where services of the types being proposed were provided in the past five (5) years. This should include other municipal governments and may include other levels of government. Contact information for the recipients of the similar services must be provided. The Zoning Board of Adjustment may obtain references from any of the parties listed. Where contracted on a project basis, details of the project and the services rendered shall be detailed.
- f. A description of all other areas of planning services provided by the respondent, with emphasis on a description of those services of interest to a municipal government client.
- g. A statement that neither the respondent nor any individuals assigned to this engagement are disbarred, suspended, or otherwise prohibited from professional practice by any federal, state or local agency.
- h. A listing of all immediate relatives of the principal(s) of respondent who are Township employees or elected officials of the Township. For purposes of the above, "immediate relative" means a spouse, parent, stepparent, brother, sister, child, stepchild, direct-line aunt or uncle, grandparent, grandchild, and in-laws.
- i. A statement that the respondent will comply with the General Terms and Conditions required by Township and enter into the Township's standard Professional Services Contract.
- j. An Affirmative Action Statement (sample language attached).
- k. A completed Non-Collusion Affidavit (copy of form attached).
- 1. A completed Owner Information Form (copy of form attached).
- m. A completed Disclosure Statement (copy of form attached).
- n. A copy of the respondent's W9 & Business Registration Certificate.

4. Cost Proposal

Respondent's are to submit a cost proposal for the services set forth in Section 2 above; Nature/Scope of Services; that the respondent wants to provide indicating the basis of the fee, whether lump sum, hourly rate or otherwise, together with a statement of the hourly rate or other fee basis.

5. Evaluation

The Township has structured a procurement process that seeks to obtain the desired results described herein, while establishing a competitive process to assure that each respondent is provided an equal opportunity to submit a Proposal in response to the RFP. The Township will select the most advantageous proposal(s), if any and as determined in its sole and absolute discretion, based on all of the evaluation factors set forth at the end of the RFP. The Township will make the award(s), if any, that is in the best interest of the Township.

Proposals will be reviewed and evaluated by Township Professionals (collectively, the "Review Team"). The Proposals will be reviewed to determine if the respondent has met the minimum professional, administrative and financial areas and other requirements described in the RFP. Each respondent must satisfy the objectives and requirements detailed in the RFP. The successful respondent shall be determined by an evaluation of the total content of the Proposal submitted. Based upon the totality of the information contained in the Proposal, including information about the reputation and experience of each respondent, the Township will (in its sole and absolute discretion) determine which respondents are qualified from a professional, administrative, and financial perspective. Each respondent that meets the requirements of the RFP (determined in the sole and absolute discretion of the Township) will be designated as a Qualified Respondent and may then be given an opportunity to provide services to the Township.

The RFP process commences with the issuance of this RFP. It is anticipated that certain Qualified Respondents will be selected to begin providing services to the Township as soon as the Township Committee approves a resolution designating Qualified Respondents. There can be no assurance, however, that any Qualified Respondent will be selected.

All communication concerning this RFP or the RFP process shall be directed, in writing, to the Township's designated contact person:

Mr. Jamie Cryan Township Administrator Township of Cranford 8 Springfield Avenue Cranford, NJ 07016

- 6. **Reservation of Rights** The Zoning Board of Adjustment reserves the right to:
 - A. Not select any of the proposals;
 - B. Select only portions of a particular respondent's proposal for further consideration; (However, respondents may specify portions of the proposal that they consider "bundled");
 - C. Supplement, amend or otherwise modify the RFP through issuance of Addenda to all prospective respondents who have received a copy of this RFP;
 - D. Change or alter the schedule for any events called for in this RFP upon the issuance of Addenda to all prospective respondents who have received a copy of this RFP;
 - E. Negotiate a reduction in or modification to a respondent's cost proposal or any other aspect of the Proposal;
 - F. Conduct investigation of any or all of the respondents, as the Zoning Board of Adjustment deems necessary or convenient, to clarify the information provided as part of the Proposal and to request additional information to support the information included in any Proposal; and
 - G. To suspend or terminate the procurement process described in this RFP at any time (in its sole and absolute discretion). If terminated, the Zoning Board of Adjustment may

determine to commence a new procurement process or exercise any other rights provided under applicable law without any obligation to the respondents.

The Township shall be under no obligation to complete all or any portion of the procurement process described in this RFP.

The Township shall not be obligated to explain the results of the evaluation process to any person or entity, including, without limitation, any respondent.

The Township may require respondents to demonstrate any services described in their proposal prior to award.

7. Limitations

This RFP is not intended to be an offer, order or contract and should not be regarded as such, nor shall any obligation or liability be imposed on the Township by issuance of this RFP. The Township reserves the right at the Township's sole discretion to refuse any submission.

8. <u>Use of Information</u>

Any specifications, drawings, sketches, models, samples, data, computer programs, documentation, technical or business information and the like ("Information") furnished or disclosed by the Township to the respondent in connection with this RFP shall remain the property of the Township. When in tangible form, all copies of such information shall be returned to the Township upon request. Unless such information was previously known to the respondent, free of any obligation to keep it confidential, or has been or is subsequently made public by the Township or a third party, it shall be held in confidence by the respondent, shall be used only for the purposes of this RFP, and may not be used for other purposes except upon such terms and conditions as may be mutually agreed upon in writing.

9. General Terms and Conditions

- A. The Township reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals in whole or in part, or to waive any informalities in the Request for Proposal, and, unless otherwise specified by the respondent, to accept any item, items or services in the proposals should it be deemed in the best interest of the Zoning Board of Adjustment to do so.
- B. In case of failure by the successful respondent, the Township may procure the articles or services from other sources, deduct the cost of the replacement from money due to the respondent under the contract and hold the respondent responsible for any excess cost occasioned thereby.
- C. The respondent shall maintain sufficient insurance to protect against all claims under Workmen's Compensation, General, Professional and Automobile Liability.
- E. Proposers shall submit one (1) original copy with signatures, (1) one hard copy, and one (1) portable document file ("pdf") via non-returnable, pc compatible data storage (CD, flash drive) and may be hand delivered or mailed consistent with the provisions of the RFPP procedures outlined herein. In the case of mailed proposals, the Township assumes no responsibility for Proposals received after the designated date and time and will return late Proposals unopened. Proposals will not be accepted by facsimile or e-mail. Proposals shall be in a sealed opaque envelope clearly marked "Planning Services for

the Zoning Board of Adjustment". To be considered, proposals shall be delivered to or received by the Township Clerk no later than 10:00 AM on Friday, November 10th, 2021. RFP's may be hand delivered to the Clerk's Office in the Township Building or may be forwarded by personal service, certified mail, U.S. Post and other mail delivery services. The sealed envelope containing the proposal and marked as directed above, must be enclosed in another envelope properly addressed as follows:

Patricia Donahue, c/o November 10th RFP Opening — "Planning Services for the Zoning Board of Adjustment". Township Clerk Township of Cranford Municipal Building 8 Springfield Avenue Cranford, NJ 07016

- F. Respondents are required to comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 17:27. See Exhibit A
- G. By submission of a Proposal, the respondent certifies that the service to be furnished will not infringe upon any valid patent, trademark or copyright and the successful respondent shall, at its expense, defend any and all actions or suits charging such infringement, and will save the Township harmless in any case of any such infringement.
- H. No respondent shall influence, or attempt to influence, or cause to be influenced, any Township officer or employee to use his/her official capacity in any manner which might tend to impair the objectivity or independence of judgment of said officer or employee.
- I. No respondent shall cause or influence, or attempt to cause or influence, any Township officer or employee to use his/her official capacity to secure unwarranted privileges or advantages for the respondent or any other person.
- J. Should any difference arise between the contracting parties as to the meaning or intent of these instructions or specifications, the Township Counsel's decision shall be final and conclusive.
- K. All costs incurred by the respondent in connection with responding to this RFP shall be borne solely by the respondent. The Township shall not be responsible for any expenditure of monies or other expenses incurred by the respondent.
- L. The checklist, affidavits, notices and the like presented at the end of this RFP are a part of this RFP and shall be completed and submitted as part of this Request for Proposal.
- M. All Proposals shall become the property of the Township and will not be returned.
- N. All Proposals will be made available to the public at the appropriate time, as determined by the Zoning Board of Adjustment (in the exercise of its sole and absolute discretion) and in accordance with law.
- O. Neither the Township, nor their respective staffs, consultants or advisors (including, but not limited to, the Review Team) shall be liable for any claims or damages resulting from the solicitation or preparation of the Request for Proposal, nor will there by any

reimbursement to respondents for the cost of preparing and submitting a Proposal or for participant in this procurement process.

END OF GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

BASIS OF AWARD

A contract, if any, shall be awarded based upon the following evaluation factors:

EVALUATION FACTORS

- A. Relevance and extent of Qualifications, Experience, Reputation and Training of Personnel to be assigned
- B. Knowledge of the Township of Cranford and the subject matter to be addressed under this engagement
- C. Relevance and Extent of Similar Engagements performed
- D. Qualification Statement contains all required information
- E. Reasonableness of Cost Proposal

PROPOSAL CHECKLIST

THIS CHECKLIST MUST BE COMPLETED, INITIALED, SIGNED AND SUBMITTED WITH YOUR PROPOSAL. A PROPOSAL SUBMITTED WITHOUT THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS IS CAUSE FOR REFUSAL.

		INITIAL BELOW
A.	One (1) original and One (1) hard copy of a printed signed complete proposal	
В.	One (1) PDF file delivered on PC compatible data storage (CD, flash drive)	
C.	Non-Collusion Affidavit properly notarized	
D.	Owners Disclosure Information Form, properly notarized, listing the names of all persons owning ten percent (10%) or more of the proposing entity	
E.	Authorized signatures on all forms	
F.	Business Registration Certificate(s) & W9	
G.	Disclosure Statement	
Н.	Affirmative Action Statement	
service certific contra	N.J.S.A 52:32-44 provides that the Township shall not enter into a es unless the other party to the contract provides a copy of its cate and the business registration certificate of any subcontractors ct, Purchase Order or other contracting document is awarded cting party must also collect the state use tax where applicable.	business registration prior to the time a
	THE UNDERSIGNED HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGES THE ABOVE LISTED REQUIREMENTS	
NAMI	E OF RESPONDENT:	
Person	, Firm or Corporation	
BY:	(NAME) (TITLE)	

EXHIBIT A MANDATORY EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY LANGUAGE N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq., N.J.A.C. 17:27

GOODS, PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND GENERAL SERVICE CONTRACTS

During the performance of this contract, the contractor, the contractor agrees as follows:

The contractor or subcontractor, where applicable, will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex. Except with respect to affectional or sexual orientation and gender identity or expression, the contractor will ensure that equal employment opportunity is afforded to such applicants in recruitment and employment, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression disability, nationality or sex. Such equal employment opportunity shall include, but not limited to the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the Public Agency Compliance Officer setting forth provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

The contractor or subcontractor, where applicable will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to age, race creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex.

The contractor or subcontractor will send to each labor union with which it has a collective bargaining agreement, a notice, to be provided by the agency contracting officer, advising the labor union or workers' representative of the contractor's commitments under this chapter and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.

The contractor or subcontractor where applicable, agrees to comply with any regulations promulgated by the Treasurer pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. as amended and supplemented from time to time and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The contractor or subcontractor agrees to make good faith efforts to meet targeted county employment goals established in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:27-5.2.

The contractor or subcontractor agrees to inform in writing its appropriate recruitment agencies, including, but not limited to, employment agencies, placement bureaus, colleges, universities, and labor unions, that it does not discriminate on the basis of age, creed color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex, and that it will discontinue the use of any recruitment agency which engages in direct or indirect discriminatory practices.

The contractor or subcontractor agrees to revise any of its testing procedures, if necessary, to assure that all personal testing conforms to the principles of job-related testing, as established by the statutes and court decisions of the State of New Jersey and as established by applicable Federal law and applicable Federal court decisions.

In conforming with the targeted employment goals, the contractor or subcontractor agrees to review all procedures relating to transfer, upgrading, downgrading and layoff to ensure that all such actions are taken without regard to age, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex, consistent with the statutes and court decisions of the State of New Jersey, and applicable Federal law and applicable Federal court decisions.

The contractor shall submit to the public agency, after notification of award but prior to execution of a goods and services contract, one of the following three documents:

- Letter of Federal Affirmative Action Plan Approval
- Certificate of Employee Information Report
- Employee Information Report Form AA302 (electronically provided by the Division and distributed to the public agency through the Division's website at www.state.nj.us/treasury/contract_compliance)

The contractor and its subcontractor(s) shall furnish such reports or other documents to the Division of Public Contracts Equal Employment Opportunity Compliance as may be requested by the office from time to time in order to carry out the purposes of these regulations, and public agencies shall furnish such information as may be requested by the Division of Public Contracts Equal Employment Opportunity compliance for conducting a compliance investigation pursuant to **Subchapter 10 of the Administrative Code at N.J.A.C. 17:27.**

	NON-COLLUSION AFFIDAVIT
STATE OF NEW JERSEY)
) ss:
COUNTY OF UNION)
I am	of the City of,
In the County of of full age, being duly sworn	and the State of according to the law on my oath depose and say that:
I am	of the firm of, the making the Qualification Statement, and that I executed the said
or indirectly, entered intany action in restraint of Statement; and that all Affidavit are true and conclusion Relies upon the truth of statements contained in the I further warrant that no secure such contract up brokerage or contingent.	will full authority so to do; and that said respondent has not, directly to any agreement, participated in any collusion, or otherwise takes of free, competitive bidding in connection with the Qualification statements contained in said Qualification Statement and in this orrect, and made with full knowledge that the State of New Jerses the statements contained in said Qualification Statement and in the his Affidavit in awarding any contract for the named services. person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit of the one and agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage fee, except bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial ained by (N.J.S.A. 52:34-15)
	(Name of Respondent)
	(Also type or print name of Affiant under signature)
Subscribed and Sworn to be	fore me this
day of	, 2021
NOTARY PUBLIC OF MY COMMISSION EXPIRES	, 20

OWNER DISCLOSURE INFORMATION

Set forth below are the names and addresses of all owners of 10% or more of the proposing business entity.

Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:
Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:
Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:
Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:
Name of Business Entity	
Signature	Title
Subscribed and Sworn to before me this	
day of, 2021	
NOTARY PUBLIC OF	
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES . 20	

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (To be submitted with Qualification Statement)

	individual below and his/l	mber of his/her immediate family? If her relationship.	y ,		
	Yes	No			
	Name	Position	Relationship		
b)	Has any principal/partner of your firm been convicted of an indictable offense? If yes, then please provide further explanation and copies of any relative documents.				
	Yes	No			
	Name	Position	Relationship		
c)	Has any individual who would provide service under this contract ever been sanctioned by the appropriate licensing board?				
	Yes	No			
	Name Reason for censure:	Position	Relationship		
d)	Has the firm been found liable for professional malpractice in the last 5 years?				
	Yes	No			
	Reason for action:				
e)	Has any member of your firm ever been barred from doing business with any state, township or municipal government? If yes, then please provide further written explanation including date at copies of relevant documentation.				
	Yes	No			
	Name	State, Township or Municipality Government	Date		
Ia		hip of Cranford in the past five (5) yea urther written explanation including da			
		No			
	Yes				
	YesName	Date			