

### **SECTION III: SELECTION AND SCHEDULES**

**SELECTION PROCEDURES:** The RFP shall be submitted according to the program implementation date of January 01, 2012. The County of Hidalgo is not required to select the proposal with the lowest fees, but shall take into consideration other factors, including past experience, qualifications, evidence of good organization background, references, ability to provide requested services any other factors found necessary for quality services.

#### **RFP Scoring and Ranking:**

- (A) Hidalgo County Commissioner's Court and/or an Evaluation Committee (selected and/or designated by County Commissioner's Court) will review, score and evaluate the proposals received in response to this Hidalgo County Request for Proposals.
- (B) After the proposals have been reviewed, scored and evaluated, a grid will be presented to Commissioner's Court for the purposes of ranking.

**Negotiation Process:** Hidalgo County Commissioner's Court will authorize the Purchasing Department to proceed to negotiate the proposal section of the RFP with the number one ranked firm. The firm will submit a detailed Scope of Services, project schedule/portion and flat fee proposal for negotiation. The consulting services firm shall be compensated by the County on an agreed upon flat fee. No commission fees will be allowed. After negotiations, if a contract for the engagement cannot be successfully completed for Commissioners Court's approval, the Purchasing Department will recommend to Commissioners Court that negotiations be ceased and the process will proceed with the second ranked firm. This process will continue until negotiation efforts are successful. The County of Hidalgo reserves the right to reject any and all RFP/Q's.

Any contract awarded to a successful proposer will be in effect until **(a)** the contract expires, **(b)** delivery and acceptance of products and/or performance of services ordered, or **(c)** terminated by County with thirty (30) day's written notice prior to cancellation.

**EVALUATION SYSTEM:** The evaluation consists of a 100-point scoring system. Categories are further detailed in the Selection Criteria (Exhibit B) section of this RFP.