

EXHIBIT A
HIDALGO COUNTY
(All Funding Sources, Programs and Entities)
“HOT MIX-COLD LAID ROAD MATERIAL”
BID NO.:

Hidalgo County is requesting sealed bids for the purchase of “Hot Mix-Cold Laid Road Material” on as “**As Need Basis**” in accordance with the specifications and/or requirements specified herein and including, but not limited to all provisions set forth in the accompanying documentation.

SPECIFICATIONS AND/OR REQUIREMENTS:

It is intended that the amount of “Hot Mix-Cold Laid Road Material” will be purchased only on an “**As Needed Basis**”. It is agreed and understood that Hidalgo County will purchase no more material than is needed.

1. There is no guarantee on annual volume.
2. Bid price shall be per ton.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

1. The contract term will be for a period of one (1) year with County’s option to extend the contract for an additional one (1) year under the same terms, conditions and costs remaining unchanged.
2. Hidalgo County reserves the right to continue this bid for an additional sixty (60) day grace period at the end of the contract term for unforeseen delay in award of new bid for next contract.
3. Hidalgo County reserves the right to hold the bids received for a period of ninety (90) days without taking action hereon.
4. Hidalgo County reserves the right to award the bid to one or multiple bidders; whichever is in the best interest of the County.
5. Award of contract will be contingent on availability of Hidalgo County funds.
6. **Method of Award:** Hidalgo County reserves the right to reject any/all bids, to waive any/all formalities or technicalities, or to accept the bid considered the best and most advantageous to the County. Location is an important factor in evaluation of bids, due to transportation cost which must be taken into consideration if material is picked up at plant site or transported to County Precincts.
7. Any contract awarded to a successful bidder will be in effect until:
 - (a) The contract expires,

- (b) Delivery and acceptance of products and/or performance of service ordered,
(c) Terminated by County with thirty (30) days written notice prior to cancellation.
8. After bid is awarded and low bidder(s) default(s) in meeting the general instructions to bidders and/or comply with contractual agreement, Hidalgo County reserves the right to seek services from the next low bidder(s). In such event, County shall charge the successful bidder(s) the difference for any additional cost of such item(s).
 9. It is understood and agreed that in case Hidalgo County should need “Hot Mix-Cold Laid Road Material” and it is not available within the time frame needed from the successful vendor during the term of this contract, Hidalgo County reserves the right to purchase these items from other sources other than the successful vendor and shall not be in violation of any terms or conditions of said contract.
 10. When requested, samples shall be furnished free of expense to Hidalgo County.
 11. Testing may be performed at Hidalgo County’s request anytime during the length of the contract through an independent testing laboratory.
 12. In the event the material furnished does not meet all County’s requirement (regardless of weather, test’s acceptability, method of repair or other conditions), the County reserves the option to require the material supplier to replace or to reimburse the County for unused portion of material found to be unsatisfactory.
 13. Continuing non-performance of the bidder in terms of specifications shall be basis for the termination of the contract by the County. The County shall not pay for work, equipment or supplies which are unsatisfactory. Vendor will be given a reasonable opportunity before termination to correct the deficiencies.
 14. Hidalgo County reserves the right to seek purchases for “Hot Mix-Cold Laid Road Material” from state awarded vendors or any other cooperative purchasing programs, whenever it is in the best interest of the County to do so.
 15. All costs and expenses associated with the preparation and submission of (bids, proposals statement of qualifications (RFQ) and/or quotes) shall be the responsibility of the bidder and no reimbursements for such charges or expenses shall be passed onto Hidalgo County.
 16. Insurance requirements for this project to be maintained throughout the contract term (Refer to limits on the Exhibit “C” for limits); insurance certificate must be submitted to the Purchasing Department prior to any services being performed by the awarded bidder.
 17. The bidder(s) awarded the contract **cannot** engage the services of a **subcontractor without prior written consent of Hidalgo County** to perform services hereunder. The successful bidder(s) must present evidence that the proposed subcontractor possess all the necessary licenses and permits to perform the services and that subcontractor has obtained the required insurance.

Market Volatility and Unit Price Adjustments:

Hidalgo County recognizes that during periods of national crisis and unstable economic conditions, unforeseen price increases might affect costs for goods and services contracted on an annual basis. The following procedure may be employed to mediate price volatility:

1. **Requesting Price Adjustment:** Upon written request of the Vendor to the County Purchasing Agent, the County may review evidence of prevailing industry-wide market conditions that warrant an adjustment in bid prices contained in the contract.
 - A Vendor must tie any price change clause to an industry-wide or otherwise nationally recognized index, or some other form of verifiable document. Such written request must be accompanied by a certified copy of the supplier's advisory or notification to the vendor of the price changes.
 - The Vendor must put the Purchasing Agent on the mailing lists for such publications so that the Purchasing Agent can monitor said changes. Such membership shall be at no cost to the County.
 - The County Purchasing Agent retains the right to determine whether or not such proposed price changes are in the best interest of the County.
 - No price escalation will be authorized in excess of the amount of the increase referred to in the supplier's notice.
 - The County may only grant a price increase if the evidence presented is deemed reliable. Should the County allow a price increase, the approved price change shall be honored for all orders received by the vendor or contractor after the effective date of such price change. Approved price changes are not applicable to orders already issued and in process at time of price change.
2. **Price Reduction:** Vendor shall notify the County at the time when the Vendor's costs for items and/or supplies reduce due to stabilization in the market at which time prices for items on this contract shall be reduced accordingly. Failure by the Vendor to notify the County of a decrease in costs for items and/or supplies for which the Vendor was granted a price adjustment, may result in immediate termination of this contract and the County shall not be obligated to pay the Vendor the difference between the contract price and the price adjustment.
3. **Time frame for Adjusted Price Increases:** Price increases are only valid for the quarter in which they are requested and approved. Prices shall return to the original contract price at the beginning of the following quarter unless a Vendor notifies the County in writing within ten (10) days of expiration of the quarter in which the price increase is in effect, that it desires to have the price increase continue or that the Vendor is requesting a different price increase for the following quarter. Such request must be supplemented with sufficient justification to demonstrate that the price increase remains necessary. The County Purchasing Department shall have sole discretion whether to grant the price increase extension. The County too, shall have discretion to unilaterally reduce, eliminate or extend a price adjustment to the Vendor at any time upon written notice from the County to the Vendor demonstrating justification for such reduction, elimination or extension of the price adjustment.

4. **Allowable Review Periods:** Price adjustment reviews may only be requested by the Vendor on a quarterly basis. However, the County may at its own discretion, conduct temporary price adjustment reviews at any time. The County Purchasing Agent and/or the County Auditor reserve the right to audit and/or examine any pertinent books, documents, papers, records or invoices relating directly to the contract transaction in question after reasonable notice and during normal business hours.
5. **Dollar Limit to Price Changes:** The total increase in contract price shall not exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of the original contract price during the contract term.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Further information required for this project can be addressed to, Hidalgo County Purchasing Department at (956) 318-2626. Hidalgo County is requesting that any and all questions, inquiries, and clarifications regarding quotes, bids, proposals, or statements of qualifications be addressed to, Martha L. Salazar, CPPB, Purchasing Agent, 2802 S. Business Hwy 281, Edinburg, Texas 78539. **TELEPHONE INQUIRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

ALL WRITTEN INQUIRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED VIA FACSIMILE OR VIA E-MAIL to sandy.suarez@co.hidalgo.tx.us . NO LATER THAN, Wednesday, , 2014, by 5:00 P.M. Responses will be sent to all applicants via facsimile or by via e-mail on Friday, , 2014, no later than 5:00 P.M.