



**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AGREEMENT
FOR STRATEGIC VISION AND PLAN
FOR
THE WILLIAMSON COUNTY
(RFQ #22RFQ55)**

This Professional Services Agreement for Strategic Vision and Plan for the Williamson County (“Agreement”) is entered into between Williamson County, Texas, hereinafter referred to as COUNTY, and SBrand Solutions a Limited Liability Company, hereinafter referred to as PROVIDER, for the purpose of providing professional services in the form of strategic vision and plan consulting and preparation for Williamson County, which the Commissioners Court finds serves a public purpose and serves the public welfare of the citizens of Williamson County.

**I.
SCOPE OF SERVICES**

PROVIDER shall provide, upon request by Williamson County, the strategic vision and plan consulting and preparation services set forth in the Scope of Services attached hereto as **Exhibit “A”**. All services provided by PROVIDER shall be performed in good faith and according to the regularly accepted standards of a consultant that provides such services in the State of Texas.

PROVIDER shall have a duty to immediately notify Williamson County of any complaint, investigation, or adverse action taken against PROVIDER concerning his/her ability to practice in the State of Texas. PROVIDER will be under no obligation to provide services which are beyond PROVIDER’s expertise.

**II.
TERM**

This Agreement shall become effective as of the date of the last party’s execution below and continue until December 31, 2023 (the “initial term”), unless terminated sooner as authorized herein. Following the initial term, this Agreement may be extended upon mutual agreement in writing, subject to annual appropriation.

III. COST AND PAYMENT

The basis of compensation for the services of PROVIDER shall be based on the Rate Schedule set forth in the attached **Exhibit "B"**. The maximum amount payable under this Agreement, without modification, during the initial term and during any renewal term shall be **One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000.00)** (the "Compensation Cap"), provided that any amounts paid or payable shall be solely pursuant to services rendered and goods received upon receipt of a properly itemized invoice. In no event may the aggregate amount of compensation during any term of this Agreement exceed the Compensation Cap. The Compensation Cap shall be revised equitably only by written amendments executed by both parties in the event of a change to the overall Scope Services set forth in **Exhibit "A"**.

PROVIDER shall be reimbursed for actual non-labor costs, including travel, incurred in the performance of the services under this Agreement in accordance with the Williamson County Vendor Reimbursement Policy set forth under **Exhibit "C"**. Invoices requesting reimbursement for costs and expenditures (reimbursables) must be accompanied by copies of the PROVIDER's invoice and comply with the Williamson County Vendor Reimbursement Policy. The copies of the PROVIDER's invoice must evidence the actual costs billed to PROVIDER without mark-up.

Should the actual costs of all fees and non-labor costs (reimbursables) rendered under this Agreement be less than the above stated Compensation Cap during the initial term or any renewal term thereafter, then PROVIDER shall receive compensation for only actual fees and non-labor costs (reimbursables) actually rendered and incurred, which may be less than the above stated Compensation Cap.

COUNTY's payment for services shall be governed by Chapter 2251 of the Texas Government Code. Invoices shall be paid by COUNTY within thirty (30) days from the date of the Williamson County Auditor's receipt of an invoice. Interest charges for any late payments shall be paid by COUNTY in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 2251.025. More specifically, the rate of interest that shall accrue on a late payment is the rate in effect on September 1 of COUNTY's fiscal year in which the payment becomes due. The said rate in effect on September 1 shall be equal to the sum of one percent (1%); and (2) the prime rate published in the Wall Street Journal on the first day of July of the preceding fiscal year that does not fall on a Saturday or Sunday. In the event that a discrepancy arises in relation to an invoice, such as an incorrect amount on an invoice or a lack of documentation that is required to be attached to an invoice to evidence the amount claimed to be due, COUNTY shall notify PROVIDER of the discrepancy. Following COUNTY's notification of any discrepancy as to an invoice, PROVIDER must resolve the discrepancy and resubmit a corrected or revised invoice, which includes all required support documentation, to Williamson County. COUNTY shall pay the invoice within thirty (30) days from the date of Williamson County's receipt of the corrected or revised invoice. COUNTY's payment of an invoice that contains a discrepancy shall not be considered late, nor shall any interest begin to accrue until the thirty-first (31st) day following Williamson County's receipt of the corrected or revised invoice.

Any violation of the provisions of this Agreement by PROVIDER shall be grounds for withholding payment by the COUNTY until the violation is resolved to the satisfaction of the COUNTY.

IV. AGENCY-INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR

Neither the COUNTY nor any employee thereof is an agent of PROVIDER and neither PROVIDER nor any employee thereof is an agent of the COUNTY. This agreement does not and shall not be construed to entitle either party or any of their respective employees, if applicable, to any benefit, privilege, or other amenities of employment by the other party. The parties agree and acknowledge that PROVIDER is acting as an independent contractor under this Agreement.

V. ASSIGNMENT; SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS

Neither party may assign, in whole or in part, any interest it may have in this Agreement without the prior written consent of the other party. This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns.

VI. THIRD PARTY BENEFICIARY EXCLUDED

No person not a party to this Agreement may bring a cause of action pursuant to this Agreement as a third-party beneficiary. This Agreement may not be interpreted to waive the sovereign immunity of any party to this Agreement to the extent such party may have immunity under Texas law.

VII. FORCE MAJEURE

If the party obligated to perform is prevented from performance by an act of war, order of legal authority, act of God, or other unavoidable cause not attributable to the fault or negligence of said party, the other party shall grant such party relief from the performance of this Agreement. The burden of proof for the need of such relief shall rest upon the party obligated to perform. To obtain release based on force majeure, the party obligated to perform shall file a written request with the other party.

VIII. TERMINATION

This Agreement may be terminated, with or without cause, by either party by providing written notice to the other party at least thirty (30) days prior to the intended date of termination. In the

event of termination, COUNTY will only be liable for its pro rata share of services rendered and goods actually received.

IX.
NOTICE

Any notice or other writing required by this Agreement shall be deemed given when personally delivered or mailed by certified or registered United States mail, postage prepaid, addressed as follows:

COUNTY: Williamson County Judge
Hon. Bill Gravell (or successor)
710 Main Street, Ste. 101
Georgetown, Texas 78626

with copy to: Williamson County General Counsel
Hal Hawes
710 Main Street, Ste. 201
Georgetown, Texas 78626

PROVIDER: SBrand Solutions
Attn: Sheryl Trent
2142 Coral Point Drive
Cape Coral, Florida 33990

X.
SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this Agreement shall be held invalid or unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not invalidate or render unenforceable any other provision hereof, but rather this entire Agreement will be construed as if not containing the particular invalid or unenforceable provision or provisions, and the rights and obligation of the parties shall be construed and enforced in accordance therewith. The parties acknowledge that if any provision of this Agreement is determined to be invalid or unenforceable, it is the desire and intention of each that such provision be reformed and construed in such a manner that it will, to the maximum extent practicable, give effect to the intent of this Agreement and be deemed to be validated and enforceable.

XI.
VENUE AND GOVERNING LAW

Each party to this Agreement hereby agrees and acknowledges that venue and jurisdiction of any suit, right, or cause of action arising out of or in connection with this Agreement shall lie

exclusively in Williamson County, Texas. Furthermore, except to the extent that this Agreement is governed by the laws of the United States, this Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas, excluding, however, its choice of law rules.

XII. NO WAIVER OF IMMUNITIES

Nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to waive, modify or amend any legal defense available at law or in equity to COUNTY, its past or present officers, employees, or agents or employees, nor to create any legal rights or claim on behalf of any third party. COUNTY does not waive, modify, or alter to any extent whatsoever the availability of the defense of governmental immunity under the laws of the State of Texas and of the United States.

XIII. COUNTY'S RIGHT TO AUDIT

PROVIDER agrees that COUNTY or its duly authorized representatives shall, until the expiration of three (3) years after final payment under this Agreement, have access to and the right to examine and photocopy any and all books, documents, papers and records of PROVIDER which are directly pertinent to the services to be performed under this Agreement for the purposes of making audits, examinations, excerpts, and transcriptions. PROVIDER agrees that COUNTY shall have access during normal working hours to all necessary PROVIDER facilities and shall be provided adequate and appropriate work space in order to conduct audits in compliance with the provisions of this section. COUNTY shall give PROVIDER reasonable advance notice of intended audits.

XIV. APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

COUNTY believes it has sufficient funds currently available and authorized for expenditure to finance the costs of this Agreement. PROVIDER understands and agrees that the COUNTY's payment of amounts under this Agreement is contingent on the COUNTY receiving appropriations or other expenditure authority sufficient to allow the COUNTY, in the exercise of reasonable administrative discretion, to continue to make payments under this Agreement.

XV. ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This Agreement represents the entire understanding of and between the parties and supersedes all prior representations and prior agreements between the parties. This Agreement may not be varied orally, but must be amended by written document of subsequent date duly executed by these parties.

Executed by the parties on the date referenced below to be effective as of the date of the last party's execution.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS

Hon. Bill Gravell
Williamson County Judge

Date: _____, 20____

SBRAND SOLUTIONS



Sheryl Trent

Date: July 12, 2022

EXHIBIT “A”
SCOPE OF SERVICES

EXHIBIT “B”

RATE SCHEDULE & CALENDAR
(Phases, Tasks, Deliverables and Pricing)

Williamson County

Vendor Reimbursement Policy

The purpose of this Williamson County Vendor Reimbursement Policy (“Policy”) is to provide clear guidelines to vendors on Williamson County’s expectations and requirements regarding allowable reimbursable expenditures and required backup. The Policy will also minimize conflicts related to invoice payments and define non-reimbursable items. This Policy is considered a guideline and is not a contract.

This Policy may be altered, deleted or amended, at any time and without prior notice to vendors, by action of the Williamson County Commissioners Court. Unenforceable provisions of this Policy, as imposed by applicable law, regulations, or judicial decisions, shall be deemed to be deleted. Any revisions to this Policy will be distributed to all current vendors doing business with the County.

1. Invoices and Affidavits

- 1.1 Invoices must adequately describe the goods or services provided to County and include all required backup (i.e. reimbursable expenses, mileage log, timesheets, receipts detailing expenses incurred etc.) that is in a form acceptable to the Williamson County Auditor. Invoices that do not adequately describe the goods or services provided to County or contain backup that is satisfactory to the Williamson County Auditor will be returned to vendor for revisions and the provision above relating to invoice errors resolved in favor of the County shall control as to the required actions of vendor and when such invoice must be paid by the County.
- 1.2 In the event an invoice includes charges based upon hourly billing rates for services or any other rates based upon the amount of time worked by an individual or individuals in performing services, whether the charges are being billed directly to the County or whether they are the basis of invoices from subcontractors for which the vendor seeks reimbursement from the County, the charges shall be accompanied by an affidavit signed by an officer or principal of the vendor certifying that the work was performed, it was authorized by the County and that all information contained in the invoice that is being submitted is true and correct.
- 1.3 Upon County’s request, vendor must submit all bills paid affidavits wherein vendor must swear and affirm that vendor has paid each of its subcontractors, laborers, suppliers and material in full for all labor and materials provided to vendor for or in connection with services and work performed for County and, further, vendor must swear and affirm that vendor is not aware of any unpaid bills, claims, demands, or causes of action by any of its subcontractors, laborers, suppliers, or material for or in connection with the furnishing of labor or materials, or both, for services and work performed for County.

2. Travel Reimbursement

- 2.1 The County will only cover costs associated with travel on vendors outside a 50 mile radius from Williamson County, Texas.
- 2.2 The County will only cover costs associated with travel as documented work for County. If a vendor is also doing business for another client, the travel costs must be split in proportion to the amount of work actually performed for County and the other client. The only allowable travel expense will be for the specific days worked for Williamson County.

EXHIBIT “C”

- 2.3 No advance payments will be made to vendor for travel expenditures. The travel expenditure may only be reimbursed after the expenditure/trip has already occurred and vendor has provided the Williamson County Auditor with all necessary and required backup.
- 2.4 Vendors must submit all travel reimbursement requests on each employee in full. Specifically, a travel reimbursement request must include all related travel reimbursement expenses relating to a particular trip for which vendor seeks reimbursement. Partial travel reimbursement requests will not be accepted (i.e. vendor should not submit hotel and mileage one month then the next month submit rental car and airfare). If the travel reimbursement appears incomplete, the invoice will be sent back to the vendor to be submitted when all information is ready to submit in full.
- 2.5 Reimbursement for transportation costs will be at the most reasonable means of transportation (i.e.: airline costs will be reimbursed for coach rate, rental car costs will only be reimbursed if rental car travel was most reasonable means of travel as compared to travel by air).
- 2.6 The County will not be responsible for, nor will the County reimburse additional charges due to personal preference or personal convenience of individual traveling.
- 2.7 The County will not reimburse airfare costs if airfare costs were higher than costs of mileage reimbursement.
- 2.8 Additional expenses associated with travel that is extended to save costs (i.e. Saturday night stay) may be reimbursed if costs of airfare would be less than the cost of additional expenses (lodging, meals, car rental, mileage) if the trip had not been extended. Documentation satisfactory to the Williamson County Auditor will be required to justify expenditure.
- 2.9 County will only reimburse travel expense to necessary personnel of the vendor (i.e. no spouse, friends or family members).
- 2.10 Except as otherwise set forth herein, a vendor must provide a paid receipt for all expenses. If a receipt cannot be obtained, a written sworn statement of the expense from the vendor may be substituted for the receipt.
- 2.11 Sales tax for meals and hotel stays are the only sales taxes that will be reimbursed. Sales tax on goods purchased will not be reimbursed. A sales tax exemption form is available from the Williamson County Auditor's Office upon request.
- 2.12 The County will not pay for any late charges on reimbursable items. It is the responsibility of the vendor to pay the invoice first and seek reimbursement from the County.

3. Meals

- 3.1 Meal reimbursements are limited to a maximum of \$50.00 per day on overnight travel. On day travel (travel that does not require an overnight stay), meal reimbursements are limited to a maximum of \$20.00 per day. The travel must be outside the Williamson County, Texas line by a 50 mile radius.
- 3.2 Receipts are required on meal reimbursement amounts up to the maximum per day amount stated for overnight or day travel. If receipts are not presented, the vendor can request per diem (per diem limits refer to 3.2). However, a vendor cannot combine per diem and meal receipts. Only one method shall be allowed.
- 3.3 Meals are reimbursable only for vendors who do not have the necessary personnel located within a 50 mile radius of Williamson County, Texas that are capable of carrying the vendor's obligations to County. Meals will not be reimbursed to vendors who are located within a 50 mile radius of Williamson County, Texas.
- 3.4 County will not reimburse for alcoholic beverages.

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- 3.5 Tips are reimbursable but must be reasonable to limitation of meal allowance
- 3.6 No meals purchased for entertainment purposes will be allowed.
- 3.7 Meal reimbursement must be substantiated with a hotel receipt.

4. Lodging

- 4.1 Hotel accommodations require an itemized hotel folio as a receipt. The lodging receipt should include name of the motel/hotel, number of occupant(s), goods or services for each individual charge (room rental, food, tax, etc.) and the name of the occupant(s). Credit card receipts or any other form of receipt are not acceptable.
- 4.2 Vendors will be reimbursed for a single room rate charge plus any applicable tax. If a single room is not available, the vendor must provide documentation to prove that a single room was not available in order to justify the expense over and above the single room rate. A vendor may also be required to provide additional documentation if a particular room rate appears to be excessive.
- 4.3 Personal telephone charges, whether local or long distance, will not be reimbursed.

5. Airfare

- 5.1 The County will only reimburse up to a coach price fare for air travel.
- 5.2 The County will exclude any additional charges due to personal preference or personal convenience of the individual traveling (i.e. early bird check in, seat preference charges, airline upgrades, etc. will not be an allowable reimbursement)
- 5.3 Air travel expenses must be supported with receipt copy of an airline ticket or an itinerary with actual ticket price paid. If tickets are purchased through a website, vendor must submit a copy of the webpage showing the ticket price if no paper ticket was issued.
- 5.4 Cancellation and/or change flight fees may be reimbursed by the County but vendor must provide the Williamson County Auditor with documentation in writing from a County department head providing authorization for the change.
- 5.5 The County will not reimburse vendor for tickets purchased with frequent flyer miles.

6. Car Rental

- 6.1 Vendors that must travel may rent a car at their destination when it is less expensive than other transportation such as taxis, airport shuttles or public transportation such as buses or subways.
- 6.2 Cars rented must be economy or mid-size. Luxury vehicle rentals will not be reimbursed. Any rental costs over and above the cost of a mid-size rental will be adjusted.
- 6.3 Vendors will be reimbursed for rental cars if the rental car cost would have been less than the mileage reimbursement cost (based on the distance from vendor's point of origin to Williamson County, Texas) had the vendor driven vendor's car.
- 6.4 Vendors must return a car rental with appropriate fuel levels as required by rental agreement to avoid the car rental company from adding fuel charges.
- 6.5 Rental agreement and credit card receipt must be provided to County as back up for the request for reimbursement.
- 6.6 Insurance purchased when renting vehicle may also be reimbursed.
- 6.7 Car Rental optional extras such as GPS, roadside assistance, and administrative fees on Tolls will not be reimbursed.

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7. Personal Car Usage

- 7.1 Personal vehicle usage will be reimbursed in an amount equal to the standard mileage rate allowed by the IRS.
- 7.2 Per code of Federal Regulations, Title 26, Subtitle A, Chapter 1, Subchapter B, Part IX, Section 274(d), all expense reimbursement requests must include the following:
 - 7.2.1.1 Date
 - 7.2.1.2 Destination
 - 7.2.1.3 Purpose
 - 7.2.1.4 Name of traveler(s)
 - 7.2.1.5 Correspondence that verifies business purpose of the expense
- 7.3 The mileage for a personal vehicle must document the date, location of travel to/from, number of miles traveled and purpose of trip.
- 7.4 Mileage will be reimbursed on the basis of the most commonly used route.
- 7.5 Reimbursement for mileage shall not exceed the cost of a round trip coach airfare.
- 7.6 Reimbursement for mileage shall be prohibited between place of residence and usual place of work.
- 7.7 Mileage should be calculated from employee's regular place of work or their residence, whichever is the shorter distance when traveling to a meeting or traveling to Williamson County, Texas for vendors who are located outside of Williamson County, Texas by at least a 50 mile radius.
- 7.8 When more than one person travels in same vehicle, only one person may claim mileage reimbursement.
- 7.9 Tolls, if reasonable, are reimbursable. Receipts are required for reimbursement. If a receipt is not obtainable, then written documentation of expense must be submitted for reimbursement (administrative fees on Tolls will not be reimbursed).
- 7.10 Parking fees, if reasonable are reimbursable for meetings and hotel stays. For vendors who contract with a third party for visitor parking at vendor's place of business, Williamson County will not reimburse a vendor based on a percentage of its contracted visitor parking fees. Rather, Williamson County will reimburse Vendor for visitor parking on an individual basis for each time a visitor uses Vendor's visitor parking. Receipts are required for reimbursement. If a receipt is not obtainable, then written documentation of expense must be submitted for reimbursement.
- 7.11 Operating and maintenance expenses as well as other personal expenses, such as parking tickets, traffic violations, and car repairs and collision damage are not reimbursable.

8. Other Expenses

- 8.1 Taxi fare, bus tickets, conference registrations, parking, etc. must have a proper original receipt.

9. Repayment of Nonreimbursable Expense.

Vendors must, upon demand, immediately repay County for all inappropriately reimbursed expenses whenever an audit or subsequent review of any expense reimbursement documentation finds that such expense was reimbursed contrary to these guidelines and this Policy. Williamson County reserves the right to retain any amounts that are due or that become due to a vendor in order to collect any inappropriately reimbursed expenses that a vendor was paid.

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10. Non-Reimbursable Expenses

In addition to the non-reimbursable items set forth above in this Policy, the following is a non-exhaustive list of expenses that will not be reimbursed by Williamson County:

- 10.1 Alcoholic beverages/tobacco products
- 10.2 Personal phone calls
- 10.3 Laundry service
- 10.4 Valet service (excludes hotel valet)
- 10.5 Movie rentals
- 10.6 Damage to personal items
- 10.7 Flowers/plants
- 10.8 Greeting cards
- 10.9 Fines and/or penalties
- 10.10 Entertainment, personal clothing, personal sundries and services
- 10.11 Transportation/mileage to places of entertainment or similar personal activities
- 10.12 Upgrades to airfare, hotel and/or car rental
- 10.13 Airport parking above the most affordable rate available
- 10.14 Excessive weight baggage fees or cost associated with more than two airline bags
- 10.15 Auto repairs
- 10.16 Babysitter fees, kennel costs, pet or house-sitting fees
- 10.17 Saunas, massages or exercise facilities
- 10.18 Credit card delinquency fees or service fees
- 10.19 Doctor bills, prescription and other medical services
- 10.20 Hand tools
- 10.21 Safety Equipment (hard hats, safety vests, etc.)
- 10.22 Office Supplies
- 10.23 Lifetime memberships to any association
- 10.24 Donations to other entities
- 10.25 Any items that could be construed as campaigning
- 10.26 Community outreach items exceeding \$2 per item
- 10.27 Technology Fees
- 10.28 Sales tax on goods purchased
- 10.29 Any other expenses which Williamson County deems, in its sole discretion, to be inappropriate or unnecessary expenditures.