



**INVITATION FOR BID
IFB # 15-0771-DS
Duette Preserve Watershed Improvements Project**

Manatee County, a political subdivision of the State of Florida, (hereinafter "Owner") will receive sealed bids from individuals, corporations, partnerships, and other legal entities organized under the laws of the State of Florida or authorized to conduct business in the State of Florida.

NON-MANDATORY INFORMATION CONFERENCE

In order to ensure all prospective bidders have sufficient information and understanding of Owner's needs, an Information Conference will be held at: **9:00 AM on March 25, 2015** at the **Duette Preserve Ranger Check Station located at 2649 Rawls Road, Duette, FL 34209**. The **site visit will commence immediately after the conclusion of the Information Conference**.

Attendance is not mandatory, but is highly encouraged.

DEADLINE FOR CLARIFICATION REQUESTS: **3:00 PM on March 31, 2015**

Reference Bid Article A.06

BID OPENING TIME AND DATE DUE: **3:00 PM on April 8, 2015**

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Donna M. Stevens, Contract Specialist
(941) 749-3045

donna.stevens@mymanatee.org

Manatee County Financial Management Department
Purchasing Division

AUTHORIZED FOR RELEASE: DWW

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Plans:

All plans are prepared by Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc., Signed and Sealed March 11, 2015 (Total 23 pages).

(C100) Cover Sheet, Duette Preserve Watershed Improvements.....1 page

(C200) General Notes.....1 page

(C300) Overall Site Aerial.....1 page

(C400) Area 1 Site Plan.....1 page

(C401) Area 2 Site Plan.....1 page

(C402-418) Grading and Drainage Plan.....17 page

(C500) Typical Sections.....1 page

Title of Specification:

A. Duette Preserve Specifications dated March 10, 2015.....110 pages

Permit (Attachment):

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BB. Exemption approval, 704710 dated November 2014.....4 pages

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Contract Change Order (dated 11/10/2014).....	2 pages
Public Construction Bond Form (Rev.9/11/14).....	2 pages

SECTION A
INFORMATION TO BIDDERS

A.01 OPENING LOCATION

Sealed bids will be publicly opened at the Manatee County Purchasing Division, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Suite 803, Bradenton, Florida 34205 in the presence of Owner officials at the time and date stated, or soon thereafter. All bidders or their representatives are invited to attend the sealed bid opening.

Any bids received after the stated time and date will not be considered. It shall be the sole responsibility of the bidder to have their bid delivered to the Manatee County Purchasing Division for receipt on or before the stated time and date. Bidder shall be solely and strictly responsible for its timely delivery to the Purchasing Division. Bids delayed by mail, courier, or bids delayed for any other reason, shall not be considered, shall not be opened at the public opening, and arrangements shall be made for their return at the bidder's request and expense.

A.02 SEALED & MARKED

Bids shall be submitted in duplicate, one original (marked Original) and one copy (marked Copy) of your signed bid shall be submitted in one sealed package, clearly marked on the outside "Sealed Bid #15-0771-DS, Duette Preserve Watershed Improvements Project" along with your company name.

For your convenience, a mailing label is provided with this Invitation for Bid (IFB) package. Or, you may address the package as follows:

Manatee County Purchasing Division
1112 Manatee Avenue West, Suite 803
Bradenton, Florida 34205
Sealed Bid # _____, Title _____

All blank spaces on the bid form must be filled in as noted with amounts extended and totaled and no changes shall be made in the wording of the forms or in the items thereupon. In the event a change is made in your submittal, the bidder shall write its initials by the change. Any bid may be rejected which contains any omissions, alterations, irregularities of any kind, or which shall in any manner fail to conform to the requirements of this IFB.

A bid made by an individual, either in his/her own or proper person or under a trade or firm name, shall be executed under the individual's signature. If made by a partnership, the bid shall be executed by two or more of the general partners. If made by a corporation, the bid shall be executed by its President or other legally authorized corporate officer or agent.

A.03 SECURING BID DOCUMENTS

IFB's and related documents are available on <http://www.mymanatee.org/purchasing> for download in a portable document format (.PDF) file by clicking on "Bids and Proposals" from the Purchasing Division's web page. You may view and print these files using Adobe Reader software. If necessary, you may download a free copy of Adobe Reader from the link provided on the "Bids and Proposals" page.

Additionally, Manatee County collaborates with the Manatee Chamber of Commerce by announcing solicitation opportunities to the Chamber which are then passed to its members.

Manatee County may also use DemandStar to distribute bids. On the DemandStar website, <http://www.DemandStar.com>, click on the tab titled "My DemandStar" for more information regarding this service. Participation in the DemandStar system is not a requirement for doing business with Manatee County.

Complete copies of the IFB and all related documents are available for public inspection at the Manatee County Purchasing Division, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Suite 803, Bradenton, FL 34205, or by calling (941) 749-3014. Appointments are encouraged. Documents are available between the hours of 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM Monday through Friday, with the exception of holidays. A complete set of the IFB documents must be used in preparing bids. Owner assumes no responsibility for errors and misinterpretations resulting from the use of incomplete sets of bid documents.

A.04 EXAMINATION OF BID DOCUMENTS AND SITE(S)

It is the responsibility of each bidder before submitting a bid, to (a) examine the IFB documents thoroughly; (b) visit the Project Site(s) to become familiar with local conditions that may affect cost, progress, performance, or furnishing of the Work; (c) consider federal, state, and local codes, laws, and regulations that may affect costs, progress, performance, or furnishing of the Work; (d) study and carefully correlate bidder's observations with the IFB documents; and (e) notify Owner of all conflicts, errors, or discrepancies in the IFB documents.

Each bidder may, at bidder's own expense, make or obtain any additional examinations, investigations, explorations, tests and studies, and obtain any additional information and data which pertain to the physical conditions at or contiguous to the Project Site(s) or otherwise which may affect cost, progress, performance or furnishing of the Work and which bidder deems necessary to determine his bid for performing and furnishing the Work in accordance with the time, price and other terms and conditions of the IFB documents. Owner will provide each bidder access to the site(s) to conduct such explorations and tests.

Bidder shall fill all holes, clean up and restore the Project Site(s) to its former condition upon completion of such explorations. The lands upon which the Work is to be performed, rights-of-way and easements for access thereto, and other lands designated for use by successful bidder in performing the Work are identified in the IFB documents.

All additional lands and access thereto required for temporary construction facilities or storage of materials and equipment are to be provided by successful bidder. Easements for permanent structures or permanent changes in existing structures are to be obtained and paid for by Owner unless otherwise provided in the IFB documents.

Inspection of the Project Site(s) is a **requirement** to be considered for award of this bid. Prior to submitting a bid, each bidder shall examine the Project Site(s) and all conditions thereon fully familiarizing themselves with the full scope of the Work. Failure to become familiar with Project Site conditions will in no way relieve the successful bidder from the necessity of furnishing any materials or performing any Work that is required to complete the Project in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications. Bidder shall acknowledge inspection of the Project Site(s) on his/her signed, submitted Bid Form.

A.05 MODIFICATION OF BID DOCUMENTS

If a bidder wishes to recommend changes to the IFB documents, the bidder shall furnish, in writing, data and information necessary to aid Owner in evaluating the request to modify the IFB documents. Owner is not obligated to make any changes to the IFB documents. Unless an addendum is issued, the IFB documents shall remain unaltered. **Bidders must fully comply with the IFB documents in their entirety.**

A.06 CLARIFICATION & ADDENDA

Each bidder shall examine all IFB documents and shall judge all matters relating to their adequacy and accuracy. Any inquiries, suggestions or requests concerning interpretation, clarification or additional information pertaining to this IFB shall be made through the Manatee County Purchasing Division. Owner shall not be responsible for oral interpretations given by any Owner employee, representative, or others.

3:00 PM on March 31, 2015 shall be the deadline to submit to the Purchasing Division, in writing, all inquiries, suggestions, or requests concerning interpretation, clarification or additional information pertaining to this IFB.

This deadline has been established to maintain fair treatment of all potential bidders, while maintaining progression of the Work.

If any addenda are issued to this IFB, Owner will post the documents on the Purchasing Division's web page at <http://www.mymanatee.org/purchasing>, and then by clicking on "Bids and Proposals". If the original solicitation was broadcast via DemandStar, the addenda will also be broadcast on the DemandStar distribution system to "Planholders" on this web service.

The issuance of a written addendum is the only official method whereby interpretation, clarification or additional information can be given.

It shall be the **responsibility of each bidder, prior to submitting a bid**, to contact the Purchasing Division (see contact information on the cover page) to **determine if any addenda were issued** and to make such addenda a part of their bid.

A.07 LOBBYING

After the issuance of any IFB, prospective bidders or their agents, representatives or persons acting at the request of such bidder shall not contact, communicate with or discuss any matter relating to the IFB with any officer, agent or employee of Manatee County other than the Purchasing Official or the contact identified in this IFB, pursuant to the Manatee County Code of Laws. This prohibition includes copying such persons on all written communication, including email correspondence. This requirement begins with the issuance of an IFB and ends upon execution of the final Agreement or when the IFB has been cancelled. Violators of this prohibition shall be subject to sanctions as provided in the Manatee County Code of Laws.

A.08 UNBALANCED BIDDING PROHIBITED

Owner recognizes that large and/or complex projects will often result in a variety of methods, sources, and prices. However, where in the opinion of Owner such variation does not appear to be justified, given bid requirements and industry and market conditions, the bid will be presumed to be unbalanced. Examples of unbalanced bids will include:

- a. Bids showing omissions, alterations of form, additions not specified, or required conditional or unauthorized alternate bids.
- b. Bids quoting prices that substantially deviate, either higher or lower, from those included in the bids of competitive bidders for the same line item unit costs.
- c. Bids where the unit costs offered are in excess of or below reasonable cost analysis values.

In the event Owner determines that a bid is presumed unbalanced, it will request the opportunity to and reserves the right to, review all source quotes, bids, price lists, letters of intent, etc., which the bidder obtained and upon which the bidder relied upon to develop its bid. Owner reserves the right to reject as nonresponsive any presumptive unbalanced bids where the bidder is unable to demonstrate the validity and/or necessity of the unbalanced unit costs.

A.09 FRONT LOADING OF BID PRICING PROHIBITED

Prices offered for performance and/or acquisition activities which occur early in the Project Schedule, such as mobilization; clearing and grubbing; or maintenance of traffic; that are substantially higher than pricing of competitive bidders within the same portion of the Project Schedule, will be presumed to be front loaded. Front loaded bids could reasonably appear to be an attempt to obtain unjustified early payments creating a risk of insufficient incentive for the bidder to complete the Work or otherwise creating an appearance of an undercapitalized bidder.

In the event Owner determines that a bid is presumed to be front loaded, it will request the opportunity to, and reserves the right to, review all source quotes, bids, price lists, letters of intent, etc., which the bidder obtained and upon which the bidder relied upon to develop the pricing or acquisition timing for these bid items. Owner reserves the right to reject as nonresponsive any presumptive front loaded bids where the bidder is unable to demonstrate the validity and/or necessity of the front loaded costs.

A.10 WITHDRAWAL OF BIDS

Bidders may withdraw bids as follows:

- a. Mistakes discovered before the public bid opening may be withdrawn by written notice from the bidder submitting the bid. This request must be received in the Purchasing Division prior to the time set for delivery and opening of the bids. A copy of the request shall be retained and the unopened bid returned to the bidder; or
- b. After the bids are opened or a selection has been determined, but before an Agreement is signed, a bidder alleging a material mistake of fact may be permitted to withdraw their bid if:
 1. The mistake is clearly evident in the solicitation document; or
 2. Bidder submits evidence which clearly and convincingly demonstrates that a mistake was made. Request to withdraw a bid must be in writing and approved by the Purchasing Official.

A.11 IRREVOCABLE OFFER

Any bid may be withdrawn up until the time and date set for opening of the bid. Any bid not so withdrawn shall, upon opening, constitute an irrevocable offer for a period of ninety (90) days to sell to Manatee County the goods or services set forth in the attached IFB until one or more of the bids have been duly accepted by Owner.

A.12 BID EXPENSES

All expenses for making bids to Owner are to be borne by the bidder.

A.13 RESERVED RIGHTS

Owner reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids, to waive irregularities and technicalities, and to request resubmission. Also, Owner reserves the right to accept all or any part of the bid and to increase or decrease quantities to meet additional or reduced requirements of Owner. Any sole response received by the first submission date may or may not be rejected by Owner depending on available competition and current needs of Owner. For all items combined, the bid of the lowest, responsive, responsible bidder will be accepted, unless all bids are rejected.

The lowest, responsible bidder shall mean that bidder who makes the lowest bid to sell goods and/or services of a quality which meets or exceeds the quality of goods and/or services set forth in the IFB documents or otherwise required by Owner.

To be responsive, a bidder shall submit a bid which conforms in all material respects to the requirements set forth in the IFB.

To be a responsible bidder, the bidder shall have the capability in all respects to perform fully the bid requirements, and the tenacity, perseverance, experience, integrity, reliability, capacity, facilities, equipment, and credit which will assure good faith performance.

Also, Owner reserves the right to make such investigation as it deems necessary to determine the ability of any bidder to furnish the service requested. Information Owner deems necessary to make this determination shall be provided by the bidder. Such information may include, but shall not be limited to current financial statements, verification of availability of equipment and personnel, and past performance records.

A.14 APPLICABLE LAWS

Bidder must be authorized to transact business in the State of Florida. All applicable laws and regulations of the State of Florida and ordinances and regulations of Manatee County will apply to any resulting Agreement. Any involvement with the Manatee County Purchasing Division shall be in accordance with the Manatee County Purchasing Ordinance as amended.

A.15 COLLUSION

By submitting a bid to this IFB, bidder certifies that it has not divulged, discussed or compared its bid with any other bidder, and has not colluded with any other bidder or parties to this bid whatsoever. Also, bidder certifies, and in the case of a joint bid each party thereto certifies as to their own organization, that in connection with this bid:

- a. any prices and/or cost data submitted have been arrived at independently, without consultation, communication, or agreement, for the purpose of restricting competition, as to any matter relating to such prices and/or cost data, with any other bidder or with any competitor;
- b. any prices and/or cost data quoted for this bid have not been knowingly disclosed by the bidder and will not knowingly be disclosed by the bidder, prior to the scheduled opening, directly or indirectly to any other bidder or to any competitor;
- c. no attempt has been made or will be made by the bidder to induce any other person or firm to submit or not to submit a bid for the purpose of restricting competition;
- d. the only person or persons interested in this bid, principal or principals is/are named therein and that no person other than therein mentioned has any interest in this bid or in the resulting Agreement to be entered into; and

- e. no person or agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure the resulting Agreement upon an agreement or understanding or a commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee except bona fide employees or established commercial agencies maintained by bidder for purpose of doing business.

A.16 CODE OF ETHICS

With respect to this bid, if any bidder violates, directly or indirectly, the ethics provisions of the Manatee County Purchasing Ordinance and/or Florida criminal or civil laws related to public procurement, including but not limited to Chapter 112, Part III, Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees, Florida Statutes, such bidder will be disqualified from eligibility to perform the Work described in this IFB, and may also be disqualified from furnishing future goods or services to, and from submitting any future bids to supply goods or services to, Manatee County.

By submitting a bid, the bidder represents to Owner that all statements made and materials submitted are truthful, with no relevant facts withheld. If a bidder is determined to have been untruthful in their bid or any related presentation, such bidder will be disqualified from eligibility to perform the Work described in this IFB, and may also be disqualified from furnishing future goods or services to, and from submitting any future bids to supply goods or services to, Manatee County.

A.17 PUBLIC CONTRACTING AND ENVIRONMENTAL CRIMES

A person or affiliate who has been placed on the convicted vendor list following a conviction for a public entity crime, as that term is defined in Section 287.133, Florida Statutes, may not submit a bid to provide any goods or services to a public entity; may not submit a bid with a public entity for the construction or repair of a public building or public work; may not submit bids on leases of real property to a public entity; may not be awarded or perform Work as a contractor, supplier, Subcontractor, or consultant under an agreement with any public entity; and may not transact business with any public entity in excess of the threshold amount provided in Section 287.017, Florida Statutes, for CATEGORY TWO for a period of thirty-six (36) months following the date of being placed on the convicted list.

In addition, the Manatee County Code of Laws prohibits the award of any bid to any person or entity who/which has, within the past five (5) years, been convicted of, or admitted to in court or sworn to under oath, a public entity crime or of any environmental law that, in the reasonable opinion of the Purchasing Official, establishes reasonable grounds to believe the person or business entity will not conduct business in a responsible matter.

To ensure compliance with the foregoing, the Code requires all persons or entities desiring to do business with Owner to execute and file with the Purchasing Official an affidavit, executed under the pain and penalties of perjury, confirming that person, entity and any person(s) affiliated with the entity, does not have such a record and is therefore eligible to seek and be awarded business with Owner. In the case of a business entity other than a partnership or a corporation, such affidavit shall be executed by an

authorized agent of the entity. In the case of a partnership, such affidavit shall be executed by the general partner(s). A Public Contracting and Environmental Crimes Certification form is attached herein for this purpose.

A.18 BID FORMS

Bids must be submitted on the provided forms, although additional pages may be attached. **Bidders must fully complete all pages of the Bid Forms. Bid Forms must be executed by an authorized signatory who has the legal authority to make the bid and bind the company. Bidders must fully comply with all requirements of this IFB in its entirety.** Failure to comply shall result in bidder being deemed nonresponsive.

A.19 AGREEMENT FORMS

The Agreement resulting from the Acceptance of a bid shall be in the form of the Agreement stated in this IFB, which is attached herein.

A written notice confirming award or recommendation thereof will be forwarded to the successful bidder accompanied by the required number of unsigned counterparts of the Agreement. Within ten (10) days thereafter, successful bidder shall sign and deliver the required number of counterparts of the Agreement with any other required documents to Owner. (Note: Agreement must be approved in accordance with Chapter 2-26 of the Manatee County Code of Laws and the Administrative Standards and Procedures Manual approved by the County Administrator).

A.20 LEGAL NAME

Bids shall clearly indicate the legal name, address and telephone number of the bidder on the Bid Form. Bid Forms shall be signed above the typed or printed name and title of the signer. The signer must have the authority to bind the bidder to the submitted bid.

When bidder is a partnership, the Bid Form shall be signed in the name of the firm and by all partners required under the terms of the partnership agreement. When a corporation is a bidder, the authorized corporate officers shall sign.

Bidders who are corporations or limited partnerships shall provide a certified copy of their permit to transact business in the State of Florida, preferably along with the Bid Form, or within forty-eight (48) hours after request by Owner.

When submitting a bid as a joint venture, it must have filed paper documents with the Division of Profession's Construction Industry Licensing Board prior to submitting a bid.

A.21 DISCOUNTS

Any and all discounts must be incorporated in the prices contained in the bid and not shown separately. The prices indicated on the Bid Form shall be the prices used in determining award.

A.22 TAXES

Manatee County is exempt from Federal Excise and State Sales Taxes. (F.E.T. Cert. No. 59-78-0089K; Florida Sales Tax Exempt Cert. No. 85-8012622206C-6); therefore, the bidder is prohibited from delineating a separate line item in his bid for any sales or service taxes. Nothing herein shall affect the bidder's normal tax liability.

A.23 DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

Unless otherwise specifically provided in the IFB documents, all equipment, materials and articles provided shall be new and of the most suitable grade for the purpose intended. Unless otherwise specifically provided in the IFB documents, reference to any equipment, material, article or patented process, by trade name, brand name, make or catalog number, shall be regarded as establishing a standard of quality and shall not be construed as limiting competition.

A.24 AUTHORIZED PRODUCT REPRESENTATION

The bidder, by virtue of submitting the name and specifications of a manufacturer's product, will be required to furnish the named manufacturer's product. Failure to perform accordingly may, in Owner's sole discretion, be deemed a material breach of the resulting Agreement, and shall constitute grounds for Owner's immediate termination of the resulting Agreement.

A.25 ROYALTIES AND PATENTS

The successful bidder shall pay all royalties and license fees for equipment or processes in conjunction with the equipment and/or services being furnished. Successful bidder shall defend all suits or claims for infringement of any patent, trademark or copyright, and shall save Owner harmless from loss on account thereof, including costs and attorney's fees.

A.26 AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Owner does not discriminate upon the basis of any individual's disability status. This non-discrimination policy involves every aspect of Owner's functions including one's access to, participation, employment, or treatment in its programs or activities. Anyone requiring **reasonable accommodation** for an Information Conference or Bid Opening should contact the person named on the cover page of this IFB document at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of either activity.

A.27 EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY CLAUSE

In accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Title 15, Part 8 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Owner hereby notifies all bidders that they will affirmatively ensure minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to participate in response to this advertisement and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color or national origin in consideration for bid award.

A.28 MBE/DBE

The State of Florida Office of Supplier Diversity provides the certification process and the database for identifying certified MBE/DBE firms. This service may be directly accessed at: <http://www.osd.dms.state.fl.us/iframe.htm>. If you have any questions regarding this State service, please contact their office at (850) 487-0915.

A.29 MATHEMATICAL ERRORS

In the event of multiplication/extension error(s), the unit price shall prevail. In the event of addition error(s) the extension totals will prevail. In the event the dollar amount for contract contingency is omitted, it will be added to the total price of the bid. All bids shall be reviewed mathematically and corrected, if necessary, using these standards, prior to additional evaluation.

A.30 SUBCONTRACTORS, SUPPLIERS AND OTHERS

The identity of Subcontractors, suppliers, and other persons and organizations (including those who are to furnish the principal items of material and equipment) may be requested by Owner for each bid item from any of the bidders; and the bidder shall respond within five (5) days after the date of such request. Such list shall be accompanied by an experience statement with pertinent information regarding similar Work and other evidence of qualification for each such Subcontractor, supplier, persons or organization if requested by Owner. If Owner, after due investigation, has reasonable objection to any proposed Subcontractor, supplier, other person or organization, Owner may, before the notice of intent to award is given, request the successful bidder to submit an acceptable substitute without an increase in Contract Sum or Contract Time.

If successful bidder declines to make any such substitution, Owner may award the resulting Agreement to the next lowest qualified bidder that proposes to use acceptable Subcontractors, suppliers, and other persons who Owner does not make written objection to. Successful bidder shall not be required to employ any Subcontractor, supplier, other person or organization who successful bidder has reasonable objection to.

Subcontractors shall be bound by the terms and conditions of the resulting Agreement insofar as it applies to their Work, but this shall not relieve the successful bidder from the full responsibility to Owner for the proper completion of all Work to be executed under the resulting Agreement.

A.31 DISCLOSURE

Upon receipt, all inquiries and responses to inquiries related to this IFB become "Public Records", and shall be subject to public disclosure consistent with Florida Statutes, Chapter 119.

Bids become subject to disclosure thirty (30) days after the opening or if a notice of intent to award decision is made earlier than this time as provided by Florida Statutes § 119.071(1)(b). No announcement or review of the bid shall be conducted at the public bid opening.

Based on the above, Owner will receive bids at the time and date stated and will make public at the opening the names of the business entities of all that submitted a bid and any amount presented as a total offer without any verification of the mathematics or the completeness of the bid.

If Owner rejects all bids and concurrently notices its intent to reissue the solicitation, the rejected bids are exempt from public disclosure until such time as Owner provides notice of an intended decision concerning the reissued solicitation or until Owner withdraws the reissued solicitation. A bid is not exempt for longer than twelve (12) months after the initial notice rejecting all bids.

Pursuant to Section 119.0701, Florida Statutes, in any Agreement entered into by Owner wherein the successful bidder is acting on behalf of Owner, successful bidder must:

- a. Keep and maintain public records that ordinarily and necessarily would be required by Owner in order to perform the service.
- b. Provide the public with access to public records on the same terms and conditions that Owner would provide and at a cost that does not exceed the cost provided in Florida Statutes, Chapter 119, or as otherwise provided by law.
- c. Ensure that public records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from public records disclosure requirements are not disclosed except as authorized by law.
- d. Meet all requirements for retaining public records and transfer, at no cost, to Owner all public records in possession of successful bidder upon termination of the awarded Agreement and/or PO and destroy any duplicate public records that are exempt or confidential from public records disclosure requirements. All records stored electronically must be provided to Owner in a format that is compatible with Owner's information technology systems.

A.32 LOCAL PREFERENCE

Local business is defined as a business legally authorized to engage in the sale of the goods and/or services to be procured, and which certifies within its bid that for at least six (6) months prior to the announcement of the solicitation of bids it has maintained a

physical place of business in Manatee, Desoto, Hardee, Hillsborough, Pinellas or Sarasota County with at least one full-time employee at that location.

Local preference shall not apply to the following categories of Agreements:

1. Purchases or Agreements 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.
2. 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 Commission or County Administrator, or where such suspension is, in the opinion of the County Attorney, required by law.

To qualify for local preference under this section, **a local business must certify to Owner** by completing an **"Affidavit as to Local Business Form"**, which is available for download at www.mymanatee.org/vendor. Click on "Affidavit for Local Business" to access and print the form. Complete, notarize, and mail the notarized original to the following address: Manatee County Purchasing Division, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Suite 803, Bradenton, FL 34205.

It is the responsibility of the bidder to ensure accuracy of the Affidavit as to Local Business and notify Owner of any changes affecting same.

A.33 VENDOR REGISTRATION

Registering your business with Manatee County will enhance our opportunities to identify sources for goods and services, plus identify local businesses. This information is used for soliciting quotations up to \$250,000.00 and for competitive solicitations of larger purchases.

Our staff can assist you with your registration as needed. Our office hours are 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday on regular business days. Please call (941) 749-3014 if you wish to have a Purchasing staff member assist you.

Quick steps to registration: www.mymanatee.org/purchasing

A link to Vendor Registration is listed on the Purchasing Division's web page under "Register as a Vendor". Click on "Vendor Registration Form" for on-line input.

Registration is not mandatory; however, by taking the time to register, you are helping Owner to provide timely notification of quotation, bid and proposal opportunities to your business.

A.34 BE GREEN

All bidders are encouraged to use as many **environmentally preferable** "green" products, materials, supplies, etc. as possible in order to promote a safe and healthy environment. **Environmentally preferable are products or services that have a reduced adverse effect on the environment.** Where all other evaluative factors, including local preference policies, are otherwise equal, such policies and practices will be a determinative factor in the award decision.

Provide detail of your organization's initiative and its ability to meet the goal of environmental sustainability.

A.35 ePAYABLES

Manatee County and Clerk of the Circuit Court have partnered to offer the ePayables program, which allows payments to be made to vendors via credit cards. The Clerk will issue a unique credit card number to each vendor; the card has a zero balance until payments have been authorized.

After goods are delivered or services rendered, vendors submit invoices to the remit to address on the purchase order according to the current process. When payments are authorized, an email notification is sent to the vendor. The email notification includes the invoice number(s), invoice date(s), and amount of payment. There is no cost for vendors to participate in this program; however, there may be a charge by the company that processes your credit card transactions.

If you are interested in participating in this program, please complete the ePayables Application attached herein and return the completed form via email to Ms. Lori Bryan, Supervisor at lori.bryan@manateeclerk.com.

NOTE: ANY OR ALL STATEMENTS CONTAINED IN THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS: SCOPE OF WORK, BID SUMMARY, CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT FOR STIPULATED SUM, AND GENERAL CONDITIONS OF THE CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT, WHICH VARY FROM THE INFORMATION TO BIDDERS, SHALL HAVE PRECEDENCE.

END OF SECTION A

SECTION B SCOPE OF WORK

B.01 SCOPE OF WORK

The Work included in this bid is defined as the construction of specific improvements within the East Fork Manatee River basin on the Manatee County Owned Duette Preserve Park property for the purpose of wetland hydrology restoration. The project area is subdivided into Areas 1 and 2 containing 873 acres and 739 acres respectively and is located within Sections 04, 08, 09, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21 of Township 34S, Range 22E in Manatee County. The specific improvements consist of the filling of approximately 16,500 LF of ditches (including 10 ditch blocks), the excavation and grading of 450-ft of swales, and the placement of 270 LF of 18" HDPE storm pipe at two (2) locations and 262 LF of 12" HDPE storm pipe at one (1) location. Construction and record drawings shall fully meet the requirements of all current federal, state, and county laws, rules, regulations, and standards, with the most stringent applying. **All Maintenance of Traffic shall be provided by the Contractor including pedestrian access.**

The successful Bidder shall furnish all shop drawings, working drawings, labor, materials, equipment, tools, services and incidentals which is reasonably and properly inferable and necessary for the proper completion of the Work, whether specifically indicated in the Bid Documents or not.

The successful Bidder shall perform the Work complete, in place and ready for continuous service and shall include any repairs, replacements, and / or restoration required as a result of damages caused prior to acceptance by the County.

B.02 COMPLETION OF WORK

The Work will be completed and ready for final inspection within the specified calendar days from the date the Contract Time commences to run. One bid shall be considered, **based on 60 calendar days. Only one award shall be made.**

B.03 LIQUIDATED DAMAGES

If the successful bidder fails to achieve Substantial Completion of the Work within the Contract Time and as otherwise required by the Contract Documents, the Owner shall be entitled to retain or recover from the successful bidder, as liquidated damages and not as a penalty, the sum of **\$884.00** per calendar day, commencing upon the first day following expiration of the Contract Time and continuing until the actual date of Substantial Completion. Such liquidated damages are hereby agreed to be a reasonable estimate of damages the Owner will incur as a result of delayed completion of the Work. The Owner may deduct liquidated damages as described in this paragraph from any unpaid amounts then or thereafter due the successful bidder under this Agreement. Any liquidated damages not so deducted from any unpaid amounts due the successful bidder shall be payable to the Owner at the demand of the Owner, together with interest from the date of the demand at the maximum allowable rate.

B.04 CONTRACT CONTINGENCY WORK

Contract contingency is a monetary allowance used solely at Owner's discretion to handle unexpected conditions as required to satisfactorily complete the Work in accordance with the IFB documents. A Field Directive must be issued by an authorized Owner representative to authorize use of contract contingency funds.

The percentage for contract contingency is listed on the Bid Form. Bidder shall enter the dollar amount for contract contingency based on the percentage of the total base bid. The total contract award will include contract contingency.

Appropriate uses of contract contingency include increases to existing bid item quantities that do not change the initial scope of Work, which may be directed by staff; modification items not originally bid which were unforeseen yet necessary during the Work to provide a safe, complete Project and that do not change the initial scope of Work; and unanticipated conflicts and/or design changes required during construction which are necessary to provide a safe, complete Project and that do not change the initial scope of Work.

Inappropriate uses of contract contingency include anything that changes the initial scope of Work, including the Contract Sum and Contract Time, and adding bid items not previously contemplated that change the initial scope of Work.

END OF SECTION B

SECTION C

BID SUMMARY

C.01 MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS OF BIDDERS

No person who is not certified or registered as a General Contractor pursuant to Chapter 489, Florida Statutes, on the day the bid is submitted, and who has continuously held that certification or registration for a period of at least three (3) consecutive years immediately prior to the day the bid is submitted, may be qualified to bid on this Work. In the event that a bidder is a business organization, including a partnership, corporation, business trust or other legal entity as set forth in Section 489.119(2), Florida Statutes, then the bidder shall only be qualified to bid on this Work if: 1) the bidder (the business organization) is on the day the bid is submitted, and for at least three (3) consecutive years immediately prior to the day the bid is submitted has been, in continuous existence, properly licensed and registered as required by Florida law; and 2) the bidder, on the day the bid is submitted, has a certified or registered Qualifying Agent, as required by Section 489.119, Florida Statutes, and that Qualifying Agent has been the same Qualifying Agent of the bidder for a period of at least three (3) consecutive years immediately prior to the day the bid is submitted.

C.02 BASIS OF AWARD

Award shall be to the lowest, responsive, responsible bidder meeting specifications and having the lowest grand total award offer for the requirements listed on the Bid Form for the Work as set forth in this IFB. Bid prices shall include costs for furnishing all labor, equipment and/or materials for the completion of the Work in accordance with and in the manner set forth and described in the IFB documents to Owner's satisfaction within the prescribed time.

One schedule for completion of Work shall be considered. Owner has the sole authority to select the bid which is in the best interest of Owner. Only one award shall be made.

NOTE: Inspection of the site is a pre-requisite to be considered for award of this bid.

In evaluating bids, Owner shall consider the qualifications of the bidders; and if required, may also consider the qualifications of the Subcontractors, suppliers, and other persons and organizations proposed. Owner may also consider the operating costs, maintenance requirements, performance data and guarantees of major items of materials and equipment proposed for incorporation in the Work.

Whenever two or more bids are equal with respect to price, the bid received from a local business shall be given preference in award.

Whenever two or more bids are equal with respect to price, and all other evaluative factors are otherwise equal, including local preference policies, if the company provides documented environmentally preferable "green" products, materials, or supplies, they shall be given preference in award.

Whenever two or more bids which are equal with respect to price are received, and neither of these bids are from a local business, and neither of these bids provides documented "green" products, the award shall be determined by a chance drawing, coin toss, or similar tie-breaking method conducted by the Purchasing Division and open to the public.

END OF SECTION C



An Equal
Opportunity
Employer

Southwest Florida Water Management District

Bartow Service Office
170 Century Boulevard
Bartow, Florida 33830-7700
(863) 534-1448 or
1-800-492-7862 (FL only)

Sarasota Service Office
6750 Fruitville Road
Sarasota, Florida 34240-9711
(941) 377-3722 or
1-800-320-3503 (FL only)

Tampa Service Office
7601 Highway 301 North
Tampa, Florida 33637-6759
(813) 985-7481 or
1-800-836-0797 (FL only)

2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899

(352) 796-7211 or 1-800-423-1476 (FL only)

TDD only: 1-800-231-6103 (FL only)

On the Internet at WaterMatters.org

November 26, 2014

Manatee County Parks and Natural Resources

Attn: Charlie Hunsicker

5502 33rd Avenue Drive West

Bradenton, FL 34209

Subject: **Project Evaluation - Permit Not Required**

Project Name:

Duette Preserve Watershed Improvements

File Number:

704710

County:

MANATEE

Sec/Twp/Rge:

S17/T34S/R22E, S20/T34S/R22E

Reference: Rule 62-330.051(2), Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.)
Subsection 373.406(6), Florida Statutes (F.S.)

Dear Mr. Hunsicker:

The District has reviewed the information you submitted for the project referenced above and has determined that an Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) **will not be required** for the installation of two (2) 18" culverts and two (2) 12" culverts to replace non-functioning existing culverts and restore historic drainage patterns. The work is related to Manatee County's overall environmental restoration and enhancement efforts for Duette Preserve (refer to ERP Application ID No. 701539 entitled Duette Preserve Watershed Improvements and currently under review for a General Permit pursuant to Rule 62-330.631, F.A.C.). [Rule 62-330.051(2), F.A.C.]

The information received by the District will be kept on file to support the District's determination regarding your project. This information is available for viewing or downloading through the District's Application and Permit Search Tools located at www.WaterMatters.org/permits.

The District's determination that your project does not require an ERP is only applicable pursuant to the statutes and rules in effect at the time the information was submitted and may not be valid in the event subsequent changes occur in the applicable rules and statutes. Additionally, this notification does not mean that the District has determined that your project is permanently exempt from permitting requirements. Any subsequent change you make in the project's operation may necessitate further evaluation or permitting by the District. Therefore, you are advised to contact the District before beginning the project and before beginning any activity which is not specifically described in your submittal. Your timely pursuit of this activity is encouraged to avoid any potential rule changes that could affect your request.

This letter constitutes notice of Intended Agency Action of the project referenced above. The District's action in this matter only becomes closed to future legal challenges from members of the public if such persons have been properly notified of the District's action and no person objects to the District's action within the prescribed period of time following the notification. The District does not publish notices of agency action. If you wish to limit the time within which a person who does not receive actual written notice from the District may request an administrative hearing regarding this action, you are strongly encouraged to publish, at your own expense, a notice of agency action in the legal advertisement section

of a newspaper of general circulation in the county or counties where the activity will occur. Publishing notice of agency action will close the window for filing a petition for hearing. Legal requirements and instructions for publishing notice of agency action, as well as a noticing form that can be used is available from the District's website at www.WaterMatters.org/permits/noticing. If you publish notice of agency action, a copy of the affidavit of publishing provided by the newspaper should be sent to the Regulation Division at the District Service Office that services this permit or other agency action, for retention in the File of Record for this agency action.

If you have questions regarding this matter, please contact Steven Lopes in the Tampa Service Office, extension 6506. Please reference the Project Name and Inquiry/Permit Number in future communications concerning this project.

Sincerely,

Michelle K. Hopkins, P.E.
Bureau Chief
Environmental Resource Permit Bureau
Regulation Division

Enclosures: Notice of Rights
cc: File of Record
Manatee Co. EPD

Notice of Rights

Administrative Hearing

1. You or any person whose substantial interests are or may be affected by the District's intended or proposed action may request an administrative hearing on that action by filing a written petition in accordance with Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes (F.S.), Uniform Rules of Procedure Chapter 28-106, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) and District Rule 40D-1.1010, F.A.C. Unless otherwise provided by law, a petition for administrative hearing must be filed with (received by) the District within 21 days of receipt of written notice of agency action. "Written notice" means either actual written notice, or newspaper publication of notice, that the District has taken or intends to take agency action. "Receipt of written notice" is deemed to be the fifth day after the date on which actual notice is deposited in the United States mail, if notice is mailed to you, or the date that actual notice is issued, if sent to you by electronic mail or delivered to you, or the date that notice is published in a newspaper, for those persons to whom the District does not provide actual notice.
2. Pursuant to Subsection 373.427(2)(c), F.S., for notices of intended or proposed agency action on a consolidated application for an environmental resource permit and use of sovereignty submerged lands concurrently reviewed by the District, a petition for administrative hearing must be filed with (received by) the District within 14 days of receipt of written notice.
3. Pursuant to Rule 62-532.430, F.A.C., for notices of intent to deny a well construction permit, a petition for administrative hearing must be filed with (received by) the District within 30 days of receipt of written notice of intent to deny.
4. Any person who receives written notice of an agency decision and who fails to file a written request for a hearing within 21 days of receipt or other period as required by law waives the right to request a hearing on such matters.
5. Mediation pursuant to Section 120.573, F.S., to settle an administrative dispute regarding District intended action is not available prior to the filing of a petition for hearing.
6. A request or petition for administrative hearing must comply with the requirements set forth in Chapter 28-106, F.A.C. A petition for a hearing must: (1) explain how the substantial interests of each person requesting the hearing will be affected by the District's intended action or proposed action, (2) state all material facts disputed by the person requesting the hearing or state that there are no material facts in dispute, and (3) otherwise comply with Rules 28-106.201 and 28-106.301, F.A.C. Chapter 28-106, F.A.C., can be viewed at www.flrules.org or at the District's website at www.WaterMatters.org/permits/rules.
7. A petition for administrative hearing is deemed filed upon receipt of the complete petition by the District Agency Clerk at the District's Tampa Service Office during normal business hours, which are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding District holidays. Filings with the District Agency Clerk may be made by mail, hand-delivery or facsimile transfer (fax). The District does not accept petitions for administrative hearing by electronic mail. Mailed filings must be addressed to, and hand-delivered filings must be delivered to, the Agency Clerk, Southwest Florida Water Management District, 7601 US Hwy 301, Tampa, FL 33637-6759. Faxed filings must be transmitted to the District Agency Clerk at (813) 367-3054. Any petition not received during normal business hours shall be filed as of 8:00 a.m. on the next business day. The District's acceptance of faxed petitions for filing is subject to certain conditions set forth in the District's Statement of Agency Organization and Operation, available for viewing at www.WaterMatters.org/about.

Judicial Review

1. Pursuant to Sections 120.60(3) and 120.68, F.S., a party who is adversely affected by District action may seek judicial review of the District's action. Judicial review shall be sought in the Fifth District Court of Appeal or in the appellate district where a party resides or as otherwise provided by law.
2. All proceedings shall be instituted by filing an original notice of appeal with the District Agency Clerk within 30 days after the rendition of the order being appealed, and a copy of the notice of appeal, accompanied by any filing fees prescribed by law, with the clerk of the court, in accordance with Rules 9.110 and 9.190 of the Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure (Fla. R. App. P.). Pursuant to Fla. R. App. P. 9.020(h), an order is rendered when a signed written order is filed with the clerk of the lower tribunal.