REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

PROJECT: WILDLANDS FUEL MANAGEMENT POLICY AND PLAN

The Authority is issuing this Request for Proposals for development of a wildlands fuel management policy and plan.

PROPOSALS DUE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2021 by 5:00 PM PACIFIC STANDARD TIME

#RFP-2021-03
BACKGROUND & SCOPE OF WORK

PURPOSE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority (“Authority”) is soliciting proposals for consultant services to assist the Authority with developing a wildlands fuel management policy and plan. The policy and plan will define the Authority’s fuel management goals and objectives, identify and prioritize fuel reduction treatments, describe methods that reduce wildfire risk and achieve the Authority’s natural resource goals, and complement the Authority’s existing grazing and integrated pest management policies and plans.

BACKGROUND

The Authority is an independent special district created on February 1, 1993, by an act of the Legislature and is governed by a seven-member elected board of directors. The Authority conserves the natural environment, supports agriculture and connects people to nature by protecting open spaces, natural areas, and working farms and ranches for future generations. The Authority has preserved over 26,000 acres to date through fee purchase, conservation easements, and partnerships with other conservation agencies and non-profits. Additional information is available on the agency’s website: www.openspaceauthority.org.

The Authority Board adopted a grazing management policy in 2013. A draft integrated pest management (IPM) policy and manual is currently undergoing environmental review, and a draft is available for reference on our website. The Authority is now seeking to develop a wildlands fuel management policy and plan to reduce wildfire risk on the Authority’s lands and meet the Authority’s natural resource goals and objectives. The grazing, IPM, and wildlands fuel reduction policies and plans together comprise the Authority’s vegetation management program. In August of 2021, fine-scale vegetation map data is expected to be available for use in this project.

OBJECTIVES

Specific objectives include:

- Develop goals and objectives to guide development of the wildlands fuel management policy and plan; and
- Develop tools and processes to assist the Authority with reducing the risk of wildfire while protecting and enhancing natural resources on Authority lands.

SCOPE OF WORK

The Authority is seeking consultants to develop a wildlands fuel management policy and plan with a focus on fuel reduction for catastrophic wildfire prevention and ecosystem enhancement. The wildlands fuel management policy and plan should identify the Authority’s goals and objectives for fuel reduction, identify fuel treatment options and guidelines to achieve those goals (such as prescribed fire or shaded fuel breaks),
and develop prioritization criteria to prioritize future fuel reduction work, and account for periodic re-evaluations of these goals. The fuel management plan should provide a 15-20 year scope of actionable projects, while considering the 100-year impacts of treatments and the need for land recovery after multiple treatments. The wildlands fuel management plan should complement the Authority’s grazing management and integrated pest management programs and include protection of natural resources and enhancement of ecosystem health as a key component of the overall strategy to reduce wildfire risk and respond to unanticipated wildfires. The fuel management plan should address the use of prescribed burns, and their integration with the grazing management plan and IPM policy, as a potential tool for natural resource stewardship. The Authority is also seeking consultants to analyze fire risk on Authority lands, create a geodatabase with treatment locations (completed and proposed), and create maps that incorporate key Authority data such as roads, water infrastructure, natural resources (e.g. sensitive habitat) and other pertinent data. The wildlands fuel management plan will be the overarching plan that describes the Authority’s resources related to wildland fire management, guides the fuel treatment work the Authority will undertake on its lands with prioritization criteria and methods, and provides the basis for future Preserve-specific wildfire response plans. The plan should be consistent with the CAL FIRE Vegetation Treatment Program. Preserve-specific wildfire response plans are not included in this scope of work but will provide more detailed information on Preserve-specific wildfire risk, treatments, and response.

**Project tasks include but are not limited to:**

- Meet with Authority staff as needed, and meet with Authority staff and partner agencies on a monthly or bi-monthly basis for project updates and guidance;

- Develop the Authority’s goals and objectives, in consultation with CAL FIRE, for fuel reduction;

- Develop a wildlands fuel management policy and plan to guide the Authority’s fuel reduction management program as well as enhancement of natural resources that integrates with the Authority’s existing grazing and IPM policies and plans;

- Identify and map areas of wildfire risk within the Authority’s jurisdiction and landholdings;

- List the types of treatments to reduce fuel loads on Authority lands that complement, but do not duplicate, the Authority’s grazing and integrated pest management plans. Treatment information should include techniques, equipment, personnel required, timing, limitations, and best management practices;

- Include the use of prescribed fire as a treatment type to achieve fuel management and natural resource goals including ecosystem health;

- Provide information on the vegetation communities on Authority lands regarding their fuel characteristic, ignition potential, fire behavior, fuels reduction and resource management goals, fuel treatment methods, and resource considerations;

- Develop prioritization criteria and process based on risk and feasibility in order to prioritize...
and implement projects that achieve goals and objectives;

- Develop an initial list of prioritized fuel treatment projects for a 10-15-year timeframe;

- Incorporate Santa Clara County and state-wide plans and policies to ensure consistency including the Santa Clara County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP);

- Create a geodatabase and map of fuel treatment types and locations (completed and proposed) and key fire routes that is compatible with the Authority’s GIS database;

- Create maps of wildfire risk that include water sources, sensitive species and habitat, cultural resources, fire routes, and other roads and trails (Authority infrastructure and species data will be provided by the Authority) that incorporate the best available Lidar, vegetation, and fire-related data;

- Identify an implementation strategy for future projects and plans based on need and feasibility;

- Identify adaptive management and monitoring needs;

- When opportunities arise or if necessitated by the project, work with adjacent landowners to develop practical and effective borders for projects, and/or integration with fuel management features in place in properties bordering Authority properties;

- Provide environmental review through the CAL FIRE Vegetation Treatment Program Programmatic Environmental Impact Report; and

- Submit draft and final report.

Proposals must include a draft timeline for completion of this project, as well as a general timeline for periodic progress meetings with Authority Staff and partner agencies.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Minimum Bidder Requirements:
- Proven experience creating fuel management plans for lands located in a similar region as the Authority’s jurisdiction.
- Project management experience and training.
- Experience analyzing spatial data and creating geodatabases
- Registered Professional Forester preferred
- Agree to terms of the Authority’s Professional Services Agreement included herein as Attachment B.
REGISTRATION OF INTENT TO SUBMIT RESPONSE

It is recommended that each consultant who plans to submit a proposal register this intent with the Authority. This registration will allow the Authority to notify consultant of any addendums related to this request for information and proposals. The following registration information must be e-mailed to proposals@openspaceauthority.org with the subject line of “RFP-2021-03”:

1. Name of Business/Company
2. Address of Business/Company
3. Name of Contact at Business/Company
4. Telephone number of Contact at Business/Company
5. Email Address of Contact at Business/Company

Addendums with questions and answers and other pertinent information will also be posted online at http://www.openspaceauthority.org/about/notices.html.

KEY DATES*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Request for Proposals Issuance</td>
<td>01/22/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day to submit questions</td>
<td>2/5/2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final addenda Issued</td>
<td>2/12/2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vendor Responses Due</td>
<td>2/26/2021 by 5:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Review of Submissions</td>
<td>3/15/2021</td>
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<td>(interview dates subject to change)</td>
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<td>Award Bid</td>
<td>3/25/2021</td>
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* Dates subject to change

PREPARATION OF RESPONSES

All responses to the items in the REQUIRED INFORMATION section must be answered fully and must be able to be substantiated by the vendor.

SUBMISSION OF RESPONSES

Proposals must be delivered by email (with attachments, if any) to the following email address: proposals@openspaceauthority.org, with the following language in the subject line of the email “Attention: RFP-2021-03 re: Fuel Management Plan”: 
Proposals will be received only at the email address identified above. All proposals must be received by email by the Authority prior to 5:00 p.m. February 26, 2021. Proposals will not be accepted via fax, mail, or by courier. Late responses will not be considered.

A. Mail and facsimile responses will not be considered. Vendors shall have sole responsibility for delivery of responses on time and to the proper email address.

B. Response Format:
To facilitate the analysis of responses to this Request for Proposals, vendors are required to prepare their responses in accordance with the instructions outlined in this section. Each vendor is required to submit the responses in a sealed package. Vendors whose responses deviate from these instructions may be considered non-responsive and may be disqualified at the discretion of the Authority.

Responses should be prepared as simply as possible and provide a straightforward, concise description of the consultant’s capabilities to satisfy the requirements of this Request for Proposals. Emphasis should be concentrated on accuracy, completeness, and clarity of content. All parts, pages, figures and tables should be numbered and clearly labeled. No page limit, however, responses should be comprehensive, succinct and direct. Font size should be no less than 11 points.

C. Note: Any deviation from the requirements listed below may result in the response being considered non-responsive, thus eliminating a vendor from further consideration.

D. The Authority cautions vendors to assure actual delivery of mailed or hand-delivered responses directly to the address noted above by the established deadline. A response received by the Authority after the established deadline will not be considered.

REQUIRED INFORMATION

1. General Description of Firm’s Experience
Provide a general description of experience doing comparable work, including services provided. Include all team member names and title that would be assigned to this project as well as a resume for each primary team member.

2. Description of Proposed Services
Provide a description for how the Consultant intends to complete the work. Address each of the services as stated in the RFP and any additional services the Consultant deems necessary or advisable given the project goals and objectives.

3. Proposed Fee Schedule
The Fee Schedule/Rate should reflect the total costs for all personnel, materials and services necessary to complete the Scope of Work requested in the RFP. Include a standard hourly rate schedule or fee schedule if rates vary by staff function.

4. References
This section shall consist of a list of at least three (3) clients for whom the Consultant has performed similar services to those required by this RFP. Include names of contact persons, telephone numbers, and a brief description of the work performed. Please do not include information on projects that are not similar in scope and character to the proposed RFP work scope.

5. **Statement of agreement with terms of contract**

The consultant must provide a statement that indicates agreement to the terms of the contract (see Attachment B) including an agreement to meet the insurance requirements.

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

Proposals will be evaluated by Authority Staff and a proposal may be recommended for approval by the Board of Directors. Proposals will be evaluated for completeness of response and quality of response; the extent to which the Bidder’s proposal fulfills the Authority’s stated requirements as set out in the RFP; proposed fees and rates; relevant experience of the vendor, and previous client satisfaction. In determining the most responsible and qualified proposal that best fits the need of the service contract, the Board of Directors may use the following criteria to evaluate submitted proposals:

1. Experience of the Bidder, including past performance of the firm on contracts of similar size and scope;
2. Experience and qualifications of personnel employed by the Bidder;
3. Demonstrated understanding of the scope of the service;
4. Best overall financial return to the Board of Directors on the contract; and,
5. A responsible Bidder who has demonstrated the attribute of trustworthiness, as well as quality, fitness, and experience to satisfactorily perform the work or provide the goods required.

Staff may conduct interviews or product demonstrations as part of the selection process. The Board may reject all proposals.

**ADDENDA**

Authority will post any addenda on Authority’s website and notify properly registered vendors of such postings. Consultants shall be responsible for ensuring that all addenda are included in their responses.

**REJECTION OF RESPONSES**

The Authority may reject any proposal if:

1. The vendor fails to respond to the RFP Required Information, or otherwise comply with the format and submission required set forth in this RFP, or
2. The vendor misstates or conceals any material fact in the response.

The Authority may reject all nonconforming, non-responsive or conditional proposals, and may waive any minor informalities or irregularities in any proposal and at the Authority’s sole discretion.

**VENDOR QUESTIONS**

Any questions about this RFP shall be submitted in writing to proposals@openspaceauthority.org on or before February 5, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. PDT. Agency will post written responses to questions and email
answers to vendors no later than February 12, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. PDT. Any addenda necessary as a result of questions or clarifications will be posted and delivered to all registered vendors no later than February 12, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. PDT. Responses may be posted incrementally as received.

PUBLIC RECORDS LAW
Pursuant to the California Public Records Act (California Government Code Section 6250 and following), public records are open to inspection at all times during the office hours of the Authority and every person has a right to inspect any public record or request copies of public records. All submitted responses are public records and are subject to public disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act.

ACCEPTANCE
Submission of any response indicates acceptance of the conditions contained in this Request for Proposals.

RESPONSE COSTS
Those submitting responses do so entirely at their own expense. The Authority will not be responsible for reimbursement to any individual or firm for any costs incurred in preparing or submitting responses, providing additional information when requested by the Authority, or for participating in any selection interviews or meetings.

NON-DISCRIMINATION
No person shall be excluded from participation in, denied any benefits or otherwise discriminated against in connection with the award and performance of any contract on the basis of race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age (over 40), military and veteran status of any person, or any other non-merit factor unrelated to job duties and protected by law.

List of Attachments
Attachment A Authority map
Attachment B – Contract Template
CONTRACT FOR SERVICES

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into between the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority (hereinafter “Authority”) and [INSERT NAME] (hereinafter “Contractor”) and sets forth the terms of this Agreement. Authority and Contractor are collectively referred to as the “Parties.” This Agreement is effective upon full execution of this Agreement by the Parties. In consideration of the mutual covenants, terms, conditions, and restrictions contained herein, and pursuant to the laws of the State of California, the parties agree as follows:

1. Scope of the Agreement
   During the term of this Agreement, Contractor shall provide the [OPTION 1] services set forth in the Scope of Work, attached hereto as Exhibit A and hereby incorporated by reference. However, if any provision or term of Exhibit A conflicts with any provision or term of this Agreement, the provisions and terms of this Agreement shall prevail and supersede any inconsistent provisions or terms in Exhibit A. (OR OPTION 2) following services: ________________.

2. Documents, Materials and Records Property of Authority
   All documents, materials, and records of a finished nature, including but not limited to final plans, specifications, video or audio tapes, photographs, computer data, software, reports, maps, electronic files and films, and any final revisions, prepared or obtained in the performance of this Agreement (collectively “work product”), shall be delivered to and become the property of Authority without restriction or limitation on their use. All documents and materials of a preliminary nature, including but not limited to notes, sketches, preliminary plans, computations and other data, and any other material referenced in this section, or prepared or obtained in the performance of this Agreement, shall be made available, upon request, to Authority at no additional charge and without restriction or limitation on their use. Upon Authority’s request, Contractor shall execute appropriate documents to assign to the Authority the copyright or trademark to work product created pursuant to this Agreement. Contractor shall return all Authority’s property in Contractor’s control or possession immediately upon termination.

3. Payment
   a. Payment for Services. [OPTION 1] Authority shall pay for services and reimbursable expenses in a total amount of $____________ upon completion of the services to the satisfaction of Authority and delivery of the work product. (OR OPTION 2) Authority shall pay for services performed in accordance with this Agreement according to the fee schedule and any reimbursable expenses contained in Exhibit B. Contractor shall invoice Authority monthly. (OR OPTION 3) Authority shall pay for services performed in accordance with this Agreement at an hourly rate of $____________, and reimbursable expenses in the amount of $____________. Contractor shall invoice Authority monthly.]
   
   b. [(OPTIONAL PROVISION IN LIEU OF REIMBURSIBLE EXPENSES ABOVE)] Reimbursement of Expenses. All expenses incurred as part of this Agreement will be reimbursed at actual cost.

Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority
[Independent Contractor – Over $10,000 Template]
c. [THIS IS AN OPTIONAL NOT TO EXCEED PROVISION TO ADD TO OPTIONS 2 AND 3 SET FORTH ON SUBSECTION a.] Maximum Payment. Contractor agrees that fees and any reimbursable expenses to complete the services promised under this Agreement shall not exceed a maximum of $___________.

d. Audit of Records. Contractor shall maintain complete and accurate records of all payrolls, expenditures, disbursements, and other cost items charged to Authority or establishing the basis for an invoice, for a minimum of four (4) years from the date of final payment to Contractor. All such records shall be clearly identifiable. Contractor shall allow an Authority representative to inspect, examine, copy, and audit such records during regular business hours upon 24 hours’ notice.

4. Time for Performance
Contractor’s work shall be scheduled and performed to meet agreed-upon deadlines. The term of this Agreement shall end [(OPTION 1:) on or before [INSERT END DATE], unless abandoned as provided in section 5 below. The time for performance may not be extended without Authority’s express written approval. (OR OPTION 2:) when the services described herein are completed, unless abandoned as provided in section 5 below.]

5. Standard of Performance
Services shall be performed by Contractor in accordance with generally accepted professional practices and principles and in a manner consistent with the level of care and skill ordinarily exercised under similar conditions by members of Contractor’s profession currently practicing in California.

6. Abandonment of Project
Authority shall have the right to abandon or indefinitely postpone (“abandonment”) the project that is the subject matter of this Agreement and the services hereunder, or any portion thereof, at any time. In such event, Authority shall give written notice of such abandonment. In the event of abandonment prior to completion of the project, Contractor shall cease work immediately. All charges incurred up to the time of notice of abandonment, together with any other charges outstanding at the time of termination, shall be payable by Authority within 30 days following submission of a final statement by Contractor and shall be considered as full payment due hereunder. However, Authority may condition payment of such compensation upon Contractor’s delivery to Authority of any or all work product generated by Contractor pursuant to this Agreement.

7. Contractor as Independent Contractor
At all times during the term of this Agreement, it is expressly agreed that in the performance of the services necessary to carry out this Agreement, Contractor shall be an independent contractor and shall not be an employee of Authority. It is agreed that Authority is interested only in the results obtained and that Contractor shall perform as an independent contractor with sole control of the manner and means of performing the services required under this Agreement. Authority shall have the right to control Contractor only insofar as the results of Contractor’s services rendered pursuant to this Agreement; however, Authority shall not have the right to control the
means by which Contractor accomplishes the results required under this Agreement. Contractor has and shall retain the right to exercise full control and supervision of the services, and full control over the employment, direction, compensation, and discharge of all persons assisting Contractor in the performance of Contractor's services hereunder. Contractor shall be solely responsible for all matters relating to the payment of Contractor's employees, including compliance with social security, withholding, and all other regulations governing such matters, and shall be solely responsible for Contractor's own acts and this of Contractor's subordinates, subcontractors, agents, and employees. Contractor is responsible for all insurance and all taxes, charges, fees, benefits, or contributions required to be paid or withheld on behalf of Contractor, including, but not limited to, compliance with social security, withholding, and all other regulations governing such matters. Contractor is not entitled to any employee benefits. Contractor shall exonerate, indemnify, defend, and hold harmless Authority (which shall include, without limitation, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers) from and against any and all federal, state, and local taxes, charges, fees, or contributions required to be paid with respect to Contractor and Contractor’s officers, employees and agents engaged in the performance of this Agreement (including, without limitation, unemployment insurance, social security and payroll tax withholding).

8. Non-Discrimination
During and in relation to the performance of this Agreement, Contractor agrees as follows. Contractor shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding or related medical conditions), gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age (over 40), military and veteran status of any person, or any other non-merit factor unrelated to job duties and protected by law. Contractor shall not discriminate on the basis of the above characteristics against any employee or applicant for employment who has, perceives he or she has, or is associated with a person who has, or is perceived to have any of the above characteristics. Contractor will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed and that employees are treated during employment without regard to their race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding or related medical conditions), gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age (over 40), military and veteran status of any person, or any other non-merit factor unrelated to job duties and protected by law. Such action shall include, but not be limited to, the following: employment, terms, conditions or privileges of employment, promotion, demotion or transfer, recruitment advertising, layoffs or termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and selection for training, including apprenticeship. Furthermore, Contractor shall include this requirement in any and all sub-contracts it enters into in any way related to this Agreement. Nothing in this section shall prohibit Contractor from applying a bona fide occupational qualification, or any other exception established by the California Fair Employment and Housing Act under Government Code § 12940.

9. Indemnification
a. Contractor agrees to indemnify, hold harmless, defend and protect Authority, its directors, officers, officials, employees, agents and invitees, from and against any and all claims, losses,
damages, demands, liabilities, suits, costs, expenses (including attorneys’ fees), penalties, judgments, or obligations whatsoever arising out of, pertaining or relating to the negligence, omission, recklessness or willful misconduct of Contractor, its employees, subcontractors, or agents, or on account of the performance or character of the Services or in any way related to activity conducted by Contractor, except for any such claim resulted from the sole negligence or the intentional and willful misconduct of Authority, its officers, directors, agents or employees. The provisions of this section shall survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement. It is understood that the duty of Contractor to indemnify and hold harmless includes the duty to defend as set forth in section 2778 of the California Civil Code. Acceptance of insurance certificates and endorsements required under this Agreement does not relieve Contractor from liability under this indemnification and hold harmless clause. This indemnification and hold harmless clause shall apply whether or not such insurance policies shall have been determined to be applicable to any of such damages or claims for damages.

b. The provisions of this section shall survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement.

10. Insurance

a. Contractor shall procure and keep in force during the term of this Agreement, at Contractor’s own cost and expense, the following policies of insurance with California-admitted insurance companies licensed to do business in the State of California, which are rated at least “A” or better by A.M. Best Company and which are acceptable to Authority:

i) If Contractor has and will have employees during the term of this Agreement, Workers’ Compensation Insurance as required by law with limits of $1,000,000;

ii) Comprehensive or Commercial General Liability Insurance, which shall be occurrence coverage, in the minimum amount of $1,000,000 per occurrence, $2,000,000 aggregate, combined single limit, including coverage for (a) bodily injury, (b) personal injury, (c) broad form property damage, (d) contractual liability, and (e) cross-liability;

iii) Business Automobile Liability Insurance for each of Contractor’s vehicles used in the performance of this Contract, including owned, non-owned (e.g., owned by Contractor’s employees), leased, or hired vehicles, in the minimum amount of $1,000,000 per occurrence for bodily injury and property damage;

iv) Professional Liability Insurance (or Errors and Omissions Insurance) in the minimum amount of $1,000,000. The policy must contain a cross liability or severability of interest clause. If the policy is on a claims-made basis, coverage must extend to a minimum of three (3) years beyond completion of the services provided pursuant to this Agreement. If coverage is cancelled or non-renewed, and not replaced with another claims made policy form with a “retroactive date” prior to this Agreement’s effective date, Contractor shall purchase “extended reporting” coverage for a
minimum of three (3) years after completion of the services provided pursuant to this Agreement.

**Proof of all insurance policies is attached to this Agreement as Exhibits XX-XX.**

Contractor shall provide to Authority proof of renewal of each insurance policy at least thirty (30) days prior to the expiration of the insurance policy as long as this Agreement remains in effect.

Contractor certifies that Contractor is aware of the provisions of Section 3700 of the California Labor Code, which requires every employer to be insured against liability for Workers’ Compensation or to undertake self-insurance in accordance with the provisions of that Code. Contractor shall comply with the provisions of Section 3700 of the Labor Code before commencing the performance of the work under this Agreement.

In the event that any coverage required under the Agreement is reduced, limited, or materially affected in any other manner, Contractor shall provide written notice to Authority at Contractor’s earliest possible opportunity and in no case later than five days after Contractor is notified of the change in coverage.

In the case of the breach of any provision of this section, Authority may, at Authority’s option: (1) take out and maintain, at the expense of Contractor, such types of insurance in the name of Contractor as Authority may deem; (2) order Contractor to stop work under the Agreement until Contractor complies with the insurance requirements required by this Agreement; or (3) terminate this Agreement.

b. **Other Insurance Provisions.** The policies shall include or be endorsed to include, but not limited to, the following provisions:

i) Authority, its officers, officials, employees, and volunteers are to be covered as additional insureds as respects: liability arising out of activities performed by or on behalf of Contractor; products and completed operations of Contractor, premises owned, occupied, or used by Contractor, or automobiles owned, leased, hired, or borrowed by Contractor. The coverage shall contain no special limitations on the scope of the protection afforded to Authority, its officers, officials, employees or volunteers, and no endorsement shall be attached limiting the coverage. Contractor shall furnish Authority with certificates of insurance and with original endorsements effecting coverage required by this clause.

ii) Contractor’s insurance coverage shall be primary insurance as respects Authority, its officers, officials, employees, and volunteers. Any insurance or self-insurance maintained by Authority, its officers, officials, employees, or volunteers shall be in excess of Contractor’s insurance and shall not contribute to it.

iii) Any failure to comply with reporting provisions of the policies shall not affect coverage provided to Authority, its officers, officials, employees, or volunteers.
iv) Contractor’s insurance shall apply separately to each insured against whom claim is made or suit is brought, except with respect to the limits of the insurer’s liability.

11. Prevailing Wage and Labor Compliance

Work done under this agreement may be subject to the prevailing wage and other provisions of the California Labor Code requirements (see Labor Code § 1720 et seq.). The Contractor shall pay prevailing wages to all persons employed in the performance of any part of the Project and otherwise comply with all associated requirements and obligations, if required by law to do so.

Contractor shall retain copies of payroll records for four years after the audit year in which wages were paid, or until the expiration of all applicable statute of limitations period(s), whichever is later.

12. Assignment

A substantial inducement to Authority for entering into this Agreement is the professional reputation and competence of Contractor. Contractor shall not assign or otherwise transfer any rights, duties, obligations, or interest in this Agreement or arising hereunder to any persons or entities whatsoever without the prior written consent of Authority and any attempt to assign or transfer without such prior written consent shall be void and shall terminate this Agreement. Consent to any single assignment or transfer shall not constitute consent to any further assignment or transfer.

13. Subcontractor

a. Contractor will perform the work personally or through Contractor’s employees. Contractor may subcontract work only as specified in this Agreement or upon prior approval of Authority. If subcontracting of work is permitted, Contractor shall pay subcontractor within ten (10) days of receipt of payment by Authority for work performed by a subcontractor and billed by Contractor.

b. Authority is an intended beneficiary of any work performed by the subcontractor for purposes of establishing a duty of care between the subcontractor and Authority.

14. Conflict of Interest

Contractor warrants and covenants that Contractor presently has no interest in, nor shall any interest be hereinafter acquired in, any matter which will render the services required under the provisions of this Agreement a violation of any applicable state, local, or federal law. In the event that any conflict of interest should nevertheless hereinafter arise, Contractor shall promptly notify Authority of the existence of such conflict of interest so that Authority may determine whether to terminate this Agreement. Contractor further warrants its compliance with the Political Reform Act (Government Code § 81000 et seq.) respecting this Agreement.

15. Compliance with Laws

In the performance of this Agreement, Contractor shall abide by and conform to any and all applicable laws of the United States and the State of California, and all ordinances, regulations, and policies of Authority and other local agency with jurisdiction. Contractor warrants that all work done under this Agreement will be in compliance with all applicable safety rules, laws, statutes, and practices, including but not limited to Cal/OSHA regulations. If a license, permit, or
registration of any kind is required by law of Contractor, its employees, agents, or subcontractors to practice Contractor’s profession, Contractor represents and warrants that such license has been obtained, is valid and in good standing, and Contractor shall keep it in effect at all times during the term of this Agreement.

16. Changes in Work
No payment for changed or additional work shall be made unless the changed or additional work has first been approved in writing by Authority and the Parties have agreed upon the appropriate adjustment, if any, to the payment schedule and maximum payment amount for the changed or additional work.

17. Accident Reports
Contractor shall immediately report (as soon as feasible, but not more than 24 hours) to Authority any accident or other occurrence causing injury to persons or property during the performance of this Agreement. If required by Authority, the report shall be made in writing and shall include, at a minimum: (a) the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the persons involved, (b) the names, addresses and telephone numbers of any known witnesses, (c) the date, time and description of the accident or other occurrence.

18. Default
In the event that Contractor defaults in any obligation of Contractor under this Agreement, or Contractor defaults in the performance of any of the terms and conditions of this Agreement, Authority may, at its option, declare this Agreement to be in default and, at any time thereafter, may do any one or more of the following: (1) enforce performance of the Agreement by Contractor; (2) terminate this Agreement; or (3) perform the obligations of Contractor, whereupon Contractor shall reimburse Authority for any amounts paid or expenses incurred by Authority in the performance of such obligations. The above remedies are in addition to any other remedies at law or equity Authority may have. Contractor shall pay or reimburse Authority for all of Authority’s costs and expenses, incurred in enforcing its rights hereunder.

19. Notices
If either party shall desire or be required to give notice to the other, such notice shall be given in writing, and shall be: (1) personally delivered; (2) deposited in the United States mail, certified or registered, postage pre-paid, return receipt requested; or (3) sent electronically via email with a copy also deposited in the United States mail, First Class postage. Notice shall be addressed to the recipient as follows:

AUTHORITY: Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority
33 Las Colinas Ln.
San Jose, CA 95119
Attention: [INSERT]
Email: [INSERT]

CONTRACTOR: Attention: [INSERT]
Email: [INSERT]
Either party may change its address by giving notice to the other in the manner provided herein.

Contractor shall mail invoices to Authority at the above referenced address, but shall make invoices to the attention of “Accountant,” or Contractor may email invoices to accountant@openspaceauthority.org.

20. **Entire Agreement**
This Agreement contains all of the agreements and understandings of the parties pertaining to the subject matter contained herein and supersedes all prior, contemporaneous agreements, representations, and understandings of the parties. This Agreement cannot be amended or modified except by written agreement of all the parties.

21. **Waiver**
No waiver of any of the provisions of this Agreement shall be deemed or shall constitute a waiver of any other provision, whether or not similar, nor shall any waiver constitute a continuing waiver. No waiver shall be binding unless executed in writing by the Party making the waiver.

22. **Severability**
Should any part of this Agreement be declared by a final decision by a court to be unconstitutional, invalid, or beyond the authority of either of the Parties to enter into or carry out, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this Agreement, which shall continue in full force and effect, provided that the remainder of this Agreement, absent the unexcised portion, can be reasonably interpreted to give effect to the intentions of the Parties.

23. **Interpretation**
Section headings in this Agreement are used solely for convenience and shall be wholly disregarded in the construction of this Agreement.

24. **Governing Law and Venue**
This Agreement shall be construed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of California. If any party herein initiates an action to enforce the terms hereof or declare rights hereunder, the parties agree that venue thereof shall be the County of Santa Clara, State of California.

25. **Advice of Counsel**
Both parties have had a full and complete opportunity to have the Agreement reviewed by legal counsel, and no presumption or rule that ambiguity shall be construed against the drafting party shall apply to the interpretation or enforcement of this Agreement.

26. **Time of The Essence**
Time is hereby expressly declared to be of the essence in this Agreement and of each and every provision thereof, and each such provision is hereby made and declared to be a material, necessary and essential part of this Agreement.

Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority
[Independent Contractor – Over $10,000 Template]
The signatories below warrant and represent that they have all legal authority and capacity to enter into this Agreement. **IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, Contractor and Authority hereby execute this Agreement.

SANTA CLARA VALLEY
OPEN SPACE AUTHORITY

________________________________________  Dated: ________________________________
Andrea Mackenzie
General Manager

[INSERT NAME OF CONTRACTOR/BUSINESS]

________________________________________  Dated: ________________________________
[INSERT NAME]
[INSERT TITLE]