



Agenda Item Summary

File #: 24-00903

Agenda Date: 10/22/2024

Agenda Item Name:

Agreement for Request for Proposal (RFP) 24-465-LC Program Manager Services for Alachua County's Fresh Food Pathways Program for Tourism and Economic Development.

Presenter:

Sean McLendon, Economic Development & Food Systems Manager, 352.548.3765
Theodore White, Procurement Manager, 352.374.5202

Description:

Agreement with New Venture Advisors LLC (14269) for RFP 24-465-LC Program Manager Services for Alachua County's Fresh Food Pathways Program, in the amount of \$963,200.00, for Tourism and Economic Development.

Recommended Action:

Approve and authorize the Chair to execute Agreement 14269 with New Venture Advisors, in the amount of \$ 963,200.00.

Prior Board Motions:

May 28, 2024, the Board approved the Ranking of RFP 24-465-LC Program Manager Services for Alachua County's Fresh Food Pathways Program for the Office of Sustainability, Equity, Economic and Strategic Development. Item 24-00469

November 14, 2023, the Board approved the scope of work and authorized staff to advertise the RFP.

December 6, 2022, the Board approved the Fresh Food Pathways pilot project plan and the budget amendment.

Fiscal Note:

\$962,618 in total is budgeted for the Fresh Food Pathways Program. This project will utilize the balance of the budget from American Rescue Plan Act Project# ARP2021x008 Emergency Food Assistance (\$212,618.12) and \$750,000 from Project# ARP2021x016.

Fresh Food Pathways broken out in the following manner:
052.00.0064.564.64.00 - \$183,000 Machinery & Equipment
052.00.0064.564.52.00 - \$107,000 Operating
052.00.0064.564.34.00 - \$80,000 Contractual Services
052.00.0064.564.12.00 - \$380,000 Salary
052.00.0064.564.82.93 - \$212,618.12 Aid to Organizations

Strategic Guide:

Social and Economic Opportunity

Background:

This agenda item brings back an agreement with New Venture Advisors, LLC to provide a framework for a Food Hub that will primarily sell local food to institutional food purchasers while serving economically challenged and marginalized communities lacking access to local, fresh, healthy, and affordable food in Alachua County.

This agreement will help Alachua County develop a plan to create a successful Food Hub that benefits the community, local farmers, and institutional food purchasers. The Food Hub - Fresh Food Pathways project is based on previous efforts to map and respond to emergency food needs during COVID-19, an institutional commitment to Good Food Purchasing Program standards, and the County Commission's Strategic Guide. The project aims to address the root cause of issues and inequities in the food system by bolstering the local food system to increase community engagement, control, and health. One way is by creating an Aggregation and Distribution Center (Food Hub) for local, nutritious, and sustainably sourced food.

This contract's 30 month agreement will have New Venture develop a community engagement plan, market analysis, and business plan that will result in a successful Food Hub to benefit the community, local farmers, and institutional food purchasers that builds upon the County's and community's commitment to the Good Food Purchasing Program standards. Conduct pilot projects with various community and non-profit groups to show proof of concepts, build community support, and provide food for low-income and marginalized communities. The final products of the agreement will position the County to apply for grants to build and or operate the food hub. The total value of the agreement will be \$962,000.

RFP 24-465-LC Program Manager Services for Alachua County's Fresh Food Pathways Program was released January 10, 2024. The deadline for receipt of RFP 24-465-LC Program Manager Services for Alachua County's Fresh Food Pathways Program was April 10, 2024; three (3) vendors responded.

The project details can be found here:

<https://procurement.opengov.com/portal/alachuacounty/projects/61829>