

Panther Trails Community Development District

1st Audit Committee Meeting April 13, 2023

Carriage Pointe Clubhouse 11796 Ekker Road Gibsonton, FL 33534

www.panthertrailscdd.org

PANTHER TRAILS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT AGENDA

To be held at the Carriage Pointe Clubhouse, 11796 Ekker Road, Gibsonton, FL 33534

District Board of Supervisors Daniel Smith Chairman

Jennifer Murray Vice Chairman
Theresa Lovelace Assistant Secretary
Kevin Travis Assistant Secretary
Vacant Assistant Secretary

District Manager Taylor Nielsen Rizzetta & Company, Inc.

District Attorney Scott Steady Burr Forman, LLP

District Engineer Greg Woodcock Stantec

All cellular phones and pagers must be turned off during the meeting.

The Audience Comment portion of the agenda is where individuals may make comments on matters that concern the District. Individuals are limited to a total of three (3) minutes to make comments during this time.

Pursuant to provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this meeting/hearing/workshop is asked to advise the District Office at least forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting/hearing/workshop by contacting the District Manager at 813-933-5571. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service by dialing 7-1-1, or 1-800-955-8771 (TTY) 1-800-955-8770 (Voice), who can aid you in contacting the District Office.

A person who decides to appeal any decision made at the meeting/hearing/workshop with respect to any matter considered at the meeting/hearing/workshop is advised that person will need a record of the proceedings and that accordingly, the person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Tab 1

PANTHER TRAILS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

District Auditing Services for Fiscal Year 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026 and 2027 Hillsborough County, Florida

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUDITORS

- SECTION 1. DUE DATE. Sealed proposals must be received no later than Friday, June 2, 2023, at 12:00 PM, at the office of the District Manager, Rizzetta & Company, Inc., located at 3434 Colwell Ave, Suite 200, Tampa, FL 33614.
- **SECTION 2. FAMILIARITY WITH THE LAW.** By submitting a proposal, the Proposer is assumed to be familiar with all federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, rules and regulations that in any manner affect the work. Ignorance on the part of the Proposer will in no way relieve it from responsibility to perform the work covered by the proposal in compliance with all such laws, ordinances and regulations.
- **SECTION 3. QUALIFICATIONS OF PROPOSER.** The contract, if awarded, will only be awarded to a responsible and responsive Proposer who is qualified by experience and licensing to do the work specified herein. The Proposer shall submit with its proposal satisfactory evidence of experience in similar work and show that it is fully prepared to complete the work to the satisfaction of the District.
- **SECTION 4. SUBMISSION OF ONLY ONE PROPOSAL.** Proposer shall be disqualified and its proposal shall be rejected if the District has reason to believe that collusion may exist among the Proposers, the Proposer has defaulted on any previous contract or is in arrears on any previous or existing contract, or for Proposer's failure to demonstrate proper licensure and business organization.
- **SECTION 5. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL.** Proposer shall submit one (1) hard copy and one (1) digital copy of the Proposal Documents, and other requested attachments at the time and place indicated herein, which shall be enclosed in an opaque sealed envelope, marked with the title "Auditing Services Panther Trails Community Development District" on the face of it.
- **SECTION 6. MODIFICATION AND WITHDRAWAL.** Proposals may be modified or withdrawn by an appropriate document duly executed and delivered to the place where proposals are to be submitted at any time prior to the time and date the proposals are due. No proposal may be withdrawn after opening for a period of ninety (90) days.
- **SECTION 7. PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS.** The proposal documents shall consist of the notice announcing the request for proposals, these instructions, the Evaluation Criteria Sheet and a proposal with all required documentation pursuant to Section 12 of these instructions (the "Proposal Documents").

- **SECTION 8. PROPOSAL.** In making its proposal, Proposer represents that it has read and understands the Proposal Documents and that the proposal is made in accordance therewith.
- **SECTION 9. BASIS OF AWARD/RIGHT TO REJECT.** The District reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, make modifications to the work, and waive any informalities or irregularities in proposals as it is deemed in the best interests of the District.
- **SECTION 10. CONTRACT AWARD.** Within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the Notice of Award from the District, the Proposer shall enter into and execute a Contract (engagement letter) with the District.
- **SECTION 11. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY.** Nothing herein shall be construed as or constitute a waiver of District's limited waiver of liability contained in section 768.28, Florida Statutes, or any other statute or law.
- **SECTION 12. MISCELLANEOUS.** All proposals shall include the following information in addition to any other requirements of the proposal documents.
 - **A.** List position or title of all personnel to perform work on the District audit. Include resumes for each person listed; list years of experience in present position for each party listed and years of related experience.
 - **B.** Describe proposed staffing levels, including resumes with applicable certifications.
 - C. Provide three (3) references from projects of similar size and scope. The Proposer should include information relating to the work it conducted for each reference as well as a name, address, and phone number of a contact person. Identify any work previously conducted for other community development district.
 - **D.** The lump sum cost of the provision of the services under the proposal, plus the cost of four (4) optional annual renewals.
- **SECTION 13. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS.** The criteria to be used in the evaluation of proposals are presented in the evaluation criteria, contained within the Proposal Documents.

Tab 2

AUDITOR SELECTION EVALUATION CRITERIA

1. Ability of Personnel.

(20 Points)

This includes the geographic locations of the firm's headquarters or permanent office in relation to the project; capabilities and experience of key personnel; present ability to manage this project; evaluation of existing work load; proposed staffing levels, etc.

2. Proposer's Experience.

(20 Points)

This includes past record and experience of the Proposer in similar projects; volume of work previously performed by the firm; past performance for other community development districts in other contracts; character, integrity, reputation, of respondent, etc.

3. Understanding of Scope of Work.

(20 Points)

Extent to which the proposal demonstrates an understanding of the District's needs for the services requested.

4. Ability to Furnish the Required Services.

(20 Points)

Extent to which the proposal demonstrates the adequacy of Proposer's financial resources and stability as a business entity necessary to complete the services required.

5. Fees.

(20 Points)

Points will be awarded based upon the lowest total bid for rendering the services and the reasonableness of the proposal.

AUDITOR SELECTION EVALUATION CRITERIA (WITHOUT PRICE)

1. Ability of Personnel.

(25 Points)

This includes the geographic locations of the firm's headquarters or permanent office in relation to the project; capabilities and experience of key personnel; present ability to manage this project; evaluation of existing work load; proposed staffing levels, etc.

2. Proposer's Experience.

(25 Points)

This includes past record and experience of the Proposer in similar projects; volume of work previously performed by the firm; past performance for other community development districts in other contracts; character, integrity, reputation, of respondent, etc.

3. Understanding of Scope of Work.

(25 Points)

Extent to which the proposal demonstrates an understanding of the District's needs for the services requested.

4. Ability to Furnish the Required Services.

(25 Points)

Extent to which the proposal demonstrates the adequacy of Proposer's financial resources and stability as a business entity necessary to complete the services required.

Tab 3

PANTHER TRAILS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR ANNUAL AUDIT SERVICES

The Panther Trails Community Development District (the "District") hereby requests proposals for annual financial auditing services. The proposal must provide for the auditing of the District's financial records for each of the fiscal years ending September 30, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026 and 2027. The District is a local unit of special-purpose government created under Florida Statutes, for the purpose of financing, constructing, and maintaining public infrastructure. The District is located in Hillsborough County, Florida and has an operating and debt service budget of approximately \$883,361.70.

Each auditing entity submitting a proposal must be authorized to do business in Florida; hold all applicable state and federal professional licenses in good standing, including but not limited to a license under applicable, Florida Statutes; and be qualified to conduct audits in accordance with "Government Auditing Standards," as adopted by the Florida Board of Accountancy. Audits shall be conducted in accordance with Florida law and particularly Section 218.39, Florida Statutes, and the rules of the Florida Auditor General.

Proposal packages, which include additional qualification requirements, evaluation criteria and instructions, will be available from the District Manager, Taylor Nielsen, at tmielsen@rizzetta.com or (813) 533-2950 ext. 9475.

Proposers must provide one (1) electronic copy and one (1) hard copy of their proposal, using only the following delivery methods, UPS or FedEx to Taylor Nielsen, District Manager, located at Rizzetta & Company, Inc., 3434 Colwell Ave, Suite 200, Tampa, FL 33614, in an envelope marked on the outside "Auditing Services- Panther Trails Community Development District." Proposals must be received by **Friday, June 2, 2023 at 12:00 p.m.**, at the office of the District Manager. Proposals received after this time will not be eligible for consideration. Please direct all questions regarding this Request for Proposals to the District Manager at tnielsen@rizzetta.com.

Panther Trails Community Development District Taylor Nielsen, District Manager

RUN DATE: 5/7/2023