

BELMONT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Prompt Payment Policies and Procedures **In Accordance With the Local Government Prompt Payment Act** **Chapter 218, Part VII, Florida Statutes**

October 18, 2016

Belmont Community Development District
Prompt Payment Policies and Procedures

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I. Purpose

In accordance with the Local Government Prompt Payment Act (Chapter 218, Part VII, Florida Statutes) (“PPA”), the purpose of the Belmont Community Development District (“District”) Prompt Payment Policies and Procedures (“Policies & Procedures”) is to provide a specific policy to ensure timely payment to Vendors and Contractors (both hereinafter defined) providing goods and/or services to the District and ensure the timely receipt by the District of goods and/or services contemplated at the time of contracting. Please note that the PPA, like any statute or law, may be amended from time to time by legislative action. These Policies & Procedures are based on the statutory requirements as of the date identified on the cover page of this document. By this reference, as applicable statutory provisions subsequently change, these Policies & Procedures shall automatically be amended to incorporate the new requirements of law. These Policies & Procedures are adopted by the District to provide guidance in contracting matters. Failure by the District to comply with these Policies & Procedures shall not expand the rights or remedies of any Provider (hereinafter defined) against the District under the PPA. Nothing contained herein shall be interpreted as more restrictive on the District than what is provided for in the PPA.

II. Scope

These Policies & Procedures apply to all operations of the District, including Construction Services and Non-Construction Goods and Services, as applicable.

III. Definitions

A. Agent

The District-contracted architect, District-contracted engineer, District Manager, or other person, acting on behalf of the District, which is required by law or contract to review invoices or payment requests from Providers (hereinafter defined). Such individuals/entities must be identified in accordance with §218.735 (1), Fla. Stat., and further identified in the relevant agreement between the District and the Provider.

B. Construction Services

All labor, services, and materials provided in connection with the construction, alteration, repair, demolition, reconstruction, or other improvement to real property that require a license under parts I and II of Chapter 489, Fla. Stat.

C. Contractor or Provider of Construction Services

The entity or individual that provides Construction Services through direct contract with the District.

D. Date Stamped

Each original and revised invoice or payment request received by the District shall be marked electronically or manually, by use of a date stamp or other method, which date marking clearly indicates the date such invoice or payment request is first delivered to the District through its Agent. In the event that the

Agent receives an invoice or payment request, but fails to timely or physically mark on the document the date received, "Date Stamped" shall mean the date of actual receipt by the Agent.

E. Improper Invoice

An invoice that does not conform to the requirements of a Proper Invoice.

F. Improper Payment Request

A request for payment for Construction Services that does not conform to the requirements of a Proper Payment Request.

G. Non-Construction Goods and Services

All labor, services, goods and materials provided in connection with anything other than construction, alteration, repair, demolition, reconstruction, or other improvements to real property.

H. Proper Invoice

An invoice that conforms to all statutory requirements, all requirements of these Policies and Procedures not expressly waived by the District and any additional requirements included in the agreement for goods and/or services for which the invoice is submitted not expressly waived by the District.

I. Proper Payment Request

A request for payment for Construction Services which conforms to all statutory requirements, all requirements of these Policies & Procedures not expressly waived by the District and any additional requirements included in the Construction Services agreement for which the Payment Request is submitted not expressly waived by the District.

J. Provider

Includes any Vendor, Contractor or Provider of Construction Services, as defined herein.

K. Purchase

The purchase of goods, materials, services, or Construction Services; the purchase or lease of personal property; or the lease of real property by the District.

L. Vendor

Any person or entity that sells goods or services, sells or leases personal property, or leases real property directly to the District, not including Construction Services.

IV. Proper Invoice/Payment Request Requirements

A. General

Prior to Provider receiving payment from the District, Non-Construction Goods and Services and Construction Services, as applicable, shall be received and performed in accordance with contractual or other specifications or requirements to the satisfaction of the District. Provision or delivery of Non-Construction Goods and Services to the District does not constitute acceptance for the purpose of payment. Final acceptance and authorization of payment shall be made only after delivery and inspection by the Agent and the Agent's confirmation that the Non-Construction Goods and Services or Construction Services meet contract specifications and conditions. Should the Non-Construction Goods and Services or Construction Services differ in any respect from the specifications, payment may be withheld until such time as the Provider takes necessary corrective action. Certain limited exceptions which require payment in advance are permitted when authorized by the District Board of Supervisors ("Board") or when provided for in the applicable agreement.

B. Sales Tax

Providers should not include sales tax on any invoice or payment request. The District's current tax-exempt number is _____. A copy of the tax-exempt form will be supplied to Providers upon request.

C. Federal Identification and Social Security Numbers

Providers are paid using either a Federal Identification Number or Social Security Number. To receive payment, Providers should supply the District with the correct number as well as a proper Internal Revenue Service W-9 Form. The District Manager shall treat information provided in accordance with Florida law.

Providers should notify the District Manager when changes in data occur (telephone _____, email _____, Fax _____).

D. Proper Invoice for Non-Construction Goods and Services

All Non-Construction Goods and Services invoiced must be supplied or performed in accordance with the applicable purchase order (including any bid/proposal provided, if applicable) or agreement and such Non-Construction Goods and Services quantity and quality must be equal to or better than what is required by such terms. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable agreement, invoices should contain all of the following minimum information in order to be considered a Proper Invoice:

1. Name of Vendor
2. Remittance address
3. Invoice Date
4. Invoice number

5. The “Bill To” party must be the District or the Board, or other entity approved in writing by the Board of the District Manager
6. Project name (if applicable)
7. In addition to the information required in Section IV.D.1-6 above, invoices involving the purchase of goods should also contain:
 - a. A complete item description
 - b. Quantity purchased
 - c. Unit price(s)
 - d. Total price (for each item)
 - e. Total amount of invoice (all items)
 - f. The location and date(s) of delivery of the goods to the District
8. In addition to the information required in Section IV.D.1-6 above, invoices involving the purchase of services should also contain:
 - a. Itemized description of services performed
 - b. The location and date of delivery of the services to the District
 - c. Billing method for services performed (i.e., approved hourly rates, percentage of completion, cost plus fixed fee, direct/actual costs, etc.)
 - d. Itemization of other direct, reimbursable costs (including description and amount)
 - e. Copies of invoices for other direct, reimbursable costs (other than incidental costs such as copying) and one (1) of the following:
 - i. Copy of both sides of a cancelled check evidencing payment for costs submitted for reimbursement
 - ii. Paid receipt
 - iii. Waiver/lien release from subcontractor (if applicable)
9. Any applicable discounts
10. Any other information or documentation, which may be required or specified under the terms of the purchase order or agreement

E. Proper Payment Request Requirements for Construction Services

Payment Requests must conform to all requirements of Section IV.A.-D., above, unless otherwise specified in the terms of the applicable agreement or purchase order between the District and the Contractor.

V. Submission of Invoices and Payment Requests

The Provider shall submit all Invoices and Payment Requests for both Construction Services and Non-Construction Goods and Services to the District’s Agent as provided in the purchase order or agreement, as applicable, and to the District Manager as follows:

Submit the invoice and/or payment request, with required additional material and in conformance with these Policies and Procedures, by mail, by hand delivery, or via email (Note: email is the preferred method for receipt of Non-Construction Goods and Services invoices).

1. Mailing and Drop Off Address

c/o _____

2. **Email Address**

VI. Calculation of Payment Due Date

A. Non-Construction Goods and Services Invoices

1. **Receipt of Proper Invoice**

Payment is due from the District forty-five (45) days from the date on which a Proper Invoice is Date Stamped.

2. **Receipt of Improper Invoice**

If an Improper Invoice is received, a required invoice is not received, or invoicing of a request for payment is not required, the time when payment is due from the District is forty-five (45) days from the latest date of the following:

- a. On which delivery of personal property is fully accepted by the District;
- b. On which services are completed and accepted by the District;
- c. On which the contracted rental period begins (if applicable); or
- d. On which the District and the Vendor agree in a written agreement that provides payment due dates.

3. **Rejection of an Improper Invoice**

The District may reject an Improper Invoice. Within ten (10) days of receipt of the Improper Invoice by the District, the Vendor must be notified that the invoice is improper and be given an opportunity to correct the deficient or missing information, remedy the faulty work, replace the defective goods, or take other necessary, remedial action.

The District's rejection of an Improper Invoice must:

1. Be provided in writing;
2. Specify any and all known deficiencies; and
3. State actions necessary to correct the Improper Invoice.

If the Vendor submits a corrected invoice, which corrects the deficiencies specified in the District's written rejection, the District must pay the corrected invoice within the later of: (a) ten (10) business days after date the corrected invoice is Date Stamped; or (b) forty-five (45) days after the date the Improper Invoice was Date Stamped.

If the Vendor submits an invoice in response to the District's written rejection which fails to correct the deficiencies specified or continues to be an Improper Invoice, the District must reject that invoice as stated herein.

4. Payment of Undisputed Portion of Invoice

If the District disputes a portion of an invoice, the undisputed portion shall be paid in a timely manner and in accordance with the due dates for payment as specified in these Policies & Procedures.

B. Payment Requests for Construction Services

1. Receipt of Proper Payment Request

The time at which payment is due for Construction Services from the District is as follows:

a. If an Agent must approve the payment request before it is submitted to the District Manager, payment (whether full or partial) is due twenty-five (25) business days after the payment request is Date Stamped. The Contractor may send the District an overdue notice. If the payment request is not rejected within four (4) business days after Date Stamp of the overdue notice, the payment request shall be deemed accepted, except for any portion of the payment request that is fraudulent, misleading or is the subject of dispute.

The agreement between the District and the Contractor shall identify the Agent to which the Contractor shall submit its payment request, or shall be provided by the District through a separate written notice no later than ten (10) days after contract award or notice to proceed, whichever is later. Contractor's submission of a payment request to the Agent shall be Date Stamped, which shall commence the time periods for payment or rejection of a payment request or invoice as provided in this section.

b. If, pursuant to contract, an Agent is not required to approve the payment request submitted to the District, payment is due twenty (20) business days after the payment request is Date Stamped unless such payment request includes fraudulent or misleading information or is the subject of dispute.

2. Receipt and Rejection of Improper Payment Request

a. If an Improper Payment Request is received, the District must reject the Improper Payment Request within twenty (20) business days after the date on which the payment request is Date Stamped.

b. The District's rejection of the Improper Payment Request must:

1. Be provided in writing;
2. Specify any and all known deficiencies; and
3. State actions necessary to correct the Improper Invoice.

c. If a Contractor submits a payment request which corrects the deficiency specified in the District's written rejection, the District must pay or reject the corrected submission no later than ten (10) business days after the date the corrected payment request is Date Stamped.

3. Payment of Undisputed Portion of Payment Request

If the District disputes a portion of a payment request, the undisputed portion shall be paid in a timely manner and in accordance with the due dates for payment as specified in this section.

VII. Resolution of Disputes

If a dispute arises between a Provider and the District concerning payment of an invoice or payment request, the dispute shall be resolved as set forth in § 218.735, Fla. Stat., for Construction Services, and § 218.76, Fla. Stat. for Non-Construction Goods and Services.

A. Dispute between the District and a Contractor

If a dispute between the District and a Contractor cannot be resolved following resubmission of a payment request by the Contractor, the dispute must be resolved in accordance with the dispute resolution procedure prescribed in the construction contract, if any. In the absence of a prescribed procedure in the contract, the dispute must be resolved by the procedures specified below.

B. Dispute Resolution Procedures

1. If an Improper Payment Request or Improper Invoice is submitted, and the Provider refuses or fails to submit a revised payment request or invoice as contemplated by the PPA and these Policies and Procedures, the Provider shall, not later than thirty (30) days after the date on which the last payment request or invoice was Date Stamped, submit a written statement via certified mail to the Agent, copying the District Manager, specifying the basis upon which the Provider contends the last submitted payment request or invoice was proper.
2. Within forty-five (45) days of receipt by the Agent and District Manager of the disputed, last-submitted payment request or invoice, the Agent and/or District Manager shall commence investigation of the dispute and render a final decision on the matter no later than sixty (60) days after the date on which the last-submitted payment request or invoice is Date Stamped.
3. Absent a written agreement to the contrary, if the Provider refuses or fails to provide the written statement required above, the Agent and/or District Manager is not required to contact the Provider in the investigation. In addition, and absent a written agreement to the contrary, if such written

statement is not provided, the District may immediately contract with third parties to provide the goods and services subject to the dispute and deduct the costs of such third party purchases from amounts owed to the Provider.

4. The Board shall approve any decision of the District Manager to contract with a third party which would result in: 1) an expenditure above what is budgeted for the Construction Services or Non-Construction Services; or 2) an expenditure which exceeds the original contract amount for the Construction Services or Non-Construction Services by more than ten percent (10%) or Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000).
5. A written explanation of the final decision shall be sent to the Provider, via certified mail, within five (5) business days from the date on which such final decision is made. A copy of the written explanation of the final decision shall be provided to the Chairperson of the Board simultaneously with the certified mailing to the Provider.
6. If a Provider does not accept in writing the final decision within five (5) days after receipt by the Provider, the District may immediately contract with third parties to provide the goods and services subject to the dispute and deduct the costs of such third party purchases from amounts owed to the Provider. If the costs of the third party purchases exceed the amount the District owes to the Provider, the District may seek to recover such excess from the Provider in a court of law or as otherwise provided in an agreement between the District and the Provider. Nothing contained herein shall limit or affect the District's ability to enforce all of its legal and contractual rights and remedies against the Provider.

VIII. Purchases Involving Federal Funds or Bond Funds

When the District intends to pay for a purchase with federal funds or bond funds, the District shall make such purchases only upon reasonable assurances that federal funds or bond funds sufficient to cover the cost will be received. When payment is contingent upon the receipt of bond funds, federal funds or federal approval, the public procurement documents and any agreement with a Provider shall clearly state such contingency. (§ 218.77, Fla. Stat.).

IX. Requirements for Construction Services Contracts – Project Completion; Retainage

The District intends to follow the PPA requirements for construction project completion and retainage, including, but not limited to, § 218.735 (7) and (8), Fla. Stat.

X. Late Payment Interest Charges

Failure on the part of the District to make timely payments may result in District responsibility for late payment interest charges. No agreement between the District and a Provider may prohibit the collection of late payment interest charges allowable under the PPA as mandatory interest. (§218.75, Fla. Stat.).

A. Related to Non-Construction Goods and Services

All payments due from the District, and not made within the time specified within this policy, will bear interest, from thirty (30) days after the due date, at the rate of one percent (1%) per month on the unpaid balance. The Vendor must submit a Proper Invoice to the District for any interest accrued in order to receive the interest payment. (§ 218.74 (4), Fla. Stat.).

An overdue period of less than one (1) month is considered as one (1) month in computing interest. Unpaid interest is compounded monthly. The term one (1) month means a period beginning on any day of a month and ending on the same day of the following month.

B. Related to Construction Services

All payments for Construction Services that are not made within the time periods specified within the applicable statute, shall bear interest from thirty (30) days after the due date, at the rate of one percent (1%) per month, or the rate specified by agreement, whichever is greater. The Contractor must submit a Proper Payment Request to the District for any interest accrued in order to receive the interest payment. An overdue period of less than one (1) month is considered as one (1) month in computing interest. (§ 218.735 (8)(i), Fla. Stat.).

Unpaid interest is compounded monthly. The term one (1) month means a period beginning on any day of a month and ending on the same day of the following month.

C. Report of Interest

If the total amount of interest paid during the preceding fiscal year exceeds \$250, the District Manager is required to submit a report to the Board during December of each year, stating the number of interest payments made and the total amount of such payments. (§ 218.78, Fla. Stat.).