

ANNOUNCING BID4MICHIGAN FOR DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS

The Michigan Department of Management and Budget's central purchasing office implemented a new solicitation notification system on January 27, 2009. This system is located at www.Bid4Michigan.com. This system assists the State of Michigan's buyers in broadening the local supplier base. Effective December 1, 2009, all design and construction contract solicitations will be advertised on this site. Solicitations will continue to be advertised at the current web site www.michigan.gov/BuyMichiganFirst until March 1, 2010, at which time all solicitations will be located exclusively at the Bid4Michigan site.

In implementing this solution, the State of Michigan is providing design professionals with requests for proposals, and suppliers and construction contractors with electronic bidding documents, in an environment which allows the vendor to select the level of notification best suited for their capabilities and interests.

The new system posts solicitations for design and construction contracts on-line and also allows automated generation of email notifications to vendors registered for the commodity/service type requested in each posted solicitation, including summary information for each opportunity, buyer contact information and important dates (pre-bid meetings, question and answer period, etc.). Electronic versions of bid documents and Requests for Proposal will be posted with the solicitation.

Vendors are asked to register in the new system even if they have registered previously through the state's legacy purchasing and accounting system, so they can select the type of notification services which best fit their business needs. In addition, we created a tailored list of the National Institute of Government Purchasing (NIGP) codes we anticipate will be used on the majority of our projects. This list is posted on the Buy Michigan First site and should be used to help ensure appropriate project/vendor matches.

There are two levels of registration. The first is **totally free**, but requires the vendor do periodic searches to find solicitations that match their registration. The second includes a fee of \$49.95 annually and provides automatic notification of project/vendor matches.

The new system also has the capability to accommodate electronic receipt of bids and proposals; however, implementation of this phase for design and construction contracts may be at a later date.

A Buy Michigan First – Design & Construction out-reach session has been scheduled for November 12th in the Forum, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. This and notices of future informational sessions will be posted on the Buy Michigan First web site www.michigan.gov/BuyMichiganFirst.

Watch this site for future up-dates or call 517-241-2822 for further information.