



LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
**ANIMAL CARE & CONTROL** | **redefining CARE**



Marcia Mayeda, Director

**ADOPTED**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

April 09, 2024

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

55 April 9, 2024

JEFF LEVINSON  
INTERIM EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

**REQUEST APPROVAL TO EXECUTE MASTER AGREEMENTS  
WITH CONTRACTORS TO PROVIDE AS-NEEDED ONSITE  
VETERINARIAN SERVICES  
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)  
(3 VOTES)**

**SUBJECT**

This action is to request approval to execute Master Agreements with multiple contractors to provide the Department of Animal Care and Control (Department) with As Needed Onsite Veterinarian Services.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:**

1. Approve and delegate authority to the Director of Animal Care and Control or designee to execute Master Agreements, substantially similar to the attached, as contractors become qualified through the Request for Statement of Qualifications (RFSQ) for As-Needed Onsite Veterinarian Services. These services may include high-volume, high-quality spay/neuter surgeries, overseeing perioperative care, diagnosing and treating medical conditions of animals, vaccinating and providing emergency treatment to animals, and other work as required. The Master Agreements are for an initial term of three years with two one-year option periods--with work assigned on an as-needed and intermittent basis--for a potential total term of up to five years. The annual aggregate cost for the Department is not to exceed \$150,000 up to a maximum amount over the potential total term of \$750,000.

2. Delegate authority to the Director of Animal Care and Control or designee to increase the total annual amount for these contracts, currently set at \$150,000 per year, by an additional 10 percent for

each successive year.

3. Delegate authority to the Director of Animal Care and Control or designee to exercise the two one-year renewal options in the above contracts and to execute amendments to the terms and conditions necessary to meet the Department's needs.

### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The proposed action aims to secure part-time veterinarian services from independent contractors to cover essential functions when the Department requires additional staffing at its seven animal care centers.

Over the past year, the Department has encountered significant difficulties in recruiting and hiring full-time veterinarians to provide these services. This challenge is primarily due to a severe shortage in the veterinary community. The nationwide shortage of veterinarians has resulted in County veterinarians transitioning to private clinics incentivized by more flexible schedules and often higher salaries. The contracted veterinarians are vital to ensure uninterrupted coverage at our care centers during regular hours, minimizing potential gaps in service provision, and during after-hour shifts.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The recommended Master Agreement will further County Strategic Plan Goal 3, Strategy III.3, of Pursuing Operational Effectiveness, Fiscal Responsibility, and Accountability. Its primary focus is to guarantee timely and adequate veterinary care for all animals admitted to our care centers. Moreover, this initiative facilitates the allocation of crucial staffing resources necessary to sustain mandatory spay and neuter procedures for adopted animals as required by State law and to provide fundamental veterinary services for animals housed in our care centers.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The total cost of all collective Master Agreements will not exceed \$150,000 annually. The Master Agreement does not guarantee any contractor any minimum amount of work and costs will only be incurred as services are requested through work orders. Payment for work will be on an hourly basis as established in the Master Agreement. There is sufficient appropriation in the Department's Fiscal Year 2024-25 Recommended Budget to fund the costs of these as-needed services.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The term of the recommended Master Agreement is three years, with two one-year option periods. Each Master Agreement will commence upon execution by the Director of the Department or their designee. The recommended contract is authorized by Los Angeles County Charter Section 44.7 and Los Angeles County Code Chapter 2.121 (Proposition A). This Master Agreement is exempt from Proposition A requirements due to the professional and specialized work of veterinarians and due to it being provided only on a part-time, intermittent basis.

Contractors will be contacted and informed of specific services required via work orders. The assigned work will be on a rotational basis by geographic area; however, the Department's Director or designee has the discretion to assign work to any of its contractors.

The execution of a Master Agreement does not guarantee a contractor any minimum amount of business. The County does not promise, warrant, or guarantee the use of any particular level of contractor service or any services at all during the term of the Master Agreement.

The Master Agreement also contains the County's standard provisions regarding contractor obligations and compliance with all Board of Supervisors, Chief Executive Office, and County Counsel requirements.

The terms and conditions of the Master Agreement have been approved as to form by County Counsel.

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

On May 31, 2023, the Department issued an RFSQ seeking qualified veterinarians to provide as needed, on-site veterinarian services. The opportunity has been advertised on the County's Doing Business with Us website where the full document is available for download. The RFSQ was also advertised on the Department's website and various employment websites.

Any work required will be assigned through the work order process, which will be based on the contractor's availability and rotational schedule.

New contractors meeting the minimum qualifications of the RFSQ will be allowed to qualify for inclusion on the Master Agreement list throughout the term of the Master Agreement.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

Board approval of the recommended actions will ensure that as-needed veterinarian services provided at our seven animal care centers will continue uninterrupted. This Master Agreement will replace the current Master Agreement which expires on June 30, 2024.

### **CONCLUSION**

Upon Board approval, please return one adopted copy of this Board letter to the Department.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

4/9/2024

Page 4

Respectfully submitted,



MARCIA MAYEDA

Director

MM:DU:WD:BK:cg

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Office  
County Counsel  
Executive Office

**APPENDIX A**

**SAMPLE MASTER AGREEMENT**



**MASTER AGREEMENT**

**BY AND BETWEEN**

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

**DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL**

**AND**

**(CONTRACTOR)**

**FOR**

**AS NEEDED ON-SITE VETERINARIAN SERVICES**

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**STANDARD EXHIBITS**

- A Statement of Work
- B Pricing Schedule
- C County’s Administration
- D Contractor’s Administration
- E Contractor’s EEO Certification
- F Jury Service Ordinance
- G Safely Surrendered Baby Law
- H Sample Work Order Formats
- I Forms Required for Each Work Order Before Work Begins (COVID-19 Vaccination Certification of Compliance, Certifications, and Confidentiality Forms)

**UNIQUE EXHIBITS**

- J Intentionally Omitted
- K Intentionally Omitted
- L Intentionally Omitted
- M Charitable Contributions Certification
- N Intentionally Omitted

**Appendix A**

**MASTER AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES,  
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL  
AND**

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**FOR  
AS NEEDED ON-SITE VETERINARIAN SERVICES**

This Master Agreement and Exhibits made and entered into this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_ by and between the County of Los Angeles, Department of Animal Care and Control hereinafter referred to as County, and \_\_\_\_\_, hereinafter referred to as Contractor, to provide As Needed On-Site Veterinarian Services.

**RECITALS**

WHEREAS, the County may contract with private businesses for As Needed On-Site Veterinarian Services when certain requirements are met; and

WHEREAS, the Contractor is a private business specializing in providing As Needed On-Site Veterinarian Services; and

WHEREAS, this Master Agreement is therefore authorized under California Codes, Government Code Section 31000 which authorizes the Board of Supervisors to contract for special services; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has authorized the Director of the Department of Animal Care and Control or designee to execute and administer this Master Agreement; and

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, and for good and valuable consideration, the parties agree to the following:

## 1.0 APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS

Exhibits A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, and J are attached to and form a part of this Master Agreement. In the event of any conflict or inconsistency in the definition or interpretation of any word, responsibility, schedule, or the contents or description of any task, deliverable, goods, service, or other work, or otherwise between the base Master Agreement and the Exhibits, or between Exhibits, such conflict or inconsistency will be resolved by giving precedence first to the Master Agreement and then to the Exhibits according to the following priority:

### **Standard Exhibits:**

- Exhibit A Statement of Work
- Exhibit B Pricing Schedule
- Exhibit C County's Administration
- Exhibit D Contractor's Administration
- Exhibit E Contractor's EEO Certification
- Exhibit F Jury Service Ordinance
- Exhibit G Safely Surrendered Baby Law
- Exhibit H Sample Work Order Formats
- Exhibit I Forms Required For Each Work Order Before Work Begins (COVID-19 Vaccination Certification of Compliance, Certifications, and Confidentiality Forms)

### **Intellectual Property Developed/Designed by Contractor Forms**

- Exhibit J Intentionally Omitted

### **Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)**

- Exhibit K Intentionally Omitted

### **Work Orders Executed Under this Master Agreement**

- Exhibit L Intentionally Omitted

### **SB 1262 – Nonprofit Integrity Act of 2004**

- EXHIBIT M Charitable Contributions Certification - SB 1262 – Nonprofit Integrity Act of 2004

### **Information Security and Privacy Requirements Exhibit**

Exhibit N Intentionally Omitted

This Master Agreement and the Exhibits hereto constitute the complete and exclusive statement of understanding between the parties, and supersedes all previous Master Agreements, written and oral, and all communications between the parties relating to the subject matter of this Master Agreement. No change to this Master Agreement will be valid unless prepared pursuant to Paragraph 8.1 (Amendments) and signed by both parties.

## 2.0 DEFINITIONS

The headings herein contained are for convenience and reference only and are not intended to define the scope of any provision thereof. The following words as used herein will be construed to have the following meaning, unless otherwise apparent from the context in which they are used.

- 2.1 **Active Contractor:** Identifies a Qualified Contractor who is in compliance with the terms and conditions and whose evidence of insurance requirements have all been received by the Department and are valid and in effect at the time of a given Work Order award. As used herein, the terms Active Contractor and Contractor may be used interchangeably throughout this document.
- 2.2 **Contractor Project Manager:** The individual designated by the Contractor to administer the Master Agreement operations after the Master Agreement award.
- 2.3 **County Master Agreement Program Director (MAPD):** A person designated by the Director with authority to negotiate and recommend all changes on behalf of County.
- 2.4 **County Project Director:** Person designated by Director with authority to approve all Work Order solicitations and executions.
- 2.5 **County Project Manager:** Person designated as chief contact person with respect to the day-to-day administration of the Master Agreement.
- 2.6 **County's Work Order Directors:** Responsible for coordinating and monitoring the Work Order.
- 2.7 **Day(s):** Calendar day(s) unless otherwise specified.
- 2.8 **Director:** Director of the Department of Animal Care and Control.
- 2.9 **Fiscal Year:** The twelve (12) month period beginning July 1st and ending the following June 30th.
- 2.10 **Master Agreement:** County's standard agreement executed between County and individual Contractors. It sets forth the terms and conditions for the issuance and performance of, and otherwise governs, subsequent Work Orders.

- 2.11 Qualified Contractor:** A Contractor who has submitted a Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) in response to County's Request For Statement of Qualifications (RFSQ); has met the minimum qualifications listed in the RFSQ, and has an executed Master Agreement with the Department of Animal Care and Control Department.
- 2.12 Request For Statement of Qualifications (RFSQ):** A solicitation based on establishing a pool of Qualified Vendors to provide services through Master Agreements.
- 2.13 Statement of Qualifications (SOQ):** A Contractor's response to an RFSQ.
- 2.14 Statement of Work:** A written description of tasks and/or deliverables desired by County for a specific Work Order.
- 2.15 Work Order:** A subordinate agreement executed wholly within and subject to the provisions of this Master Agreement, for the performance of tasks and/or provision of deliverables as described in a specification or a Statement of Work. Each Work Order must result from bids, solicited by and tendered to County, by Qualified Contractors. Unless otherwise specified in the Work Order Availability Notice, County will select the lowest cost, qualified bid responding to the requirements of the proposed Work Order. No work will be performed by Contractors except in accordance with validly bid and executed Work Orders.

### **3.0 WORK**

- 3.1 Pursuant to the provisions of this Master Agreement, the Contractor must fully perform, complete and deliver on time, all tasks, deliverables, services, and other work as set forth herein.
- 3.2 Work Orders will generally conform to either Exhibit H1 or H2, depending on whether the particular Work Order is to be performed on a time and materials basis (see Exhibit H1) or on a fixed price per deliverable basis (see Exhibit H2) as determined by County. Each Work Order will include an attached Statement of Work, which will describe in detail the particular project and the work required for the performance thereof. Payment for all work will be either on a time and materials basis or on a fixed priced per deliverable basis, subject to the Total Maximum Amount specified on each individual Work Order.
- 3.3 If Contractor provides any task, deliverable, service, or other work to County that utilizes other than approved Contractor Personnel, and/or that goes beyond the Work Order expiration date, and/or that exceeds the Total Maximum Amount as specified in the Work Order as originally written or modified in accordance with Paragraph 8.1 (Amendments), these will be gratuitous efforts on the part of

Contractor for which Contractor will have no claim whatsoever against County.

- 3.4 County procedures for issuing and executing Work Orders are as set forth in this Paragraph 3.4. Upon determination by County to issue a Work Order solicitation, County will issue a Work Order solicitation containing a Statement of Work to all Master Agreement Qualified Contractors. Each interested Qualified Contractor so contacted must submit a bid to the County address and within the timeframe specified in the solicitation. Failure of Contractor to provide a bid within the specified timeframe may disqualify Contractor from that particular Work Order.
- 3.5 Upon completion of evaluations, County will execute the Work Order by and through the Department of Animal Care and Control staff identified in this Master Agreement on a rotational basis, based on the time and geographical availability of Contractor and the needs of the Department. It is understood by Contractor that County's competitive bidding procedure may have the effect that no Work Orders are awarded to some Master Agreement Qualified Contractors. Work Orders are usually issued for periods not extending past the end of County's current fiscal year (June 30<sup>th</sup>) with the exception of Work Orders for as-needed services on a time and material basis, which may be issued to correspond with the term of the Master Agreement. However, at such time the Work Order is only extended through the end of the fiscal year, County may either rebid the Work Order tasks or extend the Work Order if technical or cost circumstances require it.
- 3.6 County estimates that the selection of any Contractor will occur within five (5) business days of completion of the evaluations of the particular Work Order bids. Following selection, all Contractors selected must be available to meet with County on the starting date specified in the Work Order. The inability of Contractor to comply with such commencement date may be cause for disqualification of Contractor from the particular Work Order as determined in the sole discretion of County's Project Director.
- 3.7 In the event Contractor defaults three times under Paragraph 3.6 within a given County fiscal year, then County may terminate this Master Agreement pursuant to Paragraph 8.42 (Termination for Default).

#### **4.0 TERM OF MASTER AGREEMENT**

- 4.1 This Master Agreement is effective upon the date of its execution by the Director of the Department of Animal Care and Control or his/her designee as authorized by the Board of Supervisors. This Master Agreement will expire on June 30, 2027 unless sooner extended or terminated, in whole or in part, as provided herein.

- 4.2 The County will have the sole option to extend the Master Agreement term for up to two (2) additional one-year periods, for a maximum total Master Agreement term of five (5) years. Each such option and extension will be exercised at the sole discretion of the Department Head or his/her designee as authorized by the Board of Supervisors.

The County maintains a database that tracks/monitors contractor performance history. Information entered into the database may be used for a variety of purposes, including determining whether the County will exercise a Master Agreement term extension option.

- 4.3 Contractor must notify the Department when this Master Agreement is within six (6) months from the expiration of the term as provided for hereinabove. Upon the occurrence of this event, Contractor must send written notification to the Department of Animal Care and Control at the address herein provided in Exhibit C (County's Administration).

## **5.0 CONTRACT SUM**

### **5.1 Total Contract Sum**

Contractor will not be entitled to any payment by County under this Master Agreement except pursuant to validly executed and satisfactorily performed Work Orders. In each year of this Master Agreement, the total of all amounts actually expended by County hereunder ("maximum annual expenditures") may not exceed amounts allocated to the Department of Animal Care and Control by the County Board of Supervisors in their approved budgets. The County has sole discretion to expend some, all, or none of such budgeted amounts. The sum of such annual expenditures for the duration of the Master Agreement is the Contract Sum.

### **5.2 Written Approval for Reimbursement**

The Contractor will not be entitled to payment or reimbursement for any tasks or services performed, nor for any incidental or administrative expenses whatsoever incurred in or incidental to performance hereunder, except as specified herein. Assumption or takeover of any of the Contractor's duties, responsibilities, or obligations, or performance of same by any entity other than the Contractor, whether through assignment, subcontract, delegation, merger, buyout, or any other mechanism, with or without consideration for any reason whatsoever, will occur only with the County's express prior written approval.

### **5.3 No Payment for Services Provided Following Expiration/Termination of Master Agreement**

Contractor will have no claim against County for payment of any money or reimbursement, of any kind whatsoever, for any service provided by Contractor after the expiration or other termination of this

Master Agreement. Should Contractor receive any such payment it will immediately notify County and must immediately repay all such funds to County. Payment by County for services rendered after expiration/termination of this Master Agreement will not constitute a waiver of County's right to recover such payment from Contractor.

#### 5.4 **Invoices and Payments**

5.4.1 For providing the tasks, deliverables, services, and other work authorized pursuant to this Master Agreement, Contractor must separately invoice County for each Work Order either: (1) monthly, if performed on a Time and Materials basis (see Exhibit H1) or (2) by deliverable, if performed on a fixed price per deliverable basis (see Exhibit H2).

5.4.2 Payment for all work will be on either a Time and Materials basis or a fixed price per deliverable basis, subject to the Total Maximum Amount specified in each Work Order less any amounts assessed in accordance with Paragraph 8.25 (Liquidated Damages).

5.4.3 County will not pay Contractor for any overtime premiums, travel expenses, meals, lodging, holidays, vacation, sick leave, per diem, or miscellaneous expenses, etc.

5.4.4 All work performed by, and all invoices submitted by, Contractor pursuant to Work Orders issued hereunder must receive the written approval of County's Work Order Director, who will be responsible for a detailed evaluation of Contractor's performance before approval of work and/or payment of invoices is permitted.

5.4.5 Invoices under this Master Agreement must be submitted to the address below:

Department of Animal Care and Control

ATTN: Fiscal Department

5898 Cherry Ave

Long Beach, CA 90805

#### 5.4.6 **Invoice Content**

The period of performance specified in Contractor's invoice(s) must coincide with the period of performance specified in the applicable Work Order.

##### **Time and Materials Work Order:**

Each invoice submitted by Contractor must specify:

- County numbers of the Work Order and Contractor's Master Agreement;



- Period of performance of work being invoiced;
- Name(s) of persons who performed the work;
- Number of hours being billed for the individual(s) and the labor rate(s) as specified in the Work Order; and
- Total amount of the invoice.

**Fixed Price Per Deliverable**

Each invoice submitted by Contractor must specify:

- County numbers of the Work Order and Contractor’s Master Agreement;
- Period of performance of work being invoiced;
- Name(s) of persons who performed the work;
- A brief description of the deliverable(s) for which payment is claimed, the respective number(s) assigned to the deliverable(s), and the individual amount being billed for each deliverable; and
- The total amount of the invoice.

**5.4.7 Local Small Business Enterprises – Prompt Payment Program (if applicable)**

Certified Local Small Business Enterprises (LSBEs) will receive prompt payment for services they provide to County departments. Prompt payment is defined as fifteen (15) calendar days after receipt of an undisputed invoice.

**5.5 Default Method of Payment: Direct Deposit or Electronic Funds Transfer**

5.5.1 The County, at its sole discretion, has determined that the most efficient and secure default form of payment for goods and/or services provided under an agreement/ contract with the County will be Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) or direct deposit, unless an alternative method of payment is deemed appropriate by the Auditor-Controller (A-C).

5.5.2 The Contractor must submit a direct deposit authorization request via the website <https://directdeposit.lacounty.gov> with banking and vendor information, and any other information that the A-C determines is reasonably necessary to process the payment and comply with all accounting, record keeping, and tax reporting requirements.

5.5.3 Any provision of law, grant, or funding agreement requiring a specific form or method of payment other than EFT or direct deposit will supersede this requirement with respect to those payments.

5.5.4 At any time during the duration of the agreement/contract, a Contractor may submit a written request for an exemption to this requirement. Such request must be based on specific legal, business, or operational needs and explain why the payment method designated by the A-C is not feasible and an alternative is necessary. In consultation with the contracting department(s), the A-C will decide whether to approve exemption requests.

## **6.0 ADMINISTRATION OF MASTER AGREEMENT - COUNTY**

A listing of all County Administration referenced in the following paragraphs are designated in Exhibit C (County's Administration). The County will notify the Contractor in writing of any change in the names or addresses shown.

### **6.1 County's Master Agreement Program Director (MAPD)**

The MAPD has the authority to negotiate, recommend all changes to this Master Agreement, and resolve disputes between the Department of Animal Care and Control and Contractor.

### **6.2 County's Project Director**

The County's Project Director, or designee, is the approving authority for individual Work Order solicitations and executions.

### **6.3 County's Work Order Director**

A Work Order Director will be assigned for each Work Order by County's Project Director.

6.3.1 The responsibilities of the Work Order Director include:

- ensuring that the technical standards and task requirements articulated in the individual Work Order are satisfactorily complied with, and must provide, on request, such information, coordination, documentation, and materials as may be reasonably required by Contractor to perform Work Orders;
- coordinating and monitoring the work of Contractor personnel assigned to the Work Order Director's specific projects, and ensuring that this Master Agreement's objectives are met;
- monitoring, evaluating, and reporting Contractor performance and progress on the Work Order;

- coordinating with Contractor's Project Manager, on a regular basis, regarding the performance of Contractor's personnel on each particular project;
- providing direction to Contractor in the areas relating to County policy, information requirements, and procedural requirements.

6.3.2 County's Work Order Directors are not authorized to make any changes in Work Order labor rates, dollar totals, or periods of performance, or in the terms and conditions of this Master Agreement, except through formally prepared Amendments, Paragraph 8.1.

#### **6.4 County's Project Manager**

The County's Project Manager is County's chief contact person with respect to the day-to-day administration of this Master Agreement. The Project Manager will prepare, and issue Work Orders and any Amendments thereto, and generally be the first person for Contractor to contact with any questions.

### **7.0 ADMINISTRATION OF MASTER AGREEMENT - CONTRACTOR**

#### **7.1 Contractor's Project Manager**

7.1.1 Contractor's Project Manager is designated in Exhibit D (Contractor's Administration). The Contractor must notify the County in writing of any change in the name or address of the Contractor's Project Manager.

7.1.2 Contractor's Project Manager will be responsible for Contractor's day-to-day activities as related to this Master Agreement and will coordinate with County's Work Order Directors on a regular basis with respect to all active Work Orders.

#### **7.2 Contractor's Authorized Official(s)**

7.2.1 Contractor's Authorized Official(s) are designated in Exhibit D (Contractor's Administration). Contractor must promptly notify County in writing of any change in the name(s) or address(es) of Contractor's Authorized Official(s).

7.2.2 Contractor represents and warrants that all requirements of Contractor have been fulfilled to provide actual authority to such officials to execute documents under this Master Agreement on behalf of Contractor.

#### **7.3 Approval of Contractor's Staff**

County has the absolute right to approve or disapprove all of Contractor's staff performing work hereunder and any proposed changes in Contractor's staff, including, but not limited to,

Contractor's Project Manager. Contractor must provide County with a resume of each proposed substitute and an opportunity to interview such person prior to any staff substitution.

#### **7.4 Contractor's Staff Identification**

- 7.4.1 Contractor will provide, at Contractor's expense, all staff providing services under this Master Agreement with a photo identification badge.
- 7.4.2 Contractor is responsible to ensure that employees have obtained a County ID badge before they are assigned to work in a County facility. Contractor personnel may be asked to leave a County facility by a County representative if they do not have the proper County ID badge on their person.
- 7.4.3 Contractor must notify the County within one business day when staff is terminated from working under this Master Agreement. Contractor must retrieve and return an employee's ID badge to the County on the next business day after the employee has terminated employment with the Contractor.
- 7.4.4 If County requests the removal of Contractor's staff, Contractor must retrieve and return an employee's ID badge to the County on the next business day after the employee has been removed from working on the County's Master Agreement.

#### **7.5 Background and Security Investigations**

- 7.5.1 Each of Contractor's staff performing services under this Master Agreement who is in a designated sensitive position, as determined by County in County's sole discretion, must undergo and pass a background investigation to the satisfaction of County as a condition of beginning and continuing to perform services under this Master Agreement. Such background investigation must be obtained through fingerprints submitted to the California Department of Justice to include State, local, and federal-level review, which may include, but will not be limited to, criminal conviction information. The fees associated with the background investigation will be at the expense of the Contractor, regardless if the member of Contractor's staff passes or fails the background investigation.
- 7.5.2 If a member of Contractor's staff does not pass the background investigation, County may request that the member of Contractor's staff be immediately removed from performing services under the Master Agreement at any time during the term of the Master Agreement. County will not

provide to Contractor or to Contractor's staff any information obtained through the County's background investigation.

7.5.3 County, in its sole discretion, may immediately deny or terminate facility access to any member of Contractor's staff that does not pass such investigation to the satisfaction of the County or whose background or conduct is incompatible with County facility access.

7.5.4 Disqualification of any member of Contractor's staff pursuant to this Paragraph 7.5 will not relieve Contractor of its obligation to complete all work in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Master Agreement.

## **7.6 Confidentiality**

7.6.1 Contractor must maintain the confidentiality of all records and information in accordance with all applicable Federal, State and local laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, directives, guidelines, policies and procedures relating to confidentiality, including, without limitation, County policies concerning information technology security and the protection of confidential records and information.

7.6.2 Contractor must indemnify, defend, and hold harmless County, its officers, employees, and agents, from and against any and all claims, demands, damages, liabilities, losses, costs and expenses, including, without limitation, defense costs and legal, accounting and other experts, consulting, or professional fees, arising from, connected with, or related to any failure by Contractor, its officers, employees, agents, or subcontractors, to comply with this Paragraph 7.6, as determined by County in its sole judgment. Any legal defense pursuant to Contractor's indemnification obligations under this Paragraph 7.6 will be conducted by Contractor and performed by counsel selected by Contractor and approved by County. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, County will have the right to participate in any such defense at its sole cost and expense, except that in the event Contractor fails to provide County with a full and adequate defense, as determined by County in its sole judgment, County will be entitled to retain its own counsel, including, without limitation, County Counsel, and reimbursement from Contractor for all such costs and expenses incurred by County in doing so. Contractor will not have the right to enter into any settlement, agree to any injunction, or make any admission, in each case, on behalf of County without County's prior written approval.

- 7.6.3 Contractor must inform all of its officers, employees, agents, and subcontractors providing services hereunder of the confidentiality provisions of this Master Agreement.
- 7.6.4 Contractor must sign and adhere to the provisions of the Exhibit I3 (Contractor Acknowledgement and Confidentiality Agreement).

## **8.0 STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

### **8.1 Amendments**

- 8.1.1 The County's Board of Supervisors or Chief Executive Officer or designee may require the addition and/or change of certain terms and conditions in the Master Agreement during the term of this Master Agreement. The County reserves the right to add and/or change such provisions as required by the County's Board of Supervisors or Chief Executive Officer. To implement such orders, an Amendment to the Master Agreement must be prepared and executed by the Contractor and by the Director of the Department of Animal Care and Control.
- 8.1.2 The Director of the Department of Animal Care and Control, or his/her designee may, at his/her sole discretion, authorize extensions of time as defined in Paragraph 4.0 (Term of Master Agreement). The Contractor agrees that such extensions of time will not change any other term or condition of this Master Agreement during the period of such extensions. To implement an extension of time, an Amendment to the Master Agreement must be prepared and executed by the Contractor and by the Director of the Department of Animal Care and Control.
- 8.1.3 **Addition of Skilled Categories/Technical Specializations**

An Amendment to the Master Agreement will be prepared and executed by the Contractor and by the Director of the Department of Animal Care and Control to add or delete Skilled Categories or Technical Specializations.

### **8.2 Assignment and Delegation/Mergers or Acquisitions**

- 8.2.1 The Contractor must notify the County of any pending acquisitions/mergers of its company unless otherwise legally prohibited from doing so. If the Contractor is restricted from legally notifying the County of pending acquisitions/mergers, then it should notify the County of the actual acquisitions/mergers as soon as the law allows and provide to the County with the legal framework that restricted it from notifying the County prior to the actual acquisitions/mergers.
- 8.2.2 The Contractor must not assign, exchange, transfer, or

delegate its rights or duties under this Master Agreement, whether in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of County, in its discretion, and any attempted assignment, delegation, or otherwise transfer of its rights or duties, without such consent will be null and void. For purposes of this Paragraph, County consent will require a written amendment to the Master Agreement, which is formally approved and executed by the parties. Any payments by the County to any approved delegate or assignee on any claim under this Master Agreement will be deductible, at County's sole discretion, against the claims, which Contractor may have against the County.

- 8.2.3 Any assumption, assignment, delegation, or takeover of any of the Contractor's duties, responsibilities, obligations, or performance of same by any person or entity other than the Contractor, whether through assignment, subcontract, delegation, merger, buyout, or any other mechanism, with or without consideration for any reason whatsoever without County's express prior written approval, will be a material breach of the Master Agreement which may result in the termination of this Master Agreement. In the event of such termination, County will be entitled to pursue the same remedies against Contractor as it could pursue in the event of default by Contractor.

### **8.3 Authorization Warranty**

The Contractor represents and warrants that the person executing this Master Agreement for the Contractor is an authorized agent who has actual authority to bind the Contractor to each and every term, condition, and obligation of this Master Agreement and that all requirements of the Contractor have been fulfilled to provide such actual authority.

### **8.4 Complaints**

The Contractor must develop, maintain and operate procedures for receiving, investigating and responding to complaints.

- 8.4.1 Within ten (10) business days after the Master Agreement's effective date, the Contractor must provide the County with the Contractor's policy for receiving, investigating and responding to user complaints.
- 8.4.2 The County will review the Contractor's policy and provide the Contractor with approval of the said plan or with requested changes.

- 8.4.3 If the County requests changes in the Contractor's policy, the Contractor must make such changes and resubmit the plan within ten (10) business days for County approval.
- 8.4.4 If, at any time, the Contractor wishes to change the Contractor's policy, the Contractor must submit proposed changes to the County for approval before implementation.
- 8.4.5 The Contractor must preliminarily investigate all complaints and notify the County's Project Manager of the status of the investigation within three (3) business days of receiving the complaint.
- 8.4.6 When complaints cannot be resolved informally, a system of follow-through will be instituted which adheres to formal plans for specific actions and strict time deadlines.
- 8.4.7 Copies of all written responses must be sent to the County's Project Manager within three (3) business days of mailing to the complainant.

## **8.5 Compliance with Applicable Laws**

- 8.5.1 In the performance of this Master Agreement, Contractor must comply with all applicable Federal, State, and local laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, directives, guidelines, policies and procedures, and all provisions required thereby to be included in this Master Agreement are hereby incorporated herein by reference.
- 8.5.2 Contractor must indemnify, defend, and hold harmless County, its officers, employees, and agents, from and against any and all claims, demands, damages, liabilities, losses, costs, and expenses, including, without limitation, defense costs and legal, accounting and other experts, consulting or professional fees, arising from, connected with, or related to any failure by Contractor, its officers, employees, agents, or subcontractors, to comply with any such laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, directives, guidelines, policies, or procedures, as determined by County in its sole judgment. Any legal defense pursuant to Contractor's indemnification obligations under this Paragraph 8.5 will be conducted by Contractor and performed by counsel selected by Contractor and approved by County. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, County will have the right to participate in any such defense at its sole cost and expense, except that in the event Contractor fails to provide County with a full and adequate defense, as determined by County in its sole judgment, County will be entitled to retain its own counsel, including,



without limitation, County Counsel, and reimbursement from Contractor for all such costs and expenses incurred by County in doing so. Contractor will not have the right to enter into any settlement, agree to any injunction or other equitable relief, or make any admission, in each case, on behalf of County without County's prior written approval.

## **8.6 Compliance with Civil Rights Laws**

The Contractor hereby assures that it will comply with Subchapter VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 USC Sections 2000 (e) (1) through 2000 (e) (17), to the end that no person will, on the grounds of race, creed, color, sex, religion, ancestry, age, condition of physical handicap, marital status, political affiliation, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under this Master Agreement or under any project, program, or activity supported by this Master Agreement. Additionally, contractor certifies to the County:

1. That contractor has a written policy statement prohibiting discrimination in all phases of employment.
2. That contractor periodically conducts a self-analysis or utilization analysis of its workforce.
3. That Contractor has a system for determining if its employment practices are discriminatory against protected groups.
4. Where problem areas are identified in employment practices, the Contractor has a system for taking reasonable corrective action, including the establishment of goals or timetables.

## **8.7 Compliance with County's Jury Service Program**

8.7.1 Jury Service Program: This Master Agreement is subject to the provisions of the County's ordinance entitled Contractor Employee Jury Service ("Jury Service Program") as codified in Sections 2.203.010 through 2.203.090 of the Los Angeles County Code.

### **8.7.2 Written Employee Jury Service Policy**

1. Unless Contractor has demonstrated to the County's satisfaction either that Contractor is not a "Contractor" as defined under the Jury Service Program (Section 2.203.020 of the County Code) or that Contractor qualifies for an exception to the Jury Service Program (Section 2.203.070 of the County Code), Contractor must have and adhere to a written policy that provides that its Employees

will receive from the Contractor, on an annual basis, no less than five days of regular pay for actual jury service. The policy may provide that Employees deposit any fees received for such jury service with the Contractor or that the Contractor deducts from the Employee's regular pay the fees received for jury service.

2. For purposes of this Paragraph, "Contractor" means a person, partnership, corporation or other entity which has a Master Agreement with the County or a subcontract with a County Contractor and has received or will receive an aggregate sum of \$50,000 or more in any 12-month period under one or more County Master Agreements or subcontracts. "Employee" means any California resident who is a full time employee of Contractor. "Full-time" means 40 hours or more worked per week, or a lesser number of hours if: 1) the lesser number is a recognized industry standard as determined by the County, or 2) Contractor has a long-standing practice that defines the lesser number of hours as full-time. Full-time employees providing short-term, temporary services of 90 days or less within a 12-month period are not considered full-time for purposes of the Jury Service Program. If Contractor uses any subcontractor to perform services for the County under the Master Agreement, the subcontractor will also be subject to the provisions of this paragraph. The provisions of this paragraph will be inserted into any such subcontract agreement and a copy of the Jury Service Program must be attached to the agreement.
3. If Contractor is not required to comply with the Jury Service Program when the Master Agreement commences, Contractor will have a continuing obligation to review the applicability of its "exception status" from the Jury Service Program, and Contractor must immediately notify County if Contractor at any time either comes within the Jury Service Program's definition of "Contractor" or if Contractor no longer qualifies for an exception to the Jury Service Program. In either event, Contractor must immediately implement a written policy consistent with the Jury Service Program. The County may also require, at any time during the Master Agreement and at its sole discretion, that Contractor demonstrates to the County's satisfaction that Contractor either continues to remain outside of the Jury Service Program's definition of "Contractor" and/or that Contractor continues to qualify for an exception to the Program.

4. Contractor's violation of this Paragraph of the Master Agreement may constitute a material breach of the Master Agreement. In the event of such material breach, County may, in its sole discretion, terminate the Master Agreement and/or bar Contractor from the award of future County Master Agreements for a period of time consistent with the seriousness of the breach.

## **8.8 Conflict of Interest**

- 8.8.1 No County employee whose position with the County enables such employee to influence the award of this Master Agreement or any competing Master Agreement, and no spouse or economic dependent of such employee, will be employed in any capacity by the Contractor or have any other direct or indirect financial interest in this Master Agreement. No officer or employee of the Contractor who may financially benefit from the performance of work hereunder will in any way participate in the County's approval, or ongoing evaluation, of such work, or in any way attempt to unlawfully influence the County's approval or ongoing evaluation of such work.
- 8.8.2 The Contractor must comply with all conflict of interest laws, ordinances, and regulations now in effect or hereafter to be enacted during the term of this Master Agreement. The Contractor warrants that it is not now aware of any facts that create a conflict of interest. If the Contractor hereafter becomes aware of any facts that might reasonably be expected to create a conflict of interest, it must immediately make full written disclosure of such facts to the County. The full written disclosure must include, but is not limited to, the identification of all persons implicated and a complete description of all relevant circumstances. Failure to comply with the provisions of this Paragraph 8.8 will be a material breach of this Master Agreement.

## **8.9 Consideration of Hiring County Employees Targeted for Layoffs or are on a County Re-employment List**

Should the Contractor require additional or replacement personnel after the effective date of this Master Agreement to perform the services set forth herein, the Contractor must give first consideration for such employment openings to qualified, permanent County employees who are targeted for layoff or qualified, former County employees who are on a re-employment list during the life of this Master Agreement.

## **8.10 Consideration of Hiring GAIN-GROW Participants**

- 8.10.1 Should the Contractor require additional or replacement personnel after the effective date of this Master Agreement, the Contractor will give consideration for any such employment openings to participants in the County's Department of Public Social Services Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) Program or General Relief Opportunity for Work (GROW) Program who meet the Contractor's minimum qualifications for the open position. For this purpose, consideration will mean that the Contractor will interview qualified candidates. The County will refer GAIN/GROW participants by job category to the Contractor. Contractors must report all job openings with job requirements to: [GAINGROW@DPSS.LACOUNTY.GOV](mailto:GAINGROW@DPSS.LACOUNTY.GOV) and [BSERVICES@WDACS.LACOUNTY.GOV](mailto:BSERVICES@WDACS.LACOUNTY.GOV) and DPSS will refer qualified GAIN/GROW job candidates.
- 8.10.2 In the event that both laid-off County employees and GAIN/GROW participants are available for hiring, County employees must be given first priority.

## **8.11 Contractor Responsibility and Debarment**

### **8.11.1 Responsible Contractor**

A responsible Contractor is a Contractor who has demonstrated the attribute of trustworthiness, as well as quality, fitness, capacity and experience to satisfactorily perform the Master Agreement. It is the County's policy to conduct business only with responsible Contractors.

### **8.11.2 Chapter 2.202 of the County Code**

The Contractor is hereby notified that, in accordance with Chapter 2.202 of the County Code, if the County acquires information concerning the performance of the Contractor on this or other Master Agreements which indicates that the Contractor is not responsible, the County may, in addition to other remedies provided in this Master Agreement, debar the Contractor from bidding or proposing on, or being awarded, and/or performing work on County contracts for a specified period of time, which generally will not exceed five years but may exceed five years or be permanent if warranted by the circumstances, and terminate any or all existing Contracts the Contractor may have with the County.

### **8.11.3 Non-responsible Contractor**

The County may debar a Contractor if the Board of Supervisors finds, in its discretion, that the Contractor has done any of the following: (1) violated a term of a Master

Agreement with the County or a nonprofit corporation created by the County, (2) committed an act or omission which negatively reflects on the Contractor's quality, fitness or capacity to perform a Master Agreement with the County, any other public entity, or a nonprofit corporation created by the County, or engaged in a pattern or practice which negatively reflects on same, (3) committed an act or offense which indicates a lack of business integrity or business honesty, or (4) made or submitted a false claim against the County or any other public entity.

#### 8.11.4 Contractor Hearing Board

1. If there is evidence that the Contractor may be subject to debarment, the Department will notify the Contractor in writing of the evidence which is the basis for the proposed debarment and will advise the Contractor of the scheduled date for a debarment hearing before the Contractor Hearing Board.
2. The Contractor Hearing Board will conduct a hearing where evidence on the proposed debarment is presented. The Contractor and/or the Contractor's representative will be given an opportunity to submit evidence at that hearing. After the hearing, the Contractor Hearing Board will prepare a tentative proposed decision, which will contain a recommendation regarding whether the Contractor should be debarred, and, if so, the appropriate length of time of the debarment. The Contractor and the Department will be provided an opportunity to object to the tentative proposed decision prior to its presentation to the Board of Supervisors.
3. After consideration of any objections, or if no objections are submitted, a record of the hearing, the proposed decision, and any other recommendation of the Contractor Hearing Board will be presented to the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors will have the right to modify, deny, or adopt the proposed decision and recommendation of the Contractor Hearing Board.
4. If a Contractor has been debarred for a period longer than five (5) years, that Contractor may after the debarment has been in effect for at least five (5) years, submit a written request for review of the debarment determination to reduce the period of debarment or terminate the debarment. The County may, in its

discretion, reduce the period of debarment or terminate the debarment if it finds that the Contractor has adequately demonstrated one or more of the following: (1) elimination of the grounds for which the debarment was imposed; (2) a bona fide change in ownership or management; (3) material evidence discovered after debarment was imposed; or (4) any other reason that is in the best interests of the County.

5. The Contractor Hearing Board will consider a request for review of a debarment determination only where (1) the Contractor has been debarred for a period longer than five (5) years; (2) the debarment has been in effect for at least five (5) years; and (3) the request is in writing, states one or more of the grounds for reduction of the debarment period or termination of the debarment, and includes supporting documentation. Upon receiving an appropriate request, the Contractor Hearing Board will provide notice of the hearing on the request. At the hearing, the Contractor Hearing Board will conduct a hearing where evidence on the proposed reduction of the debarment period or termination of debarment is presented. This hearing will be conducted and the request for review decided by the Contractor Hearing Board pursuant to the same procedures as for a debarment hearing.
6. The Contractor Hearing Board's proposed decision will contain a recommendation on the request to reduce the period of debarment or terminate the debarment. The Contractor Hearing Board will present its proposed decision and recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors will have the right to modify, deny, or adopt the proposed decision and recommendation of the Contractor Hearing Board.

#### 8.11.5 Subcontractors of Contractor

These terms will also apply to Subcontractors of County Contractors.

#### **8.12 Contractor's Acknowledgement of County's Commitment to Safely Surrendered Baby Law**

The contractor acknowledges that the County places a high priority on the implementation of the Safely Surrendered Baby Law. The contractor understands that it is the County's policy to encourage all County contractors to voluntarily post the County's "Safely Surrendered Baby Law" poster, in Exhibit C, in a prominent position at the contractor's place of business. The contractor will also encourage

its subcontractors, if any, to post this poster in a prominent position in the subcontractor's place of business. Information and posters for printing are available at:

<https://lacounty.gov/residents/family-services/child-safety/safe-surrender/>

### **8.13 Contractor's Warranty of Adherence to County's Child Support Compliance Program**

8.13.1 The Contractor acknowledges that the County has established a goal of ensuring that all individuals who benefit financially from the County through Purchase Order or Master Agreement are in compliance with their court-ordered child, family and spousal support obligations in order to mitigate the economic burden otherwise imposed upon the County and its taxpayers.

8.13.2 As required by the County's Child Support Compliance Program (County Code Chapter 2.200) and without limiting the Contractor's duty under this Master Agreement to comply with all applicable provisions of law, the Contractor warrants that it is now in compliance and will during the term of this Master Agreement maintain compliance with employment and wage reporting requirements as required by the Federal Social Security Act (42 USC Section 653a) and California Unemployment Insurance Code Section 1088.5, and will implement all lawfully served Wage and Earnings Withholding Orders or Child Support Services Department Notices of Wage and Earnings Assignment for Child, Family or Spousal Support, pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure Section 706.031 and Family Code Section 5246(b).

### **8.14 County's Quality Assurance Plan**

The County or its agent(s) will monitor the contractor's performance under this Master Agreement on not less than an annual basis. Such monitoring will include assessing the contractor's compliance with all Master Agreement terms and conditions and performance standards. Contractor deficiencies which the County determines are significant or continuing and that may place performance of the Master Agreement in jeopardy if not corrected will be reported to the Board of Supervisors and listed in the appropriate contractor performance database. The report to the Board will include improvement/ corrective action measures taken by the County and the contractor. If improvement does not occur consistent with the corrective action measures, the County may terminate this Master Agreement or impose other penalties as specified in this Master Agreement.

## **8.15 Damage to County Facilities, Buildings or Grounds**

- 8.15.1 Contractor will repair, or cause to be repaired, at its own cost, any and all damage to County facilities, buildings, or grounds caused by Contractor or employees or agents of Contractor. Such repairs must be made immediately after Contractor has become aware of such damage, but in no event later than thirty (30) days after the occurrence.
- 8.15.2 If Contractor fails to make timely repairs, County may make any necessary repairs. All costs incurred by County, as determined by County, for such repairs must be repaid by Contractor by cash payment upon demand.

## **8.16 Employment Eligibility Verification**

- 8.16.1 The Contractor warrants that it fully complies with all Federal and State statutes and regulations regarding the employment of aliens and others and that all its employees performing work under this Master Agreement meet the citizenship or alien status requirements set forth in Federal and State statutes and regulations. The Contractor must obtain, from all employees performing work hereunder, all verification and other documentation of employment eligibility status required by Federal and State statutes and regulations including, but not limited to, the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, (P.L. 99-603), or as they currently exist and as they may be hereafter amended. The Contractor must retain all such documentation for all covered employees for the period prescribed by law.
- 8.16.2 The Contractor must indemnify, defend, and hold harmless, the County, its agents, officers, and employees from employer sanctions and any other liability which may be assessed against the Contractor or the County or both in connection with any alleged violation of any Federal or State statutes or regulations pertaining to the eligibility for employment of any persons performing work under this Master Agreement.

## **8.17 Counterparts and Electronic Signatures and Representations**

This Master Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which will be deemed an original but all of which together will constitute one and the same Master Agreement. The facsimile, email or electronic signature of the Parties will be deemed to constitute original signatures, and facsimile or electronic copies hereof will be deemed to constitute duplicate originals.



The County and the Contractor hereby agree to regard electronic representations of original signatures of authorized officers of each party, when appearing in appropriate places on the Amendments prepared pursuant to Paragraph 8.1 (Amendments) and received via communications facilities (facsimile, email or electronic signature), as legally sufficient evidence that such legally binding signatures have been affixed to Amendments to this Master Agreement.

#### **8.18 Fair Labor Standards**

The Contractor must comply with all applicable provisions of the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act and must indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the County and its agents, officers, and employees from any and all liability, including, but not limited to, wages, overtime pay, liquidated damages, penalties, court costs, and attorneys' fees arising under any wage and hour law, including, but not limited to, the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act, for work performed by the Contractor's employees for which the County may be found jointly or solely liable.

#### **8.19 Force Majeure**

8.19.1 Neither party will be liable for such party's failure to perform its obligations under and in accordance with this Master Agreement, if such failure arises out of fires, floods, epidemics, quarantine restrictions, other natural occurrences, strikes, lockouts (other than a lockout by such party or any of such party's subcontractors), freight embargoes, or other similar events to those described above, but in every such case the failure to perform must be totally beyond the control and without any fault or negligence of such party (such events are referred to in this Paragraph as "force majeure events").

8.19.2 Notwithstanding the foregoing, a default by a subcontractor of Contractor will not constitute a force majeure event, unless such default arises out of causes beyond the control of both Contractor and such subcontractor, and without any fault or negligence of either of them. In such case, Contractor will not be liable for failure to perform, unless the goods or services to be furnished by the subcontractor were obtainable from other sources in sufficient time to permit Contractor to meet the required performance schedule. As used in this Paragraph, the term "subcontractor" and "subcontractors" mean subcontractors at any tier.

8.19.3 In the event Contractor's failure to perform arises out of a force majeure event, Contractor agrees to use commercially reasonable best efforts to obtain goods or services from other

sources, if applicable, and to otherwise mitigate the damages and reduce the delay caused by such force majeure event.

## **8.20 Governing Law, Jurisdiction, and Venue**

This Master Agreement will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of California. The Contractor agrees and consents to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of the State of California for all purposes regarding this Master Agreement and further agrees and consents that venue of any action brought hereunder will be exclusively in the County of Los Angeles.

## **8.21 Independent Contractor Status**

8.21.1 This Master Agreement is by and between the County and the Contractor and is not intended, and must not be construed, to create the relationship of agent, servant, employee, partnership, joint venture, or association, as between the County and the Contractor. The employees and agents of one party must not be, or be construed to be, the employees or agents of the other party for any purpose whatsoever.

8.21.2 The Contractor will be solely liable and responsible for providing to, or on behalf of, all persons performing work pursuant to this Master Agreement all compensation and benefits. The County will have no liability or responsibility for the payment of any salaries, wages, unemployment benefits, disability benefits, Federal, State, or local taxes, or other compensation, benefits, or taxes for any personnel provided by or on behalf of the Contractor.

8.21.3 The Contractor understands and agrees that all persons performing work pursuant to this Master Agreement are, for purposes of Workers' Compensation liability, solely employees of the Contractor and not employees of the County. The Contractor will be solely liable and responsible for furnishing any and all Workers' Compensation benefits to any person as a result of any injuries arising from or connected with any work performed by or on behalf of the Contractor pursuant to this Master Agreement.

8.21.4 The Contractor must adhere to the provisions stated in Paragraph 7.6 (Confidentiality).

## **8.22 Indemnification**

The Contractor must indemnify, defend and hold harmless the County, its Special Districts, elected and appointed officers, employees, agents and volunteers ("County Indemnitees") from and against any and all liability, including but not limited to demands, claims, actions, fees, costs and expenses (including attorney and

expert witness fees), arising from and/or relating to this Master Agreement, except for such loss or damage arising from the sole negligence or willful misconduct of the County Indemnities.

### **8.23 General Provisions for all Insurance Coverage**

Without limiting Contractor's indemnification of County, and in the performance of this Master Agreement and until all of its obligations pursuant to this Master Agreement have been met, Contractor must provide and maintain at its own expense insurance coverage satisfying the requirements specified in Paragraph 8.24 of this Master Agreement. These minimum insurance coverage terms, types and limits (the "Required Insurance") also are in addition to and separate from any other contractual obligation imposed upon Contractor pursuant to this Master Agreement. The County in no way warrants that the Required Insurance is sufficient to protect the Contractor for liabilities which may arise from or relate to this Master Agreement.

#### **8.23.1 Evidence of Coverage and Notice to County**

- Certificate(s) of insurance coverage (Certificate) satisfactory to County, and a copy of an Additional Insured endorsement confirming County and its Agents (defined below) has been given Insured status under the Contractor's General Liability policy, must be delivered to County at the address shown below and provided prior to commencing services under this Master Agreement.
- Renewal Certificates must be provided to County not less than 10 days prior to Contractor's policy expiration dates. The County reserves the right to obtain complete, certified copies of any required Contractor and/or Subcontractor insurance policies at any time.
- Certificates must identify all Required Insurance coverage types and limits specified herein, reference this Master Agreement by name or number, and be signed by an authorized representative of the insurer(s). The Insured party named on the Certificate must match the name of the Contractor identified as the contracting party in this Master Agreement. Certificates must provide the full name of each insurer providing coverage, its NAIC (National Association of Insurance Commissioners) identification number, its financial rating, the amounts of any policy deductibles or self-insured retentions exceeding fifty thousand (\$50,000.00) dollars, and list any County required endorsement forms.

- Neither the County's failure to obtain, nor the County's receipt of, or failure to object to a non-complying insurance certificate or endorsement, or any other insurance documentation or information provided by the Contractor, its insurance broker(s) and/or insurer(s), will be construed as a waiver of any of the Required Insurance provisions.

Certificates and copies of any required endorsements must be sent to:

County of Los Angeles  
Department of Animal Care and Control  
Contracts and Grants Division  
5898 Cherry Ave  
Long Beach, CA 90805  
Attn: Bradley Kim  
[bkim@animalcare.lacounty.gov](mailto:bkim@animalcare.lacounty.gov)

Contractor also must promptly report to County any injury or property damage accident or incident, including any injury to a Contractor employee occurring on County property, and any loss, disappearance, destruction, misuse, or theft of County property, monies or securities entrusted to Contractor. Contractor also must promptly notify County of any third party claim or suit filed against Contractor or any of its Subcontractors which arises from or relates to this Master Agreement, and could result in the filing of a claim or lawsuit against Contractor and/or County.

#### 8.23.2 Additional Insured Status and Scope of Coverage

The County of Los Angeles, its Special Districts, Elected Officials, Officers, Agents, Employees and Volunteers (collectively County and its Agents) must be provided additional insured status under Contractor's General Liability policy with respect to liability arising out of Contractor's ongoing and completed operations performed on behalf of the County. County and its Agents additional insured status must apply with respect to liability and defense of suits arising out of the Contractor's acts or omissions, whether such liability is attributable to the Contractor or to the County. The full policy limits and scope of protection also must apply to the County and its Agents as an additional insured, even if they exceed the County's minimum Required Insurance specifications herein. Use of an automatic additional insured endorsement form is

acceptable providing it satisfies the Required Insurance provisions herein.

#### 8.23.3 Cancellation of or Changes in Insurance

Contractor must provide County with, or Contractor's insurance policies must contain a provision that County will receive, written notice of cancellation or any change in Required Insurance, including insurer, limits of coverage, term of coverage or policy period. The written notice must be provided to County at least ten (10) days in advance of cancellation for non-payment of premium and thirty (30) days in advance for any other cancellation or policy change. Failure to provide written notice of cancellation or any change in Required Insurance may constitute a material breach of the Master Agreement, in the sole discretion of the County, upon which the County may suspend or terminate this Master Agreement.

#### 8.23.4 Failure to Maintain Insurance

Contractor's failure to maintain or to provide acceptable evidence that it maintains the Required Insurance will constitute a material breach of the Master Agreement, upon which County immediately may withhold payments due to Contractor, and/or suspend or terminate this Master Agreement. County, at its sole discretion, may obtain damages from Contractor resulting from said breach. Alternatively, the County may purchase the Required Insurance, and without further notice to Contractor, deduct the premium cost from sums due to Contractor or pursue Contractor reimbursement.

#### 8.23.5 Insurer Financial Ratings

Coverage must be placed with insurers acceptable to the County with A.M. Best ratings of not less than A:VII unless otherwise approved by County.

#### 8.23.6 Contractor's Insurance Must Be Primary

Contractor's insurance policies, with respect to any claims related to this Master Agreement, must be primary with respect to all other sources of coverage available to Contractor. Any County maintained insurance or self-insurance coverage must be in excess of and not contribute to any Contractor coverage.

#### 8.23.7 Waivers of Subrogation

To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Contractor hereby waives its rights and its insurer(s)' rights of recovery against

County under all the Required Insurance for any loss arising from or relating to this Master Agreement. The Contractor must require its insurers to execute any waiver of subrogation endorsements which may be necessary to effect such waiver.

#### 8.23.8 Subcontractor Insurance Coverage Requirements

Contractor must include all Subcontractors as insureds under Contractor's own policies, or must provide County with each Subcontractor's separate evidence of insurance coverage. Contractor will be responsible for verifying each Subcontractor complies with the Required Insurance provisions herein, and must require that each Subcontractor name the County and Contractor as additional insureds on the Subcontractor's General Liability policy. Contractor must obtain County's prior review and approval of any Subcontractor request for modification of the Required Insurance.

#### 8.23.9 Deductibles and Self-Insured Retentions (SIRs)

Contractor's policies will not obligate the County to pay any portion of any Contractor deductible or SIR. The County retains the right to require Contractor to reduce or eliminate policy deductibles and SIRs as respects the County, or to provide a bond guaranteeing Contractor's payment of all deductibles and SIRs, including all related claims investigation, administration and defense expenses. Such bond must be executed by a corporate surety licensed to transact business in the State of California.

#### 8.23.10 Claims Made Coverage

If any part of the Required Insurance is written on a claims made basis, any policy retroactive date will precede the effective date of this Master Agreement. Contractor understands and agrees it will maintain such coverage for a period of not less than three (3) years following Master Agreement expiration, termination or cancellation.

#### 8.23.11 Application of Excess Liability Coverage

Contractors may use a combination of primary, and excess insurance policies which provide coverage as broad as ("follow form" over) the underlying primary policies, to satisfy the Required Insurance provisions.

#### 8.23.12 Separation of Insureds

All liability policies must provide cross-liability coverage as would be afforded by the standard ISO (Insurance Services

Office, Inc.) separation of insureds provision with no insured versus insured exclusions or limitations.

#### 8.23.13 Alternative Risk Financing Programs

The County reserves the right to review, and then approve, Contractor use of self-insurance, risk retention groups, risk purchasing groups, pooling arrangements and captive insurance to satisfy the Required Insurance provisions. The County and its Agents must be designated as an Additional Covered Party under any approved program.

#### 8.23.14 County Review and Approval of Insurance Requirements

The County reserves the right to review and adjust the Required Insurance provisions, conditioned upon County's determination of changes in risk exposures.

### 8.24 Insurance Coverage

8.24.1 Commercial General Liability insurance (providing scope of coverage equivalent to ISO policy form CG 00 01), naming County and its Agents as an additional insured, with limits of not less than:

General Aggregate:	\$2 million
Products/Completed Operations Aggregate:	\$1 million
Personal and Advertising Injury:	\$1 million
Each Occurrence:	\$1 million

8.24.2 Before Contractor operates any motor vehicle while performing work under this Agreement, Contractor will provide proof of Automobile Liability insurance (providing scope of coverage equivalent to ISO policy form CA 00 01) with limits of not less than \$1 million for bodily injury and property damage, in combined or equivalent split limits, for each single accident. Insurance will cover liability arising out of Contractor's use of autos under this Master Agreement, including owned, leased, hired, and/or non-owned autos, as each may be applicable.

If Contractor is only operating motor vehicles as part of their commute to and from a worksite before beginning work on this contract and after the conclusion of their performance of work under this contract, Contractor is only required to carry the level of automobile insurance required by California State law.

8.24.3 Workers Compensation and Employers' Liability insurance or qualified self-insurance satisfying statutory requirements, which includes Employers' Liability coverage with limits of not less than \$1 million per accident. If Contractor will provide

leased employees, or, is an employee leasing or temporary staffing firm or a professional employer organization (PEO), coverage also must include an Alternate Employer Endorsement (providing scope of coverage equivalent to ISO policy form WC 00 03 01 A) naming the County as the Alternate Employer. The written notice must be provided to County at least ten (10) days in advance of cancellation for non-payment of premium and thirty (30) days in advance for any other cancellation or policy change. If applicable to Contractor's operations, coverage also must be arranged to satisfy the requirements of any federal workers or workmen's compensation law or any federal occupational disease law.

#### 8.24.4 Unique Insurance Coverage

- Professional Liability/Errors and Omissions

Insurance covering Contractor's liability arising from or related to this Master Agreement, with limits of not less than \$1 million per claim and \$2 million aggregate. Further, Contractor understands and agrees it must maintain such coverage for a period of not less than three (3) years following this Agreement's expiration, termination or cancellation.

#### **8.25 Intentionally Omitted**

#### **8.26 Most Favored Public Entity**

If the Contractor's prices decline, or should the Contractor at any time during the term of this Master Agreement provide the same goods or services under similar quantity and delivery conditions to the State of California or any county, municipality, or district of the State at prices below those set forth in this Master Agreement, then such lower prices will be immediately extended to the County.

#### **8.27 Nondiscrimination and Affirmative Action**

8.27.1 The Contractor certifies and agrees that all persons employed by it, its affiliates, subsidiaries, or holding companies are and will be treated equally without regard to or because of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, age, physical or mental disability, marital status, or political affiliation, in compliance with all applicable Federal and State anti-discrimination laws and regulations.

8.27.2 Contractor certifies to the County each of the following:

1. That contractor has a written policy statement prohibiting discrimination in all phases of employment.



2. That contractor periodically conducts a self-analysis or utilization analysis of its work force.
  3. That Contractor has a system for determining if its employment practices are discriminatory against protected groups.
  4. Where problem areas are identified in employment practices, the Contractor has a system for taking reasonable corrective action, to include establishment of goals or timetables.
- 8.27.3 The Contractor must take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, age, physical or mental disability, marital status, or political affiliation, in compliance with all applicable Federal and State anti-discrimination laws and regulations. Such action must include, but is not limited to: employment, upgrading, demotion, transfer, recruitment or recruitment advertising, layoff or termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and selection for training, including apprenticeship.
- 8.27.4 The Contractor certifies and agrees that it will deal with its subcontractors, bidders, or vendors without regard to or because of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, age, physical or mental disability, marital status, or political affiliation.
- 8.27.5 The Contractor certifies and agrees that it, its affiliates, subsidiaries, or holding companies will comply with all applicable Federal and State laws and regulations to the end that no person will, on the grounds of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, age, physical or mental disability, marital status, or political affiliation, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under this Master Agreement or under any project, program, or activity supported by this Master Agreement.
- 8.27.6 The Contractor will allow County representatives access to the Contractor's employment records during regular business hours to verify compliance with the provisions of this Paragraph 8.27 when so requested by the County.
- 8.27.7 If the County finds that any provisions of this Paragraph 8.27 have been violated, such violation will constitute a material breach of this Master Agreement upon which the County

may terminate or suspend this Master Agreement. While the County reserves the right to determine independently that the anti-discrimination provisions of this Master Agreement have been violated, in addition, a determination by the California Fair Employment and Housing Commission or the Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission that the Contractor has violated Federal or State anti-discrimination laws or regulations will constitute a finding by the County that the Contractor has violated the anti-discrimination provisions of this Master Agreement.

8.27.8 The parties agree that in the event the Contractor violates any of the anti-discrimination provisions of this Master Agreement, the County will, at its sole option, be entitled to the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) for each such violation pursuant to California Civil Code Section 1671 as liquidated damages in lieu of terminating or suspending this Master Agreement.

#### **8.28 Non Exclusivity**

Nothing herein is intended nor will be construed as creating any exclusive arrangement with Contractor. This Master Agreement will not restrict the Department from acquiring similar, equal or like goods and/or services from other entities or sources.

#### **8.29 Notice of Delays**

Except as otherwise provided under this Master Agreement, when either party has knowledge that any actual or potential situation is delaying or threatens to delay the timely performance of this Master Agreement, that party must, within one (1) business day, give notice thereof, including all relevant information with respect thereto, to the other party.

#### **8.30 Notice of Disputes**

The Contractor must bring to the attention of the County Project Manager and/or County Project Director any dispute between the County and the Contractor regarding the performance of services as stated in this Master Agreement. If the County Project Manager or County Project Director is not able to resolve the dispute, the Director of the Department of Animal Care and Control, or designee will resolve it.

#### **8.31 Notice to Employees Regarding the Federal Earned Income Credit**

The Contractor must notify its employees, and will require each subcontractor to notify its employees, that they may be eligible for the Federal Earned Income Credit under the federal income tax laws.

Such notice must be provided in accordance with the requirements set forth in Internal Revenue Service Notice No. 1015.

### **8.32 Notice to Employees Regarding the Safely Surrendered Baby Law**

The contractor must notify and provide to its employees, and will require each subcontractor to notify and provide to its employees, information regarding the Safely Surrendered Baby Law, its implementation in Los Angeles County, and where and how to safely surrender a baby. The information is set forth in Exhibit C, Safely Surrendered Baby Law of this Master Agreement. Additional information is available at:

<https://lacounty.gov/residents/family-services/child-safety/safely-surrender/>

### **8.33 Notices**

All notices or demands required or permitted to be given or made under this Master Agreement must be in writing and will be hand delivered with signed receipt or mailed by first-class registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the parties as identified in Exhibits A (County's Administration) and B (Contractor's Administration). Addresses may be changed by either party giving ten (10) days' prior written notice thereof to the other party. The Director of the Department of Animal Care and Control or his/her designee will have the authority to issue all notices or demands required or permitted by the County under this Master Agreement.

### **8.34 Prohibition Against Inducement or Persuasion**

Notwithstanding the above, the Contractor and the County agree that, during the term of this Master Agreement and for a period of one year thereafter, neither party will in any way intentionally induce or persuade any employee of one party to become an employee or agent of the other party. No bar exists against any hiring action initiated through a public announcement.

### **8.35 Public Records Act**

8.35.1 Any documents submitted by Contractor; all information obtained in connection with the County's right to audit and inspect Contractor's documents, books, and accounting records pursuant to Paragraph 8.37 (Record Retention and Inspection/Audit Settlement) of this Master Agreement; as well as those documents which were required to be submitted in response to the Request for Statement of Qualifications (RFSQ) used in the solicitation process for this Master Agreement, become the exclusive property of the County. All such documents become a matter of public record and will be regarded as public records. Exceptions will be those

elements in the California Government Code Section 6250 et seq. (Public Records Act) and which are marked “trade secret”, “confidential”, or “proprietary”. The County will not in any way be liable or responsible for the disclosure of any such records including, without limitation, those so marked, if disclosure is required by law, or by an order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction.

8.35.2 In the event the County is required to defend an action on a Public Records Act request for any of the aforementioned documents, information, books, records, and/or contents of an SOQ marked “trade secret”, “confidential”, or “proprietary”, the Contractor agrees to defend and indemnify the County from all costs and expenses, including reasonable attorney’s fees, in action or liability arising under the Public Records Act.

### **8.36 Publicity**

8.36.1 The Contractor must not disclose any details in connection with this Master Agreement to any person or entity except as may be otherwise provided hereunder or required by law. However, in recognizing the Contractor’s need to identify its services and related clients to sustain itself, the County will not inhibit the Contractor from publishing its role under this Master Agreement within the following conditions:

- The Contractor must develop all publicity material in a professional manner; and
- During the term of this Master Agreement, the Contractor must not, and will not authorize another to, publish or disseminate any commercial advertisements, press releases, feature articles, or other materials using the name of the County without the prior written consent of the County’s Project Director. The County will not unreasonably withhold written consent.

8.36.2 The Contractor may, without the prior written consent of County, indicate in its proposals and sales materials that it has been awarded this Master Agreement with the County of Los Angeles, provided that the requirements of this Paragraph 8.36 (Publicity) will apply.

### **8.37 Record Retention and Inspection-Audit Settlement**

The Contractor must maintain accurate and complete financial records of its activities and operations relating to this Master Agreement in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The Contractor must also maintain accurate and complete employment and other records relating to its performance of this Master Agreement. The Contractor agrees that the County, or its

authorized representatives, will have access to and the right to examine, audit, excerpt, copy, or transcribe any pertinent transaction, activity, or record relating to this Master Agreement. All such material, including, but not limited to, all financial records, bank statements, cancelled checks or other proof of payment, timecards, sign-in/sign-out sheets and other time and employment records, and proprietary data and information, will be kept and maintained by the Contractor and will be made available to the County during the term of this Master Agreement and for a period of five (5) years thereafter unless the County's written permission is given to dispose of any such material prior to such time. All such material must be maintained by the Contractor at a location in Los Angeles County, provided that if any such material is located outside Los Angeles County, then, at the County's option, the Contractor will pay the County for travel, per diem, and other costs incurred by the County to examine, audit, excerpt, copy, or transcribe such material at such other location.

- 8.37.1 In the event that an audit of the Contractor is conducted specifically regarding this Master Agreement by any Federal or State auditor, or by any auditor or accountant employed by the Contractor or otherwise, then the Contractor must file a copy of such audit report with the County's Auditor-Controller within thirty (30) days of the Contractor's receipt thereof, unless otherwise provided by applicable Federal or State law or under this Master Agreement. The County will make a reasonable effort to maintain the confidentiality of such audit report(s).
- 8.37.2 Failure on the part of the Contractor to comply with any of the provisions of this paragraph will constitute a material breach of this Master Agreement upon which the County may terminate or suspend this Master Agreement.
- 8.37.3 If, at any time during the term of this Master Agreement or within five (5) years after the expiration or termination of this Master Agreement, representatives of the County may conduct an audit of the Contractor regarding the work performed under this Master Agreement, and if such audit finds that the County's dollar liability for any such work is less than payments made by the County to the Contractor, then the difference will be either: a) repaid by the Contractor to the County by cash payment upon demand or b) at the sole option of the County's Auditor-Controller, deducted from any amounts due to the Contractor from the County, whether under this Master Agreement or otherwise. If such audit finds that the County's dollar liability for such work is more than the payments made by the County to the Contractor, then the difference will be paid to the Contractor by the County by cash

payment, provided that in no event will the County's maximum obligation for this Master Agreement exceed the funds appropriated by the County for the purpose of this Master Agreement.

### **8.38 Recycled Bond Paper**

Consistent with the Board of Supervisors' policy to reduce the amount of solid waste deposited at the County landfills, the Contractor agrees to use recycled-content paper to the maximum extent possible on this Master Agreement.

### **8.39 Subcontracting**

8.39.1 The requirements of this Master Agreement may not be subcontracted by the Contractor **without the advance approval of the County**. Any attempt by the Contractor to subcontract without the prior consent of the County may be deemed a material breach of this Master Agreement.

8.39.2 If the Contractor desires to subcontract, the Contractor must provide the following information promptly at the County's request:

- A description of the work to be performed by the subcontractor;
- A draft copy of the proposed subcontract; and
- Other pertinent information and/or certifications requested by the County.

8.39.3 The Contractor must indemnify and hold the County harmless with respect to the activities of each and every subcontractor in the same manner and to the same degree as if such subcontractor(s) were Contractor employees.

8.39.4 The Contractor will remain fully responsible for all performances required of it under this Master Agreement, including those that the Contractor has determined to subcontract, notwithstanding the County's approval of the Contractor's proposed subcontract.

8.39.5 The County's consent to subcontract will not waive the County's right to prior and continuing approval of any and all personnel, including subcontractor employees, providing services under this Master Agreement. The Contractor is responsible to notify its subcontractors of this County right.

8.39.6 The County's MAPD is authorized to act for and on behalf of the County with respect to approval of any subcontract and subcontractor employees. After approval of the subcontract

by the County, Contractor must forward a fully executed subcontract to the County for their files.

- 8.39.7 The Contractor will be solely liable and responsible for all payments or other compensation to all subcontractors and their officers, employees, agents, and successors in interest arising through services performed hereunder, notwithstanding the County's consent to subcontract.
- 8.39.8 The Contractor must obtain certificates of insurance, which establish that the subcontractor maintains all the programs of insurance required by the County from each approved subcontractor. The Contractor must ensure delivery of all such documents to:

County of Los Angeles  
Department of Animal Care and Control  
Contracts and Grants Division  
5898 Cherry Ave  
Long Beach, CA 90805  
Attn: Bradley Kim  
[bkim@animalcare.lacounty.gov](mailto:bkim@animalcare.lacounty.gov)

before any subcontractor employee may perform any work hereunder.

**8.40 Termination for Breach of Warranty to Maintain Compliance with County's Child Support Compliance Program**

Failure of the Contractor to maintain compliance with the requirements set forth in Paragraph 8.13 (Contractor's Warranty of Adherence to County's Child Support Compliance Program), will constitute a default under this Master Agreement. Without limiting the rights and remedies available to the County under any other provision of this Master Agreement, failure of Contractor to cure such default within 90 calendar days of written notice will be grounds upon which the County may terminate this Master Agreement pursuant to Paragraph 8.42 (Termination for Default) and pursue debarment of Contractor, pursuant to County Code Chapter 2.202.

**8.41 Termination for Convenience**

- 8.41.1 County may terminate this Master Agreement, and any Work Order issued hereunder, in whole or in part, from time to time or permanently, when such action is deemed by the County, in its sole discretion, to be in its best interest. Termination of work hereunder will be effected by notice of termination to Contractor specifying the extent to which performance of work is terminated and the date upon which such termination becomes effective. The date upon which such termination

becomes effective will be no less than ten (10) days after the notice is sent.

8.41.2 Upon receipt of a notice of termination and except as otherwise directed by the County, the Contractor must immediately:

- Stop work under the Work Order or under this Master Agreement, as identified in such notice;
- Transfer title and deliver to County all completed work and work in process; and
- Complete performance of such part of the work as would not have been terminated by such notice.

8.41.3 All material including books, records, documents, or other evidence bearing on the costs and expenses of the Contractor under this Master Agreement or Work Order must be maintained by the Contractor in accordance with Paragraph 8.37 (Record Retention and Inspection/Audit Settlement).

#### **8.42 Termination for Default**

8.42.1 The County may, by written notice to the Contractor, terminate the whole or any part of this Master Agreement, if, in the judgment of County's Project Director:

- Contractor has materially breached this Master Agreement;
- Contractor fails to timely provide and/or satisfactorily perform any task, deliverable, service, or other work required either under this Master Agreement or any Work Order issued hereunder; or
- Contractor fails to demonstrate a high probability of timely fulfillment of performance requirements of any Work Order issued under this Master Agreement, or of any obligations of this Master Agreement and in either case, fails to demonstrate convincing progress toward a cure within five (5) working days (or such longer period as the County may authorize in writing) after receipt of written notice from the County specifying such failure.

8.42.2 In the event that the County terminates this Master Agreement in whole or in part as provided in Paragraph 8.42.1, the County may procure, upon such terms and in such manner as the County may deem appropriate, goods and services similar to those so terminated. The Contractor will be liable to the County for any and all excess costs incurred by the County, as determined by the County, for such similar



goods and services. The Contractor will continue the performance of this Master Agreement to the extent not terminated under the provisions of this paragraph.

8.42.3 Except with respect to defaults of any subcontractor, the Contractor will not be liable for any such excess costs of the type identified in Paragraph 8.42.2 if its failure to perform this Master Agreement, including any Work Order issued hereunder, arises out of causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the Contractor. Such causes may include, but are not limited to: acts of God or of the public enemy, acts of the County in either its sovereign or contractual capacity, acts of Federal or State governments in their sovereign capacities, fires, floods, epidemics, quarantine restrictions, strikes, freight embargoes, and unusually severe weather; but in every case, the failure to perform must be beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the Contractor. If the failure to perform is caused by the default of a subcontractor, and if such default arises out of causes beyond the control of both the Contractor and subcontractor, and without the fault or negligence of either of them, the Contractor will not be liable for any such excess costs for failure to perform, unless the goods or services to be furnished by the subcontractor were obtainable from other sources in sufficient time to permit the Contractor to meet the required performance schedule. As used in this Paragraph 8.42.3, the terms "subcontractor" and "subcontractors" mean subcontractor(s) at any tier.

8.42.4 If, after the County has given notice of termination under the provisions of this Paragraph 8.42, it is determined by the County that the Contractor was not in default under the provisions of this Paragraph 8.42, or that the default was excusable under the provisions of Paragraph 8.42.3, the rights and obligations of the parties will be the same as if the notice of termination had been issued pursuant to Paragraph 8.41 (Termination for Convenience).

8.42.5 The rights and remedies of the County provided in this Paragraph 8.42 will not be exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this Master Agreement.

### **8.43 Termination for Improper Consideration**

8.43.1 The County may, by written notice to the Contractor, immediately terminate the right of the Contractor to proceed under this Master Agreement if it is found that consideration, in any form, was offered or given by the Contractor, either

directly or through an intermediary, to any County officer, employee, or agent with the intent of securing this Master Agreement or securing favorable treatment with respect to the award, amendment, or extension of this Master Agreement or the making of any determinations with respect to the Contractor's performance pursuant to this Master Agreement. In the event of such termination, the County will be entitled to pursue the same remedies against the Contractor as it could pursue in the event of default by the Contractor.

8.43.2 The Contractor must immediately report any attempt by a County officer or employee to solicit such improper consideration. The report must be made either to the County manager charged with the supervision of the employee or to the County Auditor-Controller's Employee Fraud Hotline at (800) 544-6861.

8.43.3 Among other items, such improper consideration may take the form of cash, discounts, services, the provision of travel or entertainment, or tangible gifts.

#### **8.44 Termination for Insolvency**

8.44.1 The County may terminate this Master Agreement forthwith in the event of the occurrence of any of the following:

- Insolvency of the Contractor. The Contractor will be deemed to be insolvent if it has ceased to pay its debts for at least sixty (60) days in the ordinary course of business or cannot pay its debts as they become due, whether or not a petition has been filed under the Federal Bankruptcy Code and whether or not the Contractor is insolvent within the meaning of the Federal Bankruptcy Code;
- The filing of a voluntary or involuntary petition regarding the Contractor under the Federal Bankruptcy Code;
- The appointment of a Receiver or Trustee for the Contractor; or
- The execution by the Contractor of a general assignment for the benefit of creditors.

8.44.2 The rights and remedies of the County provided in this Paragraph 8.44 will not be exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this Master Agreement.

#### **8.45 Termination for Non-Adherence of County Lobbyist Ordinance**

The Contractor, and each County Lobbyist or County Lobbying firm as defined in County Code Section 2.160.010 retained by the Contractor,

must fully comply with the County's Lobbyist Ordinance, County Code Section 2.160.010. Failure on the part of the Contractor or any County Lobbyist or County Lobbying firm retained by the Contractor to fully comply with the County's Lobbyist Ordinance will constitute a material breach of this Master Agreement, upon which the County may in its sole discretion, immediately terminate or suspend this Master Agreement.

#### **8.46 Termination for Non-Appropriation of Funds**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Master Agreement, the County will not be obligated for the Contractor's performance hereunder or by any provision of this Master Agreement during any of the County's future fiscal years unless and until the County's Board of Supervisors appropriates funds for this Master Agreement in the County's Budget for each such future fiscal year. In the event that funds are not appropriated for this Master Agreement, then this Master Agreement will terminate as of June 30 of the last fiscal year for which funds were appropriated. The County will notify the Contractor in writing of any such non-allocation of funds at the earliest possible date.

#### **8.47 Validity**

If any provision of this Master Agreement or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this Master Agreement and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances will not be affected thereby.

#### **8.48 Waiver**

No waiver by the County of any breach of any provision of this Master Agreement will constitute a waiver of any other breach or of such provision. Failure of the County to enforce at any time, or from time to time, any provision of this Master Agreement will not be construed as a waiver thereof. The rights and remedies set forth in this Paragraph 8.48 will not be exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this Master Agreement.

#### **8.49 Warranty Against Contingent Fees**

8.49.1 The Contractor warrants that no person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure this Master Agreement upon any agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee, excepting bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial or selling agencies maintained by the Contractor for the purpose of securing business.

8.49.2 For breach of this warranty, the County will have the right to terminate this Master Agreement and, at its sole discretion, deduct from the Master Agreement price or consideration, or

otherwise recover, the full amount of such commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee.

**8.50 Warranty of Compliance with County's Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program**

Contractor acknowledges that County has established a goal of ensuring that all individuals and businesses that benefit financially from County through contract are current in paying their property tax obligations (secured and unsecured roll) in order to mitigate the economic burden otherwise imposed upon County and its taxpayers.

Unless Contractor qualifies for an exemption or exclusion, Contractor warrants and certifies that to the best of its knowledge it is now in compliance, and during the term of this Master Agreement will maintain compliance, with Los Angeles County Code Chapter 2.206.

**8.51 Termination for Breach of Warranty to Maintain Compliance with County's Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program**

Failure of Contractor to maintain compliance with the requirements set forth in Paragraph 8.50 (Warranty of Compliance with County's Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program) will constitute default under this Master Agreement. Without limiting the rights and remedies available to County under any other provision of this Master Agreement, failure of Contractor to cure such default within 10 days of notice will be grounds upon which County may terminate this Master Agreement and/or pursue debarment of Contractor, pursuant to Los Angeles County Code Chapter 2.206.

**8.52 Time off For Voting**

The Contractor must notify its employees, and must require each subcontractor to notify and provide to its employees, information regarding the time off for voting law (Elections Code Section 14000). Not less than 10 days before every statewide election, every Contractor and subcontractors must keep posted conspicuously at the place of work, if practicable, or elsewhere where it can be seen as employees come or go to their place of work, a notice setting forth the provisions of Section 14000.

**8.53 Compliance with County's Zero Tolerance Policy on Human Trafficking**

Contractor acknowledges that the County has established a Zero Tolerance Policy on Human Trafficking prohibiting contractors from engaging in human trafficking.

If a Contractor or member of Contractor's staff is convicted of a human trafficking offense, the County will require that the Contractor or member of Contractor's staff be removed immediately from performing services under the Master Agreement. County will not be under any obligation to disclose confidential information regarding the offenses other than those required by law.

Disqualification of any member of Contractor's staff pursuant to this paragraph will not relieve Contractor of its obligation to complete all work in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Master Agreement.

**8.54 Intentionally Omitted**

**8.55 Compliance with Fair Chance Employment Practices**

Contractor, and its subcontractors, must will comply with fair chance employment hiring practices set forth in California Government Code Section 12952, Contractor's violation of this paragraph of the Contract may constitute a material breach of the Contract. In the event of such material breach, County may, in its sole discretion, terminate the Contract.

**8.56 Compliance with the County Policy of Equity**

The contractor acknowledges that the County takes its commitment to preserving the dignity and professionalism of the workplace very seriously, as set forth in the County Policy of Equity (CPOE) (<https://ceop.lacounty.gov/>). The contractor further acknowledges that the County strives to provide a workplace free from discrimination, harassment, retaliation and inappropriate conduct based on a protected characteristic, and which may violate the CPOE. The contractor, its employees and subcontractors acknowledge and certify receipt and understanding of the CPOE. Failure of the contractor, its employees or its subcontractors to uphold the County's expectations of a workplace free from harassment and discrimination, including inappropriate conduct based on a protected characteristic, may subject the contractor to termination of contractual agreements as well as civil liability.

**8.57 Prohibition from Participation in Future Solicitation(s)**

A Proposer, or a Contractor or its subsidiary or Subcontractor ("Proposer/Contractor"), is prohibited from submitting a bid or proposal in a County solicitation if the Proposer/Contractor has provided advice or consultation for the solicitation. A

Proposer/Contractor is also prohibited from submitting a bid or proposal in a County solicitation if the Proposer/Contractor has developed or prepared any of the solicitation materials on behalf of the County. A violation of this provision will result in the disqualification of the Contractor/Proposer from participation in the County solicitation or the termination or cancellation of any resultant County contract.

#### **8.58 Injury and Illness Prevention Program**

Contractor will be required to comply with the State of California's Cal OSHA's regulations. California Code of Regulations Title 8 Section 3203 requires all California employers to have a written, effective Injury and Illness Prevention Program (IIPP) that addresses hazards pertaining to the particular workplace covered by the program.

#### **8.59 COVID-19 Vaccinations of County Contractor Personnel**

1. At Contractor's sole cost, Contractor must comply with Chapter 2.212 (COVID-19 Vaccinations of County Contractor Personnel) of County Code Title 2 - Administration, Division 4. All employees of Contractor and persons working on its behalf, including but not limited to, Subcontractors of any tier (collectively, "Contractor Personnel"), must be fully vaccinated against the novel coronavirus 2019 ("COVID-19") prior to (1) interacting in person with County employees, interns, volunteers, and commissioners ("County workforce members"), (2) working on County owned or controlled property while performing services under this Contract, and/or (3) coming into contact with the public while performing services under this Contract (collectively, "In-Person Services").
2. Contractor Personnel are considered "fully vaccinated" against COVID-19 two (2) weeks or more after they have received (1) the second dose in a 2-dose COVID-19 vaccine series (e.g. Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna), (2) a single-dose COVID-19 vaccine (e.g. Johnson and Johnson [J&J]/Janssen), or (3) the final dose of any COVID-19 vaccine authorized by the World Health Organization ("WHO").
3. Prior to assigning Contractor Personnel to perform In-Person Services, Contractor must obtain proof that such Contractor Personnel have been fully vaccinated by confirming Contractor

Personnel is vaccinated through any of the following documentation: (1) official COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card (issued by the Department of Health and Human Services, CDC or WHO Yellow Card), which includes the name of the person vaccinated, type of vaccine provided, and date of the last dose administered ("Vaccination Record Card"); (2) copy (including a photographic copy) of a Vaccination Record Card; (3) Documentation of vaccination from a licensed medical provider; (4) a digital record that includes a quick response ("QR") code that when scanned by a SMART HealthCard reader displays to the reader client name, date of birth, vaccine dates, and vaccine type, and the QR code confirms the vaccine record as an official record of the State of California; or (5) documentation of vaccination from Contractors who follow the CDPH vaccination records guidelines and standards. Contractor must also provide written notice to County before the start of work under this Contract that its Contractor Personnel are in compliance with the requirements of this paragraph. Contractor must retain such proof of vaccination for the document retention period set forth in this Contract, and must provide such records to the County for audit purposes, when required by County.

4. Contractor will evaluate any medical or sincerely held religious exemption request of its Contractor Personnel, as required by law. If Contractor has determined that Contractor Personnel is exempt pursuant to a medical or sincerely held religious reason, the Contractor must also maintain records of the Contractor Personnel's testing results. The Contractor must provide such records to the County for audit purposes, when required by County. The unvaccinated exempt Contractor Personnel must meet the following requirements prior to (1) interacting in person with County workforce members, (2) working on County owned or controlled property while performing services under this Contract, and/or (3) coming into contact with the public while performing services under this Contract:
  - a. Test for COVID-19 with either a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) or antigen test has an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) by the FDA or is operating per the Laboratory Developed Test requirements by the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Testing must occur at least

weekly, or more frequently as required by County or other applicable law, regulation or order.

- b. Wear a mask that is consistent with CDC recommendations at all times while on County controlled or owned property, and while engaging with members of the public and County workforce members.
  - c. Engage in proper physical distancing, as determined by the applicable County department that the Contract is with.
5. In addition to complying with the requirements of this paragraph, Contractor must also comply with all other applicable local, departmental, State, and federal laws, regulations and requirements for COVID-19. A completed Exhibit E (COVID-19 Certification of Compliance) is a required part of any agreement with the County.

## **9.0 UNIQUE TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

### **9.1 Intentionally Omitted**

### **9.2 Contractor's Charitable Activities Compliance**

The Supervision of Trustees and Fundraisers for Charitable Purposes Act regulates entities receiving or raising charitable contributions. The "Nonprofit Integrity Act of 2004" (SB 1262, Chapter 919) increased Charitable Purposes Act requirements. By requiring Contractors to complete Exhibit M (Charitable Contributions Certification), the County seeks to ensure that all County contractors which receive or raise charitable contributions comply with California law in order to protect the County and its taxpayers. A Contractor which receives or raises charitable contributions without complying with its obligations under California law commits a material breach subjecting it to either Master Agreement termination or debarment proceedings or both. (County Code Chapter 2.202)

### **9.3 Ownership of Materials, Software and Copyright**

9.3.1 County will be the sole owner of all right, title and interest, including copyright, in and to all software, plans, diagrams, facilities, and tools (hereafter "materials") which are originated or created through Contractor's work pursuant to this Master Agreement. Contractor, for valuable consideration herein provided, must execute all documents necessary to assign and transfer to, and vest in the County all Contractor's right,



title and interest in and to such original materials, including any copyright, patent and trade secret rights which arise pursuant to Contractor's work under this Master Agreement.

- 9.3.2 During the term of this Master Agreement and for five (5) years thereafter, Contractor must maintain and provide security for all Contractor's working papers prepared under this Master Agreement. County will have the right to inspect, copy and use at any time during and subsequent to the term of this Master Agreement, any and all such working papers and all information contained therein.
- 9.3.3 Any and all materials, software and tools which are developed or were originally acquired by Contractor outside the scope of this Master Agreement, which Contractor desires to use hereunder, and which Contractor considers to be proprietary or confidential, must be specifically identified by Contractor to County's Project Manager as proprietary or confidential, and must be plainly and prominently marked by Contractor as "Propriety" or "Confidential" on each appropriate page of any document containing such material.
- 9.3.4 County will use reasonable means to ensure that Contractor's proprietary and/or confidential items are safeguarded and held in confidence. County agrees not to reproduce, distribute or disclose to non-County entities any such proprietary and/or confidential items without the prior written consent of Contractor.
- 9.3.5 Notwithstanding any other provision of this Master Agreement, County will not be obligated to Contractor in any way under Paragraph 9.3.4 for any of Contractor's proprietary and/or confidential items which are not plainly and prominently marked with restrictive legends as required by Paragraph 9.3.3 or for any disclosure which County is required to make under any state or federal law or order of court.
- 9.3.6 All the rights and obligations of this Paragraph 9.3 will survive the expiration or termination of this Master Agreement.

#### **9.4 Patent, Copyright and Trade Secret Indemnification**

- 9.4.1 Contractor must indemnify, hold harmless and defend County from and against any and all liability, damages, costs, and expenses, including, but not limited to, defense costs and attorneys' fees, for or by reason of any actual or alleged infringement of any third party's patent or copyright, or any actual or alleged unauthorized trade secret disclosure, arising from or related to the operation and utilization of Contractor's

work under this Master Agreement. County will inform Contractor as soon as practicable of any claim or action alleging such infringement or unauthorized disclosure, and will support Contractor's defense and settlement thereof.

9.4.2 In the event any equipment, part thereof, or software product becomes the subject of any complaint, claim, or proceeding alleging infringement or unauthorized disclosure, such that County's continued use of such item is formally restrained, enjoined, or subjected to a risk of damages, Contractor, at its sole expense, and providing that County's continued use of the system is not materially impeded, will either:

- Procure for County all rights to continued use of the questioned equipment, part, or software product; or
- Replace the questioned equipment, part, or software product with a non-questioned item; or
- Modify the questioned equipment, part, or software so that it is free of claims.

9.4.3 Contractor will have no liability if the alleged infringement or unauthorized disclosure is based upon a use of the questioned product, either alone or in combination with other items not supplied by Contractor, in a manner for which the questioned product was not designed nor intended.

**9.5 Intentionally Omitted**

**9.6 Intentionally Omitted**

**9.7 Intentionally Omitted**

**9.8 Intentionally Omitted**

**10. Survival**

In addition to any terms and conditions of this Agreement that expressly survive expiration or termination of this Agreement by their terms, the following provisions shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement for any reason:

Paragraph 1 (Applicable Documents)

Paragraph 2 (Definitions)

Paragraph 3 (Work)

Paragraph 5.4 (No Payment for Services Provided Following Expiration/Termination of Agreement)

Paragraph 7.6 (Confidentiality)

Paragraph 8.1 (Amendments)  
Paragraph 8.2 (Assignment and Delegation/Mergers or Acquisitions)  
Paragraph 8.5.2  
Paragraph 8.18 (Fair Labor Standards)  
Paragraph 8.29 (Force Majeure)  
Paragraph 8.20 (Governing Law, Jurisdiction, and Venue)  
Paragraph 8.22 (Indemnification)  
Paragraph 8.23 (General Provisions for all Insurance Coverage)  
Paragraph 8.24 (Insurance Coverage)  
Paragraph 8.25 (Liquidated Damages)  
Paragraph 8.33 (Notices)  
Paragraph 8.37 (Record Retention and Inspection/Audit Settlement)  
Paragraph 8.41 (Termination for Convenience)  
Paragraph 8.42 (Termination for Default)  
Paragraph 8.47 (Validity)  
Paragraph 8.48 (Waiver)  
Paragraph 8.57 (Prohibition from Participation in Future Solicitation(s))  
Paragraph 9.3 (Ownership of Materials, Software and Copyright)  
Paragraph 9.4 (Patent, Copyright and Trade Secret Indemnification)  
Paragraph 10 (Survival)

**AUTHORIZATION OF MASTER AGREEMENT FOR  
AS NEEDED ON-SITE VETERIANARIAN SERVICES**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles has caused this Master Agreement to be executed by the Director, the Department of Animal Care and Control or designee and approved by County Counsel, and Contractor has caused this Master Agreement to be executed in its behalf by its duly authorized officer, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Director

Department of Animal Care and Control

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contractor

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
DAWYN R. HARRISON  
County Counsel

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy County Counsel