



Invitation for Bid (IFB) No. 2024-047 Expansion Connectors – Handwheel Type

Due Date: December 19, 2023
Time: 2:00 PM
Submittal Location: Union County Government Center
Procurement Department
500 N. Main Street, Suite 709
Monroe, NC 28112

Procurement Contact

Michael High
Procurement Specialist
Office 704.283-3519
Cell: 704-578-1368
michael.high@unioncountync.gov

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2 NOTICE OF ADVERTISEMENT

Union County, North Carolina
IFB No. 2024-047
Expansion Connectors – Hand Wheel Type

Sealed bids for the Expansion Connectors – Hand Wheel Type will be received by mail or hand delivery to Union County’s Procurement Department until **2:00 PM EST on December 19, 2023** at the Union County Government Center, 500 North Main Street, Suite 709, Monroe, NC 28112. **Late bids will not be accepted.** This is a request for the purchase and delivery.

Bids will be received for a single prime contract. Bids shall be on a unit price basis as indicated in the Bid Form.

Union County, North Carolina, through the Water Department, is soliciting bids from qualified companies for Expansion Connectors – Hand Wheel Type

Copies of the bid documents may be obtained from the locations listed below:

1. Download the Proposal Documents from the Union County website:
<https://www.unioncountync.gov/departments/bids-procurement/current-bids>
2. Download the Solicitation Documents from the State of North Carolina Electronic Vendor Portal:
<https://evp.nc.gov> (Search County of Union – Filter Solicitation Status Open).

All questions about the meaning or intent of the Bidding Documents are to be submitted in writing to the Procurement contact person listed on the cover page (michael.high@unioncountync.gov) Deadline for questions is **December 8, 2023 at 2:00 PM EST.**

Bidders are required to comply with the non-collusion requirements set forth in the Bidding Documents.

Union County encourages good faith effort outreach to Minority Businesses (HUB Certified) and Small Businesses.

The County reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids, including, without limitation, nonconforming, nonresponsive, unbalanced, or conditional bids. The County also reserves the right to waive informalities and request clarification as needed.

3 BID SUBMISSION

3.1 BID SUBMISSION DEADLINE

In accordance with Union County (the County) guidelines, bids specified will be received by Union County at the specified location listed in this IFB document, until the time and date cited. Only Bids received by the correct time shall be considered.

Bids shall be sealed and labeled on the outside envelope "IFB 2024-047 Expansion Connector Bid. IFB's are to be received by the Union County, Procurement Department by **2:00 PM EST on December 19, 2023. Any bids received after this due date and time shall not be considered.**

3.2 BID DELIVERY REQUIREMENTS

All Bids must be in a sealed box or opaque envelope plainly marked as follows:

[Name of Contractor Submitting Bid]
IFB No. 2024-047
Expansion Connector Bid
Attention: Michael High

If using a delivery service, your company name and the solicitation number must be visible on the outside delivery box/envelope. Ship, Mail, or Hand Deliver to the following address:

Mail or hand-deliver submission packets to:

Union County Government Center
Procurement Department
500 North Main Street, Suite 709
Monroe, NC 28112
Attention: Michael High, Procurement Specialist

Electronic (email) or facsimile submissions will not be accepted.

There is no expressed or implied obligation for Union County to reimburse firms for any expenses incurred in preparing Bids in response to this request.

Union County reserves the right to reject any or all Bids, to waive technicalities and to make such selection deemed in its best interest. With limited response, Union County reserves the right to extend the solicitation opening date as appropriate in order to assure a competitive procurement.

3.3 BID QUESTIONS

Bid questions will be due on or before **December 8, 2023 at 2:00 PM EST.** The primary purpose of this is to provide participating Contractors with the opportunity to ask questions, in writing, related to the IFB.

2. Submit questions by email to Michael High at michael.high@unioncountync.gov by the deadline shown above. (Do not send question in a graph or Excel sheet format.) The email subject line should be identified as follow IFB 2024 - 047 Expansion Connector Bid. All questions and answers may be posted as addenda on <https://www.unioncountync.gov/departments/bids-procurement/current-bids> and / or <https://evp.nc.govwww.unioncountync.gov>

3.4 BID ADDENDUM

Union County may modify the IFB prior to the date fixed for submission of Bids by the issuance of an addendum.

Should an Offeror find discrepancies or omissions in this IFB or any other documents provided by Union County, the Offeror should immediately notify the County of such potential discrepancy in writing via email as noted above.

Any addenda to these documents shall be issued in writing. No oral statements, explanations, or commitments by anyone shall be of effect unless incorporated in the written addenda. Receipt of Addenda shall be acknowledged by the Offeror on Appendix C Addendum and Anti-Collusion Form.

4 INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 COMMUNICATIONS

All communications, any modifications, clarifications, amendments, questions, responses or any other matters related to the Invitation for Bid (IFB) must be made only through the Procurement Contact noted on the cover of this IFB. A violation of this provision is cause for the County to reject a Company's bid. No contact regarding this document with other County employees is permitted and may be grounds for disqualification.

4.2 IFB MODIFICATIONS

Clarifications, modifications, or amendments may be made to the IFB at any time prior to the Bid Deadline at the discretion of the County. It is the Bidder's responsibility to periodically check the County's website until the posted Bid Deadline to obtain any issued addenda.

4.3 BID SUBMISSION

- a) Bids must be enclosed in a sealed envelope, box, or package, **and clearly marked on the outside with the following: IFB Title, Bid Number, and the Bidder's company name, address, phone, email address, and contact name.**
- b) All costs incurred in the preparation and presentation of the bid is the Bidder's sole responsibility; no pre-bid costs will be reimbursed to any Bidder. All documentation submitted with the bid will become the property of the County.

4.4 BIDDERS ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Bid will remain subject to acceptance for 120 days after the Bid Opening, or for such longer period of time that Bidder may agree to in writing upon request of Owner.

4.5 DUPLICATE BIDS

No more than one (1) bid from any Bidder will be considered by the County. In the event multiple bids are submitted in violation of this provision, the County will have the right to determine which bid will be considered, or at its sole option, reject all such multiple bids.

4.6 BID SIGNATURES

An authorized company official must sign Bids. Each signature represents binding commitment upon the Bidder to provide the goods and/or services offered to the County if the Bidder is determined to be the lowest responsive, responsible Bidder.

4.7 SUBCONTRACTORS (IF APPLICABLE)

In addition to any identification of Subcontractors, Suppliers, individuals, or entities required to be submitted to Owner (see third full paragraph below), Bidders shall include in their Bid a list of all subcontractors which the Bidder intends to use for each of the following categories of work:

- Heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (Mechanical)
- Electrical

A contractor whose Bid is accepted shall not substitute any person as subcontractor in the place of the subcontractor listed in the original bid, except (a) if the listed subcontractor's bid is later determined by the contractor to be non-responsible or nonresponsive or the listed subcontractor refuses to enter into a contract for the complete performance of the bid work, or (b) with the approval of the awarding authority for good cause shown by the contractor. The terms, conditions, and requirements of each contract between Contractor and a subcontractor performing work under a subdivision or branch of work listed in this subsection shall incorporate by reference the terms, conditions, and requirements of the Contract between Contractor and Owner. Failure to include this list of subcontractors may cause a Bid to be rejected as nonresponsive by Owner.

If Owner, after due investigation, has reasonable objection to any proposed Subcontractor, Supplier, individual, or entity, Owner may, before the Notice of Award is given, request apparent Successful Bidder to submit a substitute, without an increase in the Bid.

Subsequent to the submittal of the Bid, Owner may not require the Successful Bidder or Contractor to retain any Subcontractor, Supplier, or other individual or entity against which Contractor has reasonable objection.

4.8 BIDDERS RESPONSIBILITIES

The bidder must be capable, either as a firm or a team, of providing all goods or services as described under SECTION 6 – Specifications, and to maintain those capabilities until notification of the fact that their bid response was unsuccessful. Exclusion of any good or service for the IFB may serve as cause for rejection.

The successful Bidder will be responsible for all work in the IFB whether they are provided or performed by the successful Bidder or subcontractor(s). Further, the County will consider the successful Bidder to be the sole point of contact with regard to contractual matters, including payment of any and all charges resulting from the cost of any contract. The successful Bidder must be an authorized dealer of the proposed scale and associated equipment. This manufacturer authorization must include required installation certifications and warranty work provisions.

Bidder References: The bidder must provide a minimum of three client references upon request by Union County.

UNION COUNTY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND/OR ALL QUALIFICATIONS AND TO WAIVE ANY AND ALL TECHNICALITIES.

5 PURPOSE

5.1 INTRODUCTION

Union County, North Carolina (population 239,859) is located in the central, southern piedmont. The County provides its citizens with a full array of services that include public safety, water/wastewater utilities and sanitation, human services, cultural and recreational activities, and general government administration. The County provides retail water services to approximately 60,000 water customers and provides wholesale water to the Town of Wingate and supplements the City of Monroe with up to 2 million gallons per day.

6 SPECIFICATIONS

6.1 GENERAL

Union County (the County) is inviting bids for ¾" & 1" Expansion Connection, Handwheel repair parts to meet County needs. Any deviation from specifications must be clearly indicated on Section II Specification Form or attached. Costs must include all manufacturer charges including delivery to the Union County Public Works Operation Center, 4600 Goldmine Road, Monroe, NC, 28110, or other address specified on a Purchase Order, and is the total invoice cost to Union County excluding taxes.

6.2 PRODUCT DELIVERY

The total quantities of products are due when the contract is awarded. Depending on supply chain issues the County will accept partial deliveries commencing no later than March 1, 2024. Total produce quantities should be completed no later than 8 months after contract award.

6.2.1 DESCRIPTIVE LITERATURE

Complete descriptive literature, specifications and other pertinent data necessary for their evaluation must accompany all bids otherwise they may be subject to rejection.

6.2.2 PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

Scope Product literature should be limited to technical data/specification documents. Please do not include any sales or marketing brochures.

6.2.3 INFORMATION PROVIDED BY BIDDER

The Bidder will provide the following on Appendix A – Price Form:

1. Manufacturer;
2. Part number;
3. Unit Price including all shipping/delivery charges;
4. Warranty must be entered in months.

6.3 SPECIFICATION FORM

The attached specifications and requirements are drawn around equipment which the County has evaluated and determined that the size, construction, design layout, special features and performance are necessary. Bidders are requested to offer only equivalent comparable units, which will provide the features and performance needed and implied.

Unless otherwise stated, the use of manufacturer's names and product numbers are for descriptive purposes and establishing general quality levels only. They are not intended to be restrictive. Bidders are required to state exactly what they intended to furnish otherwise it is fully understood that they shall furnish all items as stated.

6.4 SPECIFICATION SHEET

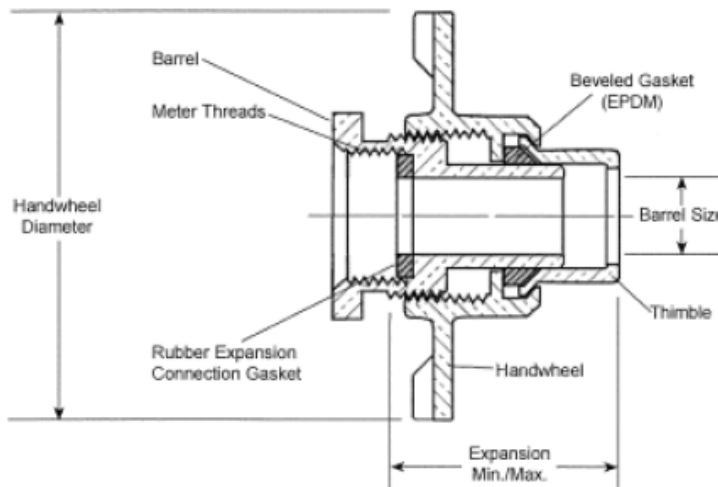
Specifications may be found on the following page:

SPECIFICATION SHEET

IFB 2024-047 Expansion Connector – Handwheel Type

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

HANDWHEEL TYPE



METER SIZE	BARREL SIZE	HANDWHEEL DIAMETER	EXPANSION		APPROX. WT. LBS.	CATALOG NUMBER	✓ SUBMITTED ITEM(S)
			MIN.	MAX.			
5/8"	19/32"	3-1/4"	1-7/16"	1-3/4"	0.7	EC-1-NL	
5/8"x3/4" & 3/4"	3/4"	3-1/2"	1-5/8"	2"	0.9	EC-23-NL	
1"	1"	4-1/4"	1-15/16"	2-3/8"	1.6	EC-4-NL	

FEATURES

- All brass that comes in contact with potable water conforms to AWWA Standard C800 (UNS NO C89833)
- The product has the letters "NL" cast into the main body for proper identification
- UL Classified to ANSI/NSF Standard 61 and Standard 61 Annex G (NSF/ANSI 372)
- Brass components that do not come in contact with potable water conform to AWWA Standard C800 (ASTM B-62 and ASTM B-584, UNS NO C83600 - 85-5-5-5)
- Expansion Connection attaches to the meter. Together, they are installed as an expandable unit
- Meter and Expansion Connection unit can be installed or removed with one hand, without a wrench
- Enhanced security when the expansion connection is removed along with the meter
- Thimble nose piece does not rotate after contact with the rubber yoke end gasket. No "walking out."

Components shall include the necessary rubber gaskets.

6.5 DELIVERY AND CHARGES

All prices quoted shall include all delivery and/or freight charges to delivery address specified in this document. No additional freight shall be charged at time of delivery. Risk of loss and/or damage shall be upon the seller until such time as goods have been physically delivered and received by the County.

6.6 DELIVERY LOCATION

Deliveries shall be FOB Destination to the address shown below:

Union County Water
4600 Goldmine Road
Monroe, NC 28110
or other address specified on a Purchase Order.

7 EVALUATION OF BIDS AND AWARD PROCEDURES

7.1 BID INFORMATION

Bids must be made in strict conformance using the Invitation for Bid (IFB) forms provided herein. All blank spaces for bids must be filled in properly. Numbers must be written in ink or typewritten, and the completed forms shall be without erasures, lineation, or alterations. In accepting the bid, the County will assume that no alterations have been made, and if they appear afterward, they shall not be binding on the County.

All Bid Documents shall be signed by an individual who is authorized to contractually bind the company. The signature must indicate the title or position the individual holds in the agency or firm. Agencies or firms which sign contracts with the name of the agency or firm must provide the name of a corporate officer or executive director for signature validation by the County. **All unsigned Bids will be disqualified.** In submitting a Bid, Offeror affirms all statements contained in the bid are true and accurate.

7.2 BID FORMAT

Bids must include the following:

- Appendix A – Price Form
- Specification Form
- Appendix B – Bid Submission Form (signed)
- Appendix C – Addendum Receipt and Anti-Collusion Form (signed)

7.3 TERMS OF SUBMISSION

All material received from a person or company (“Offeror”) in response to this solicitation shall become the property of Union County and will not be returned to the Offeror. Any and all costs incurred by a Offeror in preparing, submitting, or presenting submissions are the Offeror’s sole responsibility and Union County shall not reimburse the Offeror. All responses to this solicitation will be considered a public record and subject to disclosure under applicable public records law.

Any material in a response which the Offeror considers a trade secret and exempt from disclosure as a public record under applicable law, including N.C.G.S. §§ 132-1.2 and 66-152, must be properly designated as a trade secret. In order to properly designate such material, the Offeror must: (i) submit any trade secret materials in a separate envelope, or file, from all other submitted material, being clearly marked as "Trade Secret – Confidential and Proprietary Information," and (ii) stamp the same trade secret/confidentiality designation on each page of the materials therein which contain trade secrets.

To the extent consistent with public records law, Union County will make reasonable efforts to maintain the confidential nature of trade secrets, as determined by Union County and subject to the conditions set forth herein. Offeror understands and agrees by submitting a response to this solicitation, that if a request is made to review or produce a copy of any information in the Offeror's materials which was properly labeled by the Offeror as a trade secret, Union County will notify the Offeror of the request and the date that such materials will be released to the requestor unless the Offeror obtains a court order enjoining that disclosure. If the Offeror fails to obtain the court order enjoining disclosure prior to that date, Offeror understands and agrees that Union County will release the requested information to the requestor on that date.

Furthermore, the Offeror also agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Union County and each of its officers, employees, and agents from all costs, damages, and expenses incurred in connection with refusing to disclose any material that has been designated as a trade secret by Offeror.

7.4 EVALUATION OF BIDS

Qualified bids will be evaluated to determine the **lowest responsive, responsible bidder**, taking into consideration quality, performance, and the time specified in the bid for performance of the contract. Consideration of such factors as: price offered; quality of item offered; general reputation and performance capabilities of offeror; substantial conformity with specifications/other conditions set forth in the bid; suitability of articles for the intended use; related services needed; date of delivery and performance; and such other factors deemed by the County to be pertinent will be used in determining responsiveness and responsibility.

7.5 COST ADJUSTMENTS (IF APPLICABLE)

The Unit Pricing for the Initial Term shall be based upon the response to this solicitation. However, the Unit Pricing for any Renewal may be adjusted at the beginning of such Renewal by multiplying the Unit Pricing effective in the previous term by the quotient of the All Urban Consumers Price Index (CPI-U) (South Region), Others Goods and Services, with the Index Period of 2023 - 2026 as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, United States Department of Labor, in effect ninety (90) days prior to the commencement date of the new Renewal divided by such CPI in effect for the same month one (1) year prior to such date. However, any Unit Pricing increase pursuant to the previous sentence shall be capped at a five percent (5%) increase from one renewal to the next. Any such Unit Pricing adjustment for a Renewal must be requested by the

Vendor or County within thirty (30) days from the date of the County's notice of its exercise of an option to renew the Contract.

7.6 APPLICATION OF NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL STATUTES

The General Statutes of North Carolina regarding purchasing and competitive bidding (G.S. § 143-129) are made a part herein and will govern the bidding process as applicable.

8 GENERAL CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

8.1 MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR BIDDERS

Bids shall be considered only from companies normally engaged in performing the type of work specified in this solicitation. Union County, in its discretion, shall determine whether the evidence of responsibility and ability to perform is satisfactory.

The individual/firm warrants that he/she is fully qualified, with adequate personnel and experience, to undertake the services required. The Offeror shall also certify that insurance coverage that meets or exceeds industry standards for this type of work will be in force to mitigate risk during performance under the contract.

8.2 TERMS AND CONDITIONS

All payroll taxes, liability and worker's compensation are the sole responsibility of the Offeror. The Offeror understands that an employer/employee relationship does not exist under this contract.

The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids, the right to waive informalities, and the right to disregard nonconforming or conditional bids or counter bids. It is the intention of Union County to execute a final, binding Contract with the successful Offeror which incorporates terms and conditions no less onerous than those appropriate to the engagement of a licensed contracting firm in connection with a project of this magnitude.

All bids submitted in response to this request shall become the property of Union County and as such, may be subject to public review.

8.3 IFB EXPENSES

Expenses for developing the bids are entirely the responsibility of the vendor and shall not be chargeable in any way to the County.

8.4 CERTIFICATION

In response to the IFB Request, the Contractor certifies the following:

- This bid is signed by an authorized representative of the firm;
- It can obtain insurance certificates as required within ten (10) calendar days after notice of award;
- All labor costs, direct and indirect, have been determined and included in the proposed cost;
- The potential Contractor has read and understands the conditions set forth in this solicitation.

8.5 CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS

The contents of this Bid and the commitments set forth in the Bid shall be considered contractual obligations, if a contract ensues. Failure to accept these obligations may result in cancellation of the award. All legally required terms and conditions shall be incorporated into final contract agreements with the selected Service.

8.6 COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

Seller represents and warrants that the performance of this order and the furnishing of goods or services required shall be in accordance with the applicable standards, provisions and stipulations of all pertinent Federal, State or County laws, rules, regulations, resolutions and ordinances including but not limited to the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Equal Employment Opportunity rules and regulations and the Occupational Safety and Health Acts.

8.7 SUB-CONTRACTOR/PARTNER DISCLOSURE

A single Company may propose the entire solution. If the Bid by any Company requires the use of sub-contractors, partners, and/or third-party products or services, this must be clearly stated in the Bid. The Company submitting the Bid shall remain solely responsible for the performance of all work, including work that is done by sub-contractors.

8.8 MODIFICATION OR WITHDRAWAL OF BID

Prior to the scheduled closing time for receiving bids, any Contractor may withdraw his bid. After the scheduled closing time for receiving bids, no bid may be withdrawn for 90 days. Only written requests for the modification or correction of a previously submitted bid that are addressed in the same manner as bids and are received by the County prior to the closing time for receiving bids will be accepted. The bid will be corrected in accordance with such written requests, provided that any such written request is in a sealed envelope that is plainly marked "Modification of Bid." Oral, telephone or fax modifications or corrections will not be recognized or considered.

8.9 CONTRACT COMMENCEMENT

Commencement of a contract shall not begin prior to all necessary County approvals, including County Commission approval where required, and receipt of a County Purchase Order. Commencement of a contract without these approvals is solely at the Bidder's own risk and is likely to result in no payment for services performed or goods received.

8.10 TERM OF CONTRACT

The contract award may have an initial term of one (1) year with two (2) one-year renewal options at the County's discretion, pending annual budget approval. The renewals are subject the cost adjustment clause in Section 7.5.

8.11 DISPUTES

In case of any doubt or differences of opinion as to the services to be furnished hereunder, the decision of the County shall be final and binding upon both parties.

8.12 EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

All Companies will be required to follow Federal Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) policies. Union County will affirmatively assure that on any project constructed pursuant to this advertisement, equal employment opportunity will be offered to all persons without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, and marital status, status with regard to public assistance, membership or activity in a local commission, disability, sexual orientation, or age.

8.13 MINORITY AND SMALL BUSINESS PARTICIPATION PLAN

It is the policy of Union County that Minority Businesses (MBEs), Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs) and other small businesses shall have the opportunity to compete fairly in contracts financed in whole or in part with public funds. Consistent with this policy, Union County will not allow any person or business to be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be discriminated against in connection with the award and performance of any contract because of sex, race, religion, or national origin.

8.14 LICENSES

The successful Firm(s) shall have and maintain a valid and appropriate business license (if applicable), meet all local, state, and federal codes, and have current all required local, state, and federal licenses.

8.15 E-VERIFY

E-Verify is the federal program operated by the United States Department of Homeland Security and other federal agencies, or any successor or equivalent program, used to verify the work authorization of newly hired employees pursuant to federal law. Offeror/Firm shall ensure that Firm and any Subcontractor performing work under this contract: (i) uses E-Verify if required to do so; and (ii) otherwise complies with applicable law.

8.16 DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE

During the performance of this project, the Firm agrees to provide a drug-free workplace for his employees; post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, sale, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance or marijuana is prohibited in the workplace and specify the actions that will be taken against employees for violations of such prohibition; and state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the firm that the Firm maintains a drug-free workplace.

For the purposes of this section, “drug-free workplace” means a site for the performance of work done in connection with a specific contract awarded to a Contractor/Firm in accordance with this chapter, the employees of whom are prohibited from engaging in

the unlawful manufacture, sale, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of any controlled substance or marijuana during the performance of the Request.

8.17 INSURANCE

One or more of the following insurance limits may be required if it is applicable to the project. The County reserves the right to require additional insurance depending on the nature of the agreement.

At Contractor's sole expense, Contractor shall procure and maintain the following minimum insurances with insurers authorized to do business in North Carolina and rated A-VII or better by A.M. Best, or as otherwise authorized by the Union County Risk Manager.

A. WORKERS' COMPENSATION

Statutory (coverage for three or more employees) limits covering all employees, including Employer's Liability with limits of:

\$500,000	Each Accident
\$500,000	Disease - Each Employee
\$500,000	Disease - Policy Limit

B. COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY

(for any agreement unless otherwise waived by the Risk Manager)
Covering Ongoing and Completed Operations involved in this Agreement.

\$2,000,000	General Aggregate
\$2,000,000	Products/Completed Operations Aggregate
\$1,000,000	Each Occurrence
\$1,000,000	Personal and Advertising Injury Limit

C. COMMERCIAL AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY

(for any agreement involving the use of a contractor vehicle while conducting services associated with the agreement)

\$1,000,000	Combined Single Limit - Any Auto
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D. PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY

(only for any agreement providing professional service such as engineering, architecture, surveying, consulting services, etc.)

\$1,000,000	Claims Made
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Contractor shall provide evidence of continuation or renewal of Professional Liability Insurance for a period of two (2) years following termination of the Agreement.

ADDITIONAL INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

- A. The Contractor's General Liability policy shall be endorsed, specifically or generally, to include the following as Additional Insured:

UNION COUNTY, ITS OFFICERS, AGENTS AND EMPLOYEES ARE INCLUDED AS ADDITIONAL INSURED WITH RESPECTS TO THE GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE POLICY.

Additional Insured status for Completed Operations shall extend for a period of not less than three (3) years from the date of final payment.

- B. Before commencement of any work or event, Contractor shall provide a Certificate of Insurance in satisfactory form as evidence of the insurances required above.
- C. Contractor shall have no right of recovery or subrogation against Union County (including its officers, agents and employees).
- D. It is the intention of the parties that the insurance policies afforded by contractor shall protect both parties and be primary and non-contributory coverage for any and all losses covered by the above-described insurance.
- E. Union County shall have no liability with respect to Contractor's personal property whether insured or not insured. Any deductible or self-insured retention is the sole responsibility of Contractor.
- F. Notwithstanding the notification requirements of the Insurer, Contractor hereby agrees to notify County's Risk Manager at 500 N. Main Street # 130, Monroe, NC 28112, within two (2) days of the cancellation or substantive change of any insurance policy set out herein. Union, in its sole discretion, may deem failure to provide such notice as a breach of this Agreement.
- G. The Certificate of Insurance should note in the Description of Operations the following:

Department: _____

Contract #: _____

- H. Insurance procured by Contractor shall not reduce nor limit Contractor's contractual obligation to indemnify, save harmless and defend Union County for claims made or suits brought which result from or are in connection with the performance of this Agreement.
- I. Certificate Holder shall be listed as follows:

Union County
Attention: Keith A. Richards, Risk Manager

500 N. Main Street, Suite #130
Monroe, NC 28112

- J. If Contractor is authorized to assign or subcontract any of its rights or duties hereunder and in fact does so, Contractor shall ensure that the assignee or subcontractor satisfies all requirements of this Agreement, including, but not limited to, maintenance of the required insurances coverage and provision of certificate(s) of insurance and additional insured endorsement(s), in proper form prior to commencement of services.

8.18 INDEMNIFICATION

Contractor agrees to protect, defend, indemnify and hold Union County, its officers, employees and agents free and harmless from and against any and all losses, penalties, damages, settlements, costs, charges, professional fees or other expenses or liabilities of every kind and character arising out of or relating to any and all claims, liens, demands, obligations, actions, proceedings, or causes of action of every kind in connection with or arising out of this agreement and/or the performance hereof that are due, in whole or in part, to the negligence of the Contractor, its officers, employees, subcontractors or agents. Contractor further agrees to investigate, handle, respond to, provide defense for, and defend the same at its sole expense and agrees to bear all other costs and expenses related thereto.

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9 APPENDIX A –PRICE FORM

IFB # 2024-047

Expansion Connectors - Handwheel Type

Item	Make & Model	Estimated QTY	Price Each	Extension
3/4" Expansion Connector, Handwheel Type, Brass Including rubber gaskets		17,000		
1" Expansion Connector, Handwheel Type, Brass Including rubber gaskets		500		
NOTE: In the event there is a disparity between the per unit cost and the extended total cost, the per unit cost shall prevail. These are estimated quantities. The actual quantity may vary.			Total Bid:	

Total Bid Amount in Words: _____

Address _____

Bidder Contact Email Address _____

I certify, under penalty of perjury, that I have the legal authorization to bind the firm hereunder:

Date _____

Signature of Person Authorized to Sign

Print Name/Title of Authorized Person

Email _____

End of Price Form

10 APPENDIX B – BID SUBMISSION FORM

**IFB # 2024-047
Expansion Connectors - Handwheel Type**

SUBMIT WITH BID

This Bid is submitted by:

Company Legal Name: _____

Representative Name: _____

Representative Signature: _____

Representative Title: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Website Address: _____

It is understood that Union County reserves the right to reject any and all Bids, to make awards according to the best interest of the County, to waive formalities, technicalities, to recover and re-bid this project. Bid is valid for 120 calendar days from the Bid due date and is submitted by an executive of the company that has authority to contract with Union County, NC.

Name: _____

Title: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

11 APPENDIX C – ADDENDUM AND ANTI-COLLUSION FORM

IFB # 2024-047

Expansion Connectors - Handwheel Type

SUBMIT WITH BID

Please acknowledge receipt of all addenda by including this form with your Bid. Any questions or changes received will be posted as an addendum on www.co.union.nc.us and/or <https://evp.nc.gov>. It is your responsibility to check for this information.

Addendum No.	Date Downloaded
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

I certify that this Bid is made in good faith and without collusion with any other offeror or officer or employee of Union County.

Company Name: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____
Email Address: _____
Signature: _____
Date: _____

12 APPENDIX D – VENDOR PAYMENT LETTER

IFB # 2024-047
Expansion Connectors - Handwheel Type

Do Not Submit with Bid

-----For informational purposes only. -----



Finance Department

500 North Main Street Suite #714
Monroe, NC 28112 T. 704-283-3813
www.unioncountync.gov

ATTENTION: ACCOUNTS PAYABLE VENDORS

As part of our Fraud Prevention Program, Union County now prefers two methods for payments to vendor accounts. These methods allow for faster and easier payments to vendors.

The first and preferred method available is to accept a VISA card payment from the County. If you accept payment via VISA, payment is made at the time of the transaction or upon receipt and approval of the invoice.

The second method is an Electronic Funds Transfer. (EFT) This means that you will receive payment of invoices due directly into your bank account. With this method, you will get an email confirmation giving you the date, invoice numbers, and total amount paid. Your payment will be available to you on Monday (or the first banking day if Monday is a bank holiday) following receipt of an approved invoice from the County department invoiced.

An EFT Enrollment Form to enroll in the program is attached for your convenience. You can also visit the Union County website at www.unioncountync.gov at any time to get a new form if your banking information changes. If the banking information changes and you do not notify us, it will delay receipt of payment for invoices.

If you wish to receive payment via the County's VISA card, please contact Heather Howey at 704-283-3539, or send an email to ap@unioncountync.gov and you will be added to the list of vendors accepting the VISA card method of payment.

Union County prefers all vendors participate in one of the two methods described above.

Thank you in advance for your participation.

13 APPENDIX E – TEMPLATE AGREEMENT

IFB # 2024-047
Expansion Connectors - Handwheel Type

Do Not Submit with Bid

-----For informational purposes only. -----

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

AGREEMENT

COUNTY OF UNION

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into as of _____, by and between UNION COUNTY, a political subdivision of the State of North Carolina, whose address is 500 North Main Street, Monroe, NC 28112, hereinafter “Union,” and [Contractor’s full legal name], a [type of business (corporation, limited liability company, etc.) and state where incorporated], whose address is _____, hereinafter “Contractor.”

W I T N E S S E T H

WHEREAS, Contractor is a supplier of certain [describe goods here (ex: Type K copper tube for potable water)], hereinafter referred to as “Goods;” and

WHEREAS, Union desires to purchase such Goods from Contractor on an as-needed basis; and

WHEREAS, Contractor is willing to provide such Goods to Union as described in this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements hereinafter set forth, the parties hereto do each contract and agree with the other as follows:

1. **GOODS PROVIDED.** Contractor agrees to provide the Goods in accordance with the specifications in the attached Specifications [or, if the full IFB (or RFP) is to be attached, state the IFB # and IFB title]. Contractor shall provide the Goods on an as-needed basis, upon request by Union for such Goods. Union shall provide a purchase order number to Contractor prior to any Goods being delivered. Contractor shall not be required to provide installation services pursuant to this Agreement. Union does not guarantee the purchase of any minimum amount of Goods pursuant to this Agreement.

2. **FEE AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE.** Union shall pay Contractor for purchase of the Goods in accordance with the attached [“Appendix A – Price Form” (or whatever title was used on the pricing form in the solicitation)]. Contractor shall invoice Union for Goods after each delivery requested by Union has been completed pursuant to Section 1 herein. Contractor’s invoice must reference the purchase order number issued by Union. Payment is due within thirty (30) days of receipt of an accurate invoice by Union’s Finance Department. All payments shall be conditioned upon appropriation by the Union County Board of Commissioners of sufficient funds for each request for services.

[Include this paragraph only if Union agrees to such potential increase over time, or if this provision is included in the IFB.] If the Agreement is renewed for additional terms in accordance with Section 4 herein, at the beginning of each renewal term, Contractor may adjust the prices listed in [Appendix A] based on the Consumer Price Index agreed upon by both Contractor and Union, limited to the amount of the CPI increase over the previous year.

3. DELIVERY SCHEDULE. Contractor shall ship requested Goods described in Section 1 herein FOB destination, Freight Prepaid, and delivery of such Goods shall be within [length of time, as listed in the IFB] of the date Contractor receives Union's order.

4. TERM AND TERMINATION. The Effective Date is the date of mutual execution of this Agreement. This Agreement shall have a term of [insert agreement time length]. [The following sentence is to be used only if renewals might be needed or desired, and then only if the IFB or RFP lists the possible number of renewals. If the contract is just for a single term, this sentence may be deleted.] Upon completion of the Initial Term, Union may, in its sole discretion, elect to renew this Agreement for up to _____ [number of possible additional terms, as stated in the IFB or RFP] additional _____ [number of years in each renewal term]-year terms, each a "Renewal Term," upon written notice to the Contractor. Union may terminate this Agreement at any time, with or without cause, by notification to Contractor in writing. In the event of termination without cause, Contractor shall be paid for Goods delivered to the date of notification of termination by Union.

5. OWNERSHIP OF DOCUMENTS. All deliverables and any other contract documents prepared by Contractor, or any subcontractors or subconsultants under the terms of this Agreement ("the Documents"), shall be the property of Union. Contractor further acknowledges that Union is subject to Chapter 132 of the North Carolina General Statutes, the Public Records Act (the "Act"), and that this Agreement, as well as any of the Documents as defined herein, shall be a public record as defined in such Act, and as such, will be open to public disclosure and copying.

6. INSURANCE. The attached Exhibit A, Insurance Requirements, is incorporated herein by reference.

7. INDEMNIFICATION. Contractor agrees to protect, defend, indemnify and hold Union, its officers, employees and agents free and harmless from and against any and all losses, penalties, damages, settlements, costs, charges, professional fees or other expenses or liabilities of every kind and character arising out of or relating to any and all claims, liens, demands, obligations, actions, proceedings, or causes of action of every kind in connection with or arising out of this Agreement and/or the performance hereof that are due, in whole or in part, to the negligence of Contractor, its officers, employees, subcontractors or agents. Contractor further agrees to investigate, handle, respond to, provide defense for, and defend the same at its sole expense and agrees to bear all other costs and expenses related thereto.

8. FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL TAXES. Neither federal, nor state, nor local income tax nor payroll tax of any kind shall be withheld or paid by Union on behalf of Contractor or the employees of Contractor. Contractor shall not be treated as an employee with respect to the services performed hereunder for federal or state tax purposes.

9. NOTICE TO CONTRACTOR REGARDING ITS TAX DUTIES AND LIABILITIES. Contractor understands that Contractor is responsible to pay, according to law, Contractor's income tax. If Contractor is not a corporation, Contractor further understands that Contractor may be liable for self-employment (social security) tax, to be paid by Contractor according to law.

10. FRINGE BENEFITS. Because Contractor is engaged in Contractor's own independently established business, Contractor is not eligible for, and shall not participate in, any employee pension, health or other fringe benefit plan of Union.

11. UNION NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR WORKERS' COMPENSATION. No workers' compensation insurance shall be obtained by Union concerning Contractor or the employees of Contractor. Contractor shall comply with the workers' compensation law concerning Contractor and the employees of Contractor.

12. NO AUTHORITY TO BIND UNION. Contractor has no authority to enter into contracts or agreements on behalf of Union. This Agreement does not create a partnership or any form of agency between the parties.

13. ASSIGNMENT. Neither Union nor Contractor shall assign, sublet or transfer any rights under or interest in this Agreement (including, but without limitation, monies that may become due or monies that are due) without the written consent of the other, except to the extent that any assignment, subletting or transfer is mandated by law or the effect of this limitation may be restricted by law. Unless specifically stated to the contrary in any written consent to assignment, no assignment shall release or discharge the assignor from any duty or responsibility under this Agreement.

14. NON-WAIVER. The failure of either party to exercise any of its rights under this agreement for a breach thereof shall not be deemed to be a waiver of such rights or a waiver of any subsequent breach.

15. HOW NOTICES SHALL BE GIVEN. Any notice given in connection with this agreement shall be given in writing and shall be delivered either by hand to the party or by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the party at the party's address stated herein. Any party may change its address stated herein by giving notice of the change in accordance with this paragraph.

16. APPLICABLE LAW AND JURISDICTION. This Agreement shall be construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of North Carolina. The parties to this Agreement confer exclusive jurisdiction of all disputes arising hereunder upon the General Courts of Justice of Union County, North Carolina.

17. COMPLETE AGREEMENT. This Agreement contains the complete agreement of the parties regarding the terms and conditions of the Agreement, and there are no oral or written conditions, terms, warranties, understandings or other agreements pertaining thereto which have not been incorporated herein. This Agreement may be modified only by written instrument duly executed by both parties, or their respective successors in interest.

18. SEVERABILITY. The provisions hereof are severable, and should any provision be determined to be invalid, unlawful or otherwise null and void by any court of competent jurisdiction, the other provisions shall remain in full force and effect and shall not thereby be affected unless such ruling shall make further performance hereunder impossible or impose an unconscionable burden upon one of the parties.

19. AUTHORITY. Each party warrants that it has the corporate or other organizational power and authority to execute, deliver and perform this Agreement. Each party

further warrants that the execution, delivery and performance by it of the Agreement has been duly authorized and approved by all requisite action of the party's management and appropriate governing body.

20. E-VERIFY. E-Verify is the federal program operated by the United States Department of Homeland Security and other federal agencies, or any successor or equivalent program, used to verify the work authorization of newly hired employees pursuant to federal law. Contractor shall ensure that Contractor and any subcontractor performing work under this Agreement: (i) uses E-Verify if required to do so by North Carolina law; and (ii) otherwise complies with the requirements of Article 2 of Chapter 64 of the North Carolina General Statutes. A breach of this provision by Contractor will be considered a breach of this Agreement, which entitles Union to terminate this Agreement, without penalty, upon notice to Contractor.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto, acting under authority of their respective governing bodies, have hereunto set their hands and seals, and have caused this Agreement to be duly executed, this the day and year first above written.

UNION COUNTY

BY: _____ (SEAL)
Brian W. Matthews, County Manager

[CONTRACTOR FULL LEGAL NAME]

BY: _____ (SEAL)

Approved as to Legal Form ____

This instrument has been preaudited in the manner required by The Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act.

Deputy Finance Officer

Exhibit A
Insurance Requirements

I. BASIC INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS. At Contractor's sole expense, Contractor shall procure and maintain the following minimum insurances with insurers authorized to do business in North Carolina and rated A-VII or better by A.M. Best, or as otherwise authorized by the Union County Risk Manager.

A. **WORKERS' COMPENSATION**
Statutory (coverage for three or more employees) limits covering all employees, including Employer's Liability with limits of:

\$500,000	Each Accident
\$500,000	Disease - Each Employee
\$500,000	Disease - Policy Limit

B. **COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY**
Covering all operations involved in this Agreement.

\$2,000,000	General Aggregate
\$2,000,000	Products/Completed Operations Aggregate
\$1,000,000	Each Occurrence
\$1,000,000	Personal and Advertising Injury Limit

C. **COMMERCIAL AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY**

\$1,000,000	Combined Single Limit - Any Auto
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D. **PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY**

\$1,000,000	Claims Made
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Contractor shall provide evidence of continuation or renewal of Professional Liability Insurance for a period of two (2) years following termination of the Agreement.

E. **POLLUTION LIABILITY INSURANCE**

\$1,000,000	Claims Made
-------------	-------------

Contractor shall provide evidence of continuation or renewal of Pollution Liability Insurance for a period of two (2) years following termination of the Agreement.

F. NETWORK SECURITY & PRIVACY LIABILITY (CYBER)

\$1,000,000 Claims Made
\$3,000,000 Aggregate Limit

Contractor shall provide evidence of continuation or renewal of Network Security & Privacy Liability Insurance for a period of two (2) years following termination of the Agreement.

II. **ADDITIONAL INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS.**

A. The Contractor's General Liability policy shall be endorsed, specifically or generally, to include the following as Additional Insured:

UNION COUNTY, ITS OFFICERS, AGENTS AND EMPLOYEES ARE INCLUDED AS ADDITIONAL INSURED WITH RESPECT TO THE GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE POLICY.

B. Before commencement of any work or event, Contractor shall provide a Certificate of Insurance in satisfactory form as evidence of the insurances required above.

C. Contractor shall have no right of recovery or subrogation against Union County (including its officers, agents and employees).

D. It is the intention of the parties that the insurance policies afforded by Contractor shall protect both parties and be primary and non-contributory coverage for any and all losses covered by the above-described insurance.

E. Union County shall have no liability with respect to Contractor's personal property whether insured or not insured. Any deductible or self-insured retention is the sole responsibility of Contractor.

F. Notwithstanding the notification requirements of the Insurer, Contractor hereby agrees to notify County's Risk Manager at 500 N. Main Street, Suite #130, Monroe, NC 28112, within two (2) days of the cancellation or substantive change of any insurance policy set out herein. Union, in its sole discretion, may deem failure to provide such notice as a breach of this Agreement.

G. The Certificate of Insurance should note in the Description of Operations the following:

Department:
Contract #:

H. Insurance procured by Contractor shall not reduce nor limit Contractor's contractual obligation to indemnify, save harmless and defend Union County for claims made or suits brought which result from or are in connection with the performance of this Agreement.

I. Certificate Holder shall be listed as follows:

Union County
Attention: Keith A. Richards, Risk Manager
500 N. Main Street, Suite #130
Monroe, NC 28112

J. If Contractor is authorized to assign or subcontract any of its rights or duties hereunder and in fact does so, Contractor shall ensure that the assignee or subcontractor satisfies all requirements of this Agreement, including, but not limited to, maintenance of the required insurances coverage and provision of certificate(s) of insurance and additional insured endorsement(s), in proper form prior to commencement of services.