**Notice of Intent to Award**

January 5, 2021

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| **Procurement Type and Number** | RFP: Tourism110420 |
| **Procurement Title** | Tourism Branding/Marketing Campaign |
| **Opening Date and Time** | 12/9/2020 – 2:00 p.m. |

The following vendors submitted responses to the above solicitation:

* The Focus Group, 727 Howard Ave., Suite 401 Biloxi, MS 39530
* The Gibbes Company, P.O. Box 220 Ridgeland, MS 399157
* Aqua Group, 360 Central Ave, Suite 420 St. Petersburg, FL 33701
* Zimmerman Agency, 1821 Miccosukee Commons Dr Tallahassee, FL 32308
* Ramey Agency, 3100 North State St Jackson, MS 39216
* Maris, West, & Baker, 18 Northtown Dr Jackson, MS 39211
* Cirlot Agency, 1505 Airport Rd Jackson, MS 39232
* Godwin Group, One Jackson Place, Suite 300 Jackson MS 39201
* 3815 Media, 3201 Peachtree Corners Circle, Peachtree Corners, GA 30092
* Seed X, Inc., 1434 Hillside Drive, Reno, NV 89503
* Locale Agency, 2843 Franklin Blvd, Cleveland, OH 44113

The following *Blackink Creative Partners* determined non-responsive and/or non-responsible and has been notified separately of the reason(s) therefor:

* Blackink Creative Partners, 5 Keofferam Rd, Old Greenwich, CT 06870

Responses were evaluated according to the criteria stated in the solicitation. We announce our intent to award a contract to the following vendor upon approval by the Public Procurement Review Board:

* Maris, West, & Baker, 18 Northtown Dr Jackson, MS 39211

We would like to thank each vendor for your time and efforts in preparing a response to this solicitation.

We invite you to contact Tricia Shannon, Accounting and Finance if you would like to request a post-award vendor debriefing where we can share with you any applicable information about **your response** including significant weaknesses or deficiencies, technical ratings, and overall ranking specific to **your company’s response**. This debriefing is a meeting and not a hearing; therefore, legal representation is not required. However, if you prefer to have legal representation present, you must provide notification prior to the scheduled meeting so that we can also have legal representation present. Your request for debriefing must be received within three (3) business days after the issuance of this notice or no later than COB on 1/8/2021.

Vendors are reminded that any protests of this decision must be submitted to Tricia Shannon, Accounting and Finance Deputy Director/Patrick Roberts Agency Assigned Special Assistant Attorney General within seven (7) calendar days after the issuance of this notice or no later than COB 1/12/2021. The protest must be in writing, identify the name and address of the protestor, provide appropriate identification of the procurement and resulting contract number (if known), and detail the nature of the protest, including available supporting exhibits, evidence, or documents to substantiate any claims.

The successful vendor is instructed not to begin work, purchase materials, or enter into subcontracts relating to the project or services until execution of the contract.

We appreciate your interest in doing business with the State of Mississippi.

Sincerely,

Tricia Shannon, Accounting and Finance Deputy Director

Mississippi Development Authority

501 North West Street, Suite 419

Jackson, MS 39201

Phone: 601-359-2987

Fax: 601-359-5042

Email: procurement@mississippi.org