

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

**Justification for Single Source Awards IAW [FAR 13.106-1](#)
For
Over Micro-Purchase Threshold but Not Exceeding the SAT (\$150K)**

Acquisition Plan Action ID: VA69D-17-AP-6243

1. **Contracting Activity:** Department of Veterans Affairs, VISN 12, VA Illiana Health Care System located in Danville, IL. 2237 number 550-17-3-2985-0437.
2. **Brief Description of Supplies/ Services required and the intended use/Estimated Amount:** The VA Illiana Health Care System located in Danville, IL has the requirement for two (Bariatric Wheelchair Vans) with ramps.
3. **Unique characteristics that limit availability to only one source, with the reason no other supplies or services can be used:** The VA Illiana Health Care System Transportation Department has the requirement for two Bariatric Wheelchair Vans with wheelchair lifts that have the capability to lift to 1,000 pounds and accommodate chairs up to 42 inches wide. Bariatric Veterans and wheelchairs combined may exceed the weight limit of current lifts and the chairs can exceed 35 inches in width. To transport the bariatric Veterans, the facility must contract a civilian transport company. If the Veteran is restricted to his/her wheelchair, an ambulance company will be notified and the Veteran will be transported via gurney. By purchasing a bariatric vehicle, the facility can save approximately \$24,000.00 per year, Each vehicle costs approximately \$60,000.00.
4. **Description of market research conducted and results or statement why it was not conducted:** Per 41 CFR 101-26.501-1, "...each executive agency shall submit to GSA for procurement its orders for purchase in the United States of all new passenger motor vehicles... Specifically included are sedans, station wagons, carryalls, ambulances, buses, and trucks, including trucks with specialized mounted equipment, truck chassis with special purpose bodies, and all van-type trailers." To help facilitate purchase of vehicles and automotive products annually at significant savings for customer agencies, GSA leverages the Government's buying power using GSA AutoChoice, an on-line vehicle ordering system; however, GSA currently has no contracted partners that specialize in wheelchair vehicles per its AutoChoice website. The Contracting Officer (CO) contacted GSA AutoChoice to confirm, which it did. The CO was informed that a waiver is required for purchasing away from GSA AutoChoice. A requested was made and granted by the Director, Vehicle Purchasing Division at the GSA.

The CO conducted market research and posted a Sources Sought to the Open Market for a period of five (5) days to determine interest and capability of Other Than Small Businesses or Small Businesses, including VIP-Verified Veteran-Owned Small Business (VOSB) and Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) prospective contractors relative to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Code 336999 (All Other Transportation Equipment Manufacturing). Zero responses were received.

The CO did a VetBiz keyword search to determine VOSB or SDVOSB capability with the NAICS codes 336112 (Light Truck and Utility Vehicle Manufacturing), 336999 (All Other Transportation Equipment Manufacturing) and keyword "Wheelchair." Two VIP-Verified SDVOSB resulted; however, one did not indicate Illinois as a serviceable area and the other indicated that it specializes in "sales, rental, repair and delivery of home medical equipment and supplies." The latter also did not indicate fulfillment of wheelchair "vans" or "vehicles."

The CO then contacted a vendor who had fulfilled a previous requirement for the VA, seeking interest and capability of it relative to the procurement at hand. The POC at that vendor referred the CO to another POC who had not responded after a reasonable amount of time given to confirm capability.

There is at least one known Woman-Owned Small Business that is available to fulfill the requirement which was provided in the procurement package: Southern Bus & Mobility, Inc. (DUNS: 071966410). Southern Bus & Mobility, Inc. is a distributor for Clarkston Motors, Inc. dba AutoAbility. Clarkston Motors, Inc. dba AutoAbility indicated that it does not sell direct.

Finally, the CO posted an Intent to Sole Source for the available Woman-Owned Small Business above. The CO received one response which offered a similar but not technically-acceptable product.

- 5. Contracting Officer's Certification:** *Purchase is approved in accordance with FAR13.106-1(b). I certify that the foregoing justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.*

Jim Hedman
Contracting Officer