



STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL

RFP #717-25-715

Campus Shuttle Bus Services



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

March 13, 2025



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COVER LETTER

Texas Southern University Selection Team,

ECHO AFC Transportation is pleased to submit our proposal for providing Campus Shuttle Bus Services for Texas Southern University. As a trusted transportation provider, we bring a wealth of experience, a commitment to safety, and a dedication to delivering reliable, efficient, and customer-focused transportation solutions tailored to the needs of academic institutions.

Texas Southern University's mission of advancing knowledge, fostering excellence, and transforming diverse students into lifelong learners and engaged citizens deeply resonates with ECHO AFC Transportation's values. We understand the importance of accessible, dependable, and innovative transportation in supporting a thriving urban academic community. Our team is committed to ensuring that Texas Southern University's students have a safe, efficient, and seamless transit experience that enhances their educational journey.

Key highlights of our capabilities include:

- **Extensive Experience:** ECHO AFC Transportation has years of experience managing shuttle services for universities, corporate campuses, and municipalities, providing seamless and dependable transit solutions.
- **Fleet Excellence & Safety:** Our modern, ADA-compliant fleet is meticulously maintained to ensure reliability and passenger safety, exceeding industry safety standards.
- **Technology Integration:** We offer GPS tracking, real-time scheduling, and mobile applications for enhanced rider communication and service efficiency.
- **Sustainability Commitment:** Our company prioritizes eco-friendly solutions, including low-emission vehicles and fuel-efficient routing strategies to support campus sustainability initiatives.
- **Customer-Centric Service:** We emphasize rider satisfaction by employing professionally trained, courteous drivers and implementing responsive customer service protocols.

Our team is excited about the opportunity to collaborate with Texas Southern University and contribute to the smooth operation of its transportation network. We are confident that our expertise, commitment to safety, and innovative approach will make us an ideal partner for this initiative.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We welcome the opportunity to discuss our proposal further and demonstrate how ECHO AFC Transportation can enhance the university's shuttle services. Please feel free to contact me at your earliest convenience if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Denae Richards", is written over a white background.

Denae Richards

Director of Business Development



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

COMPANY INFORMATION

Company Name	GBJ Inc.
Business Name	ECHO AFC Transportation
Founded	1991
Headquarters & Mailing Address	15734 Aldine Westfield Rd, Houston, TX 77032
Main Phone #	713-988-5466
Officer	John Ferrari, President / CEO
Website	http://www.echoafc.com



ECHO AFC TRANSPORTATION LEADERSHIP TEAM

John Ferrari, Chief Executive Officer **john@echoafc.com**

As the Co-founder of ECHO AFC Transportation, John has taken a small family-owned transportation service to the largest livery and transportation service in the State of Texas and beyond. Offering chauffeured service in a luxury vehicle from sedans, SUVs, vans, minibuses, or motor coaches. With hundreds of Vehicles to choose from for any type of occasion, we can manage any size, and any services needed. In addition to vehicles John also has supported many large projects overseeing Campus Shuttle Services in Florida and Texas. John has developed passenger tracking software to provide timestamps, locations and command center support for large passenger movements. Manages university shuttle and parking programs with an above average 90% on-time performance.



Kim Tubbs, Chief Business Development Officer **kim@echoafc.com**

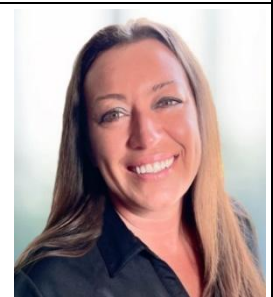
Kimberly Bratton-Tubbs brings over 40 years of extensive experience in the transportation industry, specializing in operations, sales, and executive management. Her career journey began in EMS as a firefighter/ medic then transitioned to transportation with roles at LTR in Las Vegas, K-T Services, Coach USA, Greyhound Travel Services, Bell, and Presidential Limousine. Relocating to Texas in 2005, she joined Coach America, where she served as Vice President.

Currently, Kim holds the position of Chief Business Development Officer for ECHO AFC Transportation and TBL Group. Throughout her career, Kim's remarkable contributions have earned her prestigious accolades, including the Distinguished Women in Southern Nevada and Women of Achievement Nevada awards.



Stephanie Ferrari, Chief Operations Officer **stephanie@echoafc.com**

For over 16 years, Stephanie has assisted, managed, and directed ECHO AFC operations in Houston. With a remarkable record she was promoted to Chief Operating Officer of TBL Operations and for the past five years has overseen both operations of Texas and Florida. Stephanie began her career with a small daily shuttle programs of 3 vehicles which has since advanced to over 300 daily programs. From VIP car services to large motorcoach event logistics. She has successfully worked scalable projects across the United States from campus shuttles to Superbowl shuttles. Stephanie's personal moto, "I Can, and I Will!"





Eddie Coronel, Fleet Manager Houston
eddie@echoafc.com

Eddie began his career alongside his father working at Texas Bus Lines in 1995.

Texas Bus Lines was acquired by Coach USA and Eddie became instrumental in leading the shop. Eddie has all certifications to work on commercial vehicles as well as holding a CDL license. When Coach USA sold to Coach America Eddie remained and continually made improvements and continued his education and certifications. Eddie was selected to oversee maintenance for both TESS and FEMA contracts. He was responsible for inspecting vehicles and repairs if they could be done on site or would work with safety team to push to the DOT team for final determination of releasing a motorcoach that had DOT violations. 2012 Eddie joined Horizon Coachlines as Maintenance Manager. Eddie joined ECHO AFC transportation in 2019. Eddie's accomplishments include 2005 Employee of the year Coach America.



George Mbulo, National Safety Director
George@echoafc.com

Results-oriented and dedicated professional with 24 years of comprehensive experience in safety, security, and customer service relations. Highly adept at thriving in high-pressure environments. I possess a strong affinity for teamwork and collaborating toward a shared objective. I excel in tackling complex challenges and finding innovative solutions. With strong abilities in communication, delegation, mentoring, motivation, and training, cultivating a positive safety culture that lays the groundwork for a financially prosperous business is always my goal when delivering exceptional results.



Denae Richards, Director of Business Development
denae@echoafc.com

Denae is a result driven sales professional with more than 10 years in the hospitality and transportation industry. She is skilled at curating the ideal transportation plan for each client. She taps into her more than 30 years of operations & customer service experience to develop long-term client relationships. As the Director of Sales & Account Management, she provides guidance and leadership to our team of sales and account managers.





TAB 1 – PROPOSAL CRITERIA

CRITERIA ONE: SHUTTLE BUS SPECIFICATION SHEET

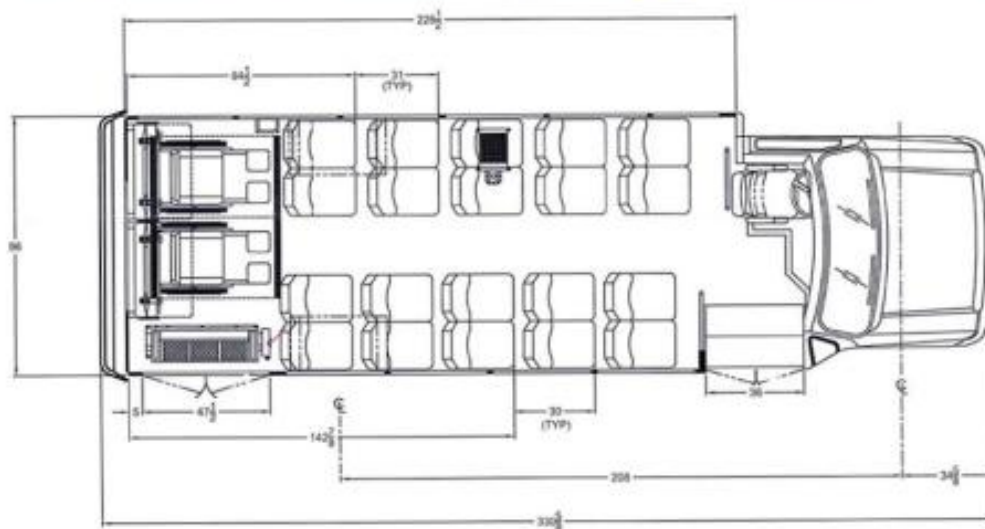
Minimum Vehicle and Equipment Requirements

1. **ADA Compliance:** All vehicles will meet ADA standards, with a minimum capacity of 23 passengers (20 with a wheelchair onboard).
2. **Route Signage:** Each vehicle will be equipped with front, side, and rear LED route designation signs for clear visibility.
3. **Interior Features:** Vehicles will have sufficient interior lighting and fully padded, vandal-resistant seating.
4. **GPS Tracking:** Our advanced GPS system will monitor route adherence, providing timestamps, real-time location updates, geofencing alerts, and speed monitoring. Students and staff will have access to a live GPS tracking website and mobile app.
5. **Service Penalties:** To ensure reliability, penalties will be imposed for early, late, and no-service instances based on GPS reports.
6. **Climate Control:** Vehicles will be equipped with HVAC systems that maintain 72°F cooling and 70°F heating, ensuring passenger comfort.
7. **Vehicle Wraps:** TSU has the option to brand vehicles with approved university advertisements.
8. **Spare Vehicles:** A spare vehicle will be provided for every bus out of service to prevent service disruptions.
9. **University Branding:** The TSU name and logo will be prominently displayed on all vehicles, subject to approval by the TSU Marketing and Communications Department.

Starcraft
Allstar 27'



IMAGES & FLOORPLAN





CRITERIA TWO: DRIVER QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE

ECHO AFC Transportation – A Leader in Campus Shuttle Services & More

With over 30 years of experience in the transportation industry, **ECHO AFC Transportation** has established itself as a premier provider of **campus shuttle services** nationwide. Our dedication to exceptional service, safety, and operational excellence has made us a trusted partner for universities, colleges, and educational institutions across the country.

Campus Shuttle Service Excellence

ECHO AFC Transportation specializes in **customized campus shuttle solutions**, ensuring students, faculty, and staff have reliable, safe, and efficient transportation. Our **modern fleet** and **24/7 dispatch team** allow us to provide seamless service tailored to the unique needs of each campus. With a strong focus on **safety and student experience**, we comply with all federal and state transportation regulations, including **Senate Bill 9**, which governs student transportation in Texas.

Driver Qualifications

ECHO AFC Transportation upholds the highest standards for drivers

Driver qualifications, safety, and compliance with all state and federal regulations is our mandate. Our extensive hiring and training programs ensure that every operator meets and exceeds the requirements set forth by Texas Southern University (TSU).

1. **Texas Commercial Driver's License (CDL) Compliance**

All ECHO AFC Transportation drivers maintain continuous possession of a valid Texas CDL for at least three years. We strictly adhere to Texas Government Code, Section 522, and the Texas Administrative Code, Title 37, Chapter 16. Before hiring, all CDL records are verified through the Texas Department of Public Safety.

2. **Class B CDL License Requirement**

All drivers operating TSU shuttles will hold a valid Class B CDL with passenger and air brake endorsements, ensuring they meet all legal requirements to safely operate large-capacity shuttle buses.

3. **Accident-Free Driving Record**

As part of our stringent hiring process, all candidates must have an accident-free driving record for the past two years. Driving histories are reviewed through the Motor Vehicle Records (MVR) database before employment.

4. **Moving Violation Restrictions**

Drivers may not have more than two traffic citations for moving violations in the past two years. Any candidate exceeding this threshold is automatically disqualified from consideration.

5. **No DWI or DUI Convictions**

ECHO AFC Transportation enforces a strict zero-tolerance policy regarding impaired driving. Any individual with a DWI or DUI conviction, regardless of timeframe, is not eligible for employment.

6. **Criminal Background Screening**

All drivers undergo thorough background checks before hiring, including federal, state, and county criminal history screenings. We ensure that all hired drivers have no history of felony convictions, active warrants, or disqualifying misdemeanors.



7. **Drug and Alcohol Testing Compliance**

ECHO AFC Transportation mandates drug and alcohol testing for all drivers before hiring and throughout employment. We conduct random, post-accident, and reasonable suspicion drug and alcohol screenings in full compliance with the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) regulations.

8. **English Proficiency**

To ensure effective communication with TSU students and staff, all drivers must demonstrate the ability to read, write, and speak English fluently. This is verified during the hiring process and reinforced through our training program.

9. **Driver Uniform Requirement**

All drivers are provided with professional, company-branded uniforms, which they are required to wear at all times while on duty. This ensures a consistent and professional appearance in line with TSU's expectations.

10. **Driver Identification Nameplate**

Each driver is required to display a nameplate inside the vehicle, positioned above the windshield, clearly showing their first and last name. This promotes accountability and allows passengers to easily identify their operator.

11. **Scheduled Breaks & Off-Campus Staging**

ECHO AFC Transportation ensures that all scheduled shuttle breaks occur away from the TSU campus. Vehicles that are not in service will display an "Out of Service" message, and all staging for breaks and meals will take place at designated off-campus locations. Bathroom breaks will be taken at approved stops with bus stop cut-outs.

12. **Prohibition of Distracted Driving & Smoking**

ECHO AFC Transportation enforces a strict no-distraction policy. Drivers are prohibited from using mobile phones, texting, listening to personal music devices, or engaging in any activity that may compromise safe operation. Additionally, smoking while on duty is strictly prohibited.

13. **Student and Employee ID Verification**

To ensure that only authorized individuals utilize TSU shuttle services, drivers are required to verify each passenger's TSU ID badge before allowing them to board. Transportation will be denied to individuals without proper TSU identification or those presenting IDs from unauthorized institutions.

Enhanced Training & Safety Measures

Beyond the stated requirements, ECHO AFC Transportation enhances driver competency through:

- **Smyth Safety Training:** A comprehensive driver safety program focused on defensive driving, passenger assistance, ADA compliance, and emergency response procedures.
- **TSU Route-Specific Training:** Each driver undergoes hands-on route training to ensure familiarity with TSU's designated shuttle routes, campus traffic flow, and high-traffic areas.
- **Customer Service Training:** Drivers are educated on professional communication, conflict resolution, and student engagement to maintain a positive experience for all passengers.

By adhering to these rigorous hiring, training, and compliance measures, ECHO AFC Transportation guarantees that TSU's student shuttle service will be operated safely, professionally, and in full alignment with university expectations.



While we are a leader in **higher education transportation**, our expertise extends far beyond campuses. We proudly serve a diverse range of industries and clients, including:

- **Professional & Collegiate Sports:** We provide elite transportation services for NFL, MLS, and other sports organizations, ensuring teams travel in comfort and style.
- **Corporate & Event Transportation:** From executive shuttles to large-scale event logistics, we offer reliable solutions for corporate clients, conventions, and hospitality partners.
- **Military & Government Contracts:** Our company is a trusted provider for military personnel transportation, meeting stringent security and operational requirements.
- **K-12 School & Charter Services:** We ensure safe, dependable transportation for schools, student trips, and academic programs nationwide.



References

University of Texas Dallas Campus Shuttle

ECHO AFC operates the UTD Campus Shuttle 7 days a week. The shuttle covers (6) routes running 7:00am to 11:00pm

CONTACT: Elena Gali-Grant
972-883-4871
elena@utdallas.edu

Children's Health Services Shuttle (Plano & Dallas)

ECHO AFC operates the staff shuttle for CHS weekdays Monday – Friday. The shuttle covers (7) routes running through the day 5:30am – 12:00am

CONTACT: Ricky Harbaugh, CPP
O: 214-456-1214
C: 469-822-2352
Ricky.Harbaugh@childrens.com

University of North Florida Campus Shuttle

ECHO AFC operates the UNF Campus Shuttle running 7 days a week. The shuttle covers (10) routes across the Jacksonville area covering the campus and student housing. The different routes run anywhere from 7:00am to early morning the following day.

CONTACT: George Androuin
904-620-4222
Gandroui@unf.edu

City of Richardson DART Shuttle

ECHO AFC operates a local city route for the City of Richardson running 5 days a week, Monday – Friday. The routes runs between to local Dallas Area Rapid Transit stop and multiple business locations in Richardson, TX.

CONTACT: Mark Nelson, Director of Transportation and Mobility
972-744-4325
Mark.nelson@cor.gov

Reference Letters on the following two pages



University of North Florida

George Androuin, Director, Business and Parking Services

Proprietary information and /or
trade secrets to be exempted
from disclosure to a third party.



Adam W. Herbert
University Center

December 8, 2021

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to recommend ECHO Transportation for any organization requiring professional transportation services.

I have had the opportunity to work with ECHO Transportation for nearly four years as they provide UNF's shuttle services and been consistently impressed with the quality and maintenance of the shuttle buses, driver professionalism and their on-site manager, Luis Senior. Mr. Senior and his team have been amazing partners providing UNF with excellent service and working with us through new and evolving COVID protocols, route changes and other challenges to ensure patrons are receiving the best and quickest level of service.

The original 10-year contract called for temporary buses at a reduced hourly rate during year 1 with new buses, charged at a higher hourly rate, to be delivered and operational beginning year 2. However due to manufacturer's postponement of new bus delivery and UNF's desire to defer increased hourly shuttle rates, ECHO agreed to postpone delivery of the new buses until year 4. The temporary buses are in remarkably good condition, and the additional 3 years at the reduced hourly rate deferred potential increases to student fees through the remainder of the 10-year contract. The entire negotiation process was seamless and ultimately extremely beneficial for both the university and students.

Luis and his team have been exemplary and I would recommend ECHO unhesitatingly for any organization seeking professional shuttle services. I can be reached at 904-620-4226 if you require any further information.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G. Androuin", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

George Androuin

Director, Business and Parking Services

12000 Alumni Drive, Jacksonville, Florida 32224-7699
TEL: (904) 620.4222 FAX: (904) 620.4223 www.unf.edu/universitycenter
Equal Opportunity/Equal Access/Affirmative Action Institution



Proprietary information and /or
trade secrets to be exempted
from disclosure to a third party.

City of Richardson DART Shuttle

Mark Nelson, Director of Transportation and Mobility



September 11, 2023

John Ferrari
ECHO AFC Transportation
15734 Aldine Westfield Road
Houston, TX 77032

To whom it may concern,

As a client of ECHO AFC Transportation for over 15 years, I am writing to recommend ECHO for their exceptional service operating Galatyn Shuttle and serving the citizens of Richardson. I have had the privilege of collaborating with ECHO and am delighted to discuss their outstanding service.

They have provided a high quality of service and customer care both through their drivers and management team. Whether addressing route-related issues, addressing a rider's concern, or responding to the City of Richardson's requests, ECHO has consistently shown a willingness to listen and implement solutions that align with our needs.

Over our partnership, we have encountered various challenges, including inclement weather, driver shortages and the COVID-19 pandemic. However, ECHO's collaboration and their proactive communication have been highly commendable. They have consistently demonstrated flexibility and a commitment to maintain service levels to meet customer demands despite the challenges.

In addition to this, ECHO has displayed a high level of responsiveness to ridership data requests. They consistently displayed an ability to quickly provide the information required, significantly enhancing our comprehension of the Galatyn Shuttle service.

In summary, the City of Richardson is very satisfied with the services provided by ECHO AFC Transportation for the Galatyn Shuttle and would recommend their services to other potential clients.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Nelson", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Mark Nelson
Director of Transportation & Mobility
City of Richardson, Texas
972-744-4325
Mark.Nelson@cor.gov



CRITERIA THREE: PURCHASE PRICE (COST PROPOSAL)

Pricing Proposal for Texas Southern University Campus Shuttle Bus Service

ECHO AFC Transportation is pleased to submit the following pricing structure for the Texas Southern University Campus Shuttle Bus Service. Our pricing is all-inclusive, covering all equipment, drivers, services, insurance, fuel, and any other expenses necessary to fulfill the requirements of each trip. Texas Southern University will not incur any additional costs beyond the stated quotation price.

Itemized Breakdown of Costs

- **Mileage Rate: \$7.73 per mile**
- Fuel Charges/Surcharges: Included in the per-mile and hourly rate
- Driver-Related Costs: Included in the per-mile and hourly rate (wages, benefits, training, and administrative costs)
- Insurance Costs: Fully covered within the quoted pricing
- Vehicle Maintenance & Operational Costs: Included in the per-mile and hourly rate

Total Base Bid

The final total cost for the project will be determined based on the total mileage and hours required, in accordance with the provided rate structure.

WEEKDAY MILEAGE	WEEKEND MILEAGE
• Two routes, each 2 miles round trip • Each bus departs every 15 minutes = 4 trips per hour • Daily Operation: 19 hours/day • Miles per Bus per Day: 152 miles per bus • Total Miles for Two Buses per Day: 304 miles/day • Total Weekday Miles per Year: 45,600 miles	• One bus covering 3 stops, 2 miles between each stop • Total round-trip distance: 4 miles • Bus departs every 15 minutes = 4 trips per hour • Daily Operation: 19 hours/day • Miles per Day: 304 miles/day • Total Weekend Miles per Year: 18,240 miles

Annual and Contract Cost Calculation

- Total Annual Miles: 45,600 (weekdays) + 18,240 (weekends) = 63,840 miles/year
- Mileage Rate: \$7.73 per mile
- Estimated Annual Cost: 63,840 miles × \$7.73/mile = **\$493,483.20 per year**
- 3-Year Contract Cost: \$493,483.20 × 3 = **\$1,480,449.60**

ECHO AFC Transportation guarantees that all services will be provided at a rate **not to exceed**:

- **\$7.73 per mile or \$68.84/hour**
- **Total 3-Year Contract Cost: \$1,480,449.60**

This all-inclusive pricing ensures transparency, cost predictability, and compliance with the University's requirements. We appreciate the opportunity to submit this proposal and look forward to the possibility of serving Texas Southern University.

NOTE: Should fuel prices increase by 10%, ECHO AFC Transportation reserve the right to negotiate an increase on cost to cover fuel costs.



TAB 2 - EXECUTION OF PROPOSAL AND ATTACHMENTS

EXHIBIT A: EXECUTION OF OFFER

NOTE: THIS EXHIBIT MUST BE SIGNED AND RETURNED WITH THE PROPOSAL. PROPOSALS THAT DO NOT INCLUDE THIS EXHIBIT WILL BE DISQUALIFIED. THE PROPOSAL SHALL BE VOID IF FALSE STATEMENTS ARE CONTAINED IN THIS EXHIBIT.

By signature hereon, Respondent certifies that:

All statements and information prepared and submitted in the response to this RFP are current, complete, and accurate.

Respondent has not given, offered to give, nor intends to give at any time hereafter, any economic opportunity, future employment, gift, loan, gratuity, special discount, trip, favor, or service to a public servant in connection with the submitted response.

Neither Respondent nor the corporation, partnership, or institution represented by Respondent or anyone acting for such respondent, corporation, or institution has (1) violated the antitrust laws of the State of Texas under Texas Business & Commerce Code, Chapter 15, or the federal antitrust laws; or (2) communicated the contents of this Proposal either directly or indirectly to any competitor or any other person engaged in the same line of business during the procurement process for this RFP.

When a Texas business address shown hereon that address is, in fact, the legal business address of Respondent and Respondent qualifies as a Texas Resident Bidder under 1 TAC § 111.2.

Under Government Code § 2155.004, no person who prepared the specifications or this RFP has any financial interest in Respondent's Proposal. If Respondent is not eligible, then any contract resulting from this RFP shall be immediately terminated. Furthermore, "under Section 2155.004, Government Code, the vendor [Respondent] certifies that the individual or business entity named in this Proposal or contract is not ineligible to receive the specified contract and acknowledges that this contract May be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate."

Under Family Code § 231.006, relating to child support obligations, Respondent and any other individual or business entity named in this solicitation are eligible to receive the specified payment and acknowledge that this contract May be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate.

Any Proposal submitted under this RFP shall contain the names and social security numbers of person or entity holding at least a twenty-five percent (25%) ownership interest in the business entity submitting the Proposal.

Name: John Ferrari

Social Security Number: 456-55-5721



Under *Government Code* § 669.003, relating to contracting with an executive of a state agency, Respondent represents that no person who, in the past four years, served as an executive of the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Texas Southern University or any other state agency, was involved with or has any interest in this Proposal or any contract resulting from this RFP. If Respondent employs or has used the services of a former executive head of Texas Southern University or other state agency, then Respondent shall provide the following information: Name of former executive, name of state agency, date of separation from state agency, position with Respondent, and date of employment with Respondent.

Respondent agrees that any payments due under this contract will be applied towards any debt, including but not limited to delinquent taxes and child support that is owed to the State of Texas.

Texas Southern University is federally mandated to adhere to the directions provided in the President's Executive Order (EO) 13224, Executive Order on Terrorist Financing – Blocking Property and Prohibiting Transactions With Persons Who Commit, Threaten to Commit, or Support Terrorism, effective 9/24/2001 and any subsequent changes made to it via cross-referencing respondents/vendors with the Federal General Services Administration's System for Award Management (SAM), <https://www.sam.gov/SAM/> , which is inclusive of the United States Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) Specially Designated National (SDN) list.

Respondent certifies that the responding entity and its principals are eligible to participate in this transaction and have not been subjected to suspension, debarment, or similar ineligibility determined by any federal, state or local governmental entity and that Respondent is in compliance with the State of Texas statutes and rules relating to procurement and that Respondent is not listed on the federal government's terrorism watch list as described in Executive Order 13224. Entities ineligible for federal procurement are listed at <https://www.sam.gov/SAM/>

Under Section 2155.006(b) of the Texas Government Code, a state agency May not accept a Proposal or award a contract, including a contract for which purchasing authority is delegated to a state agency, that includes proposed financial participation by a person who, during the five- year period preceding the date of the Proposal or award, has been:

- (1) convicted of violating a federal law in connection with a contract awarded by the federal government for relief, recovery, or reconstruction efforts as a result of Hurricane Rita, as defined by Section 39.459, Utilities Code, Hurricane Katrina, or any other disaster occurring after September 24, 2005; or
- (2) assessed a penalty in a federal civil or administrative enforcement action in connection with a contract awarded by the federal government for relief, recovery, or reconstruction efforts as a result of Hurricane Rita, as defined by Section 39.459, Utilities Code, Hurricane Katrina, or any other disaster occurring after September 24, 2005. Under Section 2155.006 of the Texas Government Code, the respondent certifies that the individual or business entity named in this Proposal is not ineligible to receive the specified contract and acknowledges that any contract resulting from this RFO May be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate.

Pursuant to Section 2262.003 of the Texas Government Code, the state auditor May conduct an audit or investigation of the vendor or any other entity or person receiving funds from the state directly under this contract or indirectly through a subcontract under this contract. The acceptance of funds by the Respondent or any other entity or person directly under this contract or indirectly through a subcontract under this contract



acts as acceptance of the authority of the state auditor, under the direction of the legislative audit committee, to conduct an audit or investigation in connection with those funds. Under the direction of the legislative audit committee, the Respondent or other entity that is the subject of an audit or investigation by the state auditor must provide the state auditor with access to any information the state auditor considers relevant to the investigation or audit. Respondent will ensure that this clause concerning the authority to audit funds received indirectly by subcontractors through the vendor and the requirement to cooperate is included in any Subcontract it awards.

ANTI-BOYCOTT ISRAEL VERIFICATION

The Respondent represents that, to the extent this Solicitation constitutes a contract for goods or services within the meaning of Section 2270.002 of the Texas Government Code, as amended, solely for purposes of compliance with Chapter 2270 of the Texas Government Code, and subject to applicable Federal law, Respondent (1) does not boycott Israel; and (2) will not boycott Israel during the term of this Agreement. The term “boycott Israel” as used in this paragraph has the meaning assigned to it in Section 808.001 of the Texas Government Code, as amended.

PREFERENCES

See Section 2.38 of the State of Texas Procurement Manual regarding preferences. Check below to claim a preference under 34 TAC Rule 20.38:

- ☐ Supplies, materials, or equipment produced in TX or offered by TX bidder or TX bidder that is owned by a service-disabled veteran *
- ☐ Agricultural products produced or grown in TX
- ☐ Agricultural products and services offered by TX bidders*
- ☐ USA produced supplies, materials, or equipment
- ☐ Products of persons with mental or physical disabilities
- ☐ Products made of recycled, remanufactured, or environmentally sensitive materials, including recycled steel
- ☐ Energy Efficient Products
- ☐ Rubberized asphalt paving material
- ☐ Recycled motor oil and lubricants
- ☐ Products produced at facilities located on formerly contaminated property
- ☐ Products and services from economically depressed or blighted areas
- ☐ Vendors that meet or exceed air quality standards
- ☐ Recycled or Reused Computer Equipment of Other Manufacturers
- ☐ Foods of Higher Nutritional Value

Respondent represents and warrants that the individual signing this Execution of Offer is authorized to sign this document on behalf of Respondent and to bind Respondent under any contract resulting from this Proposal.



RESPONDENT GBJ Inc. dba ECHO AFC Transportation

SIGNATURE

Denae Richards

NAME (TYPED/PRINTED) Denae Richards

TITLE Director of Business Development

EMAIL ADDRESS denae@echoafc.com

PHYSICAL ADDRESS 15734 Alsine Westfield Rd

CITY/STATE/ZIP Houston, TX 77032

TELEPHONE 713-988-5466 x2030

FAX 713-988-5466

TAX IDENTIFICATION NUMBER 76-0357629

DATE March 11, 2025

End of Exhibit A



HUB SUBCONTRACTING PLAN (HSP)

Per the statement below in 5.2.2 of the RFP, the HSP is attached in a separately sealed envelope.

5.2 POLICY OF UTILIZATION OF HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESSES (HUB):

It is the policy of Texas Southern University to promote and encourage contracting and subcontracting opportunities for Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB) in all contracts. Accordingly, the Owner has adopted its Policy on Utilization of Historically Underutilized Businesses, a copy of which is attached hereto. The Policy applies to all contracts with an expected value of \$100,000 or more. If Owner determines those subcontracting opportunities are probable, then a HUB Subcontracting Plan is a required element of the Proposals. Failure to submit a required HUB Subcontracting Plan will result in the rejection of the Proposals.

- 5.2.1 STATEMENT OF PROBABILITY. Owner has determined that subcontracting opportunities are probable in connection with this solicitation. Therefore, a HUB Subcontracting Plan (HSP) is required as a part of the Offeror's Proposals. Offeror shall develop and administer a HSP as a part of the Offeror's Proposals in accordance with the Owner's Policy on Utilization of Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB).

5.2.2 Offeror's HUB Subcontracting Plans must be attached separately in a sealed envelope clearly labeled "HUB Subcontracting Plan" and must have the name of the project and the bid number clearly marked on the outside of the sealed envelope.

- 5.2.3 Refer to Policy on Utilization of Historically Underutilized Business for a detailed list of attachments required with the HSP available at:
<https://comptroller.texas.gov/purchasing/vendor/hub/forms.php>



FORM 1295 INTERESTED PARTIES

CERTIFICATE OF INTERESTED PARTIES		FORM 1295																					
		1 of 1																					
Complete Nos. 1 - 4 and 6 if there are interested parties. Complete Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 if there are no interested parties.		OFFICE USE ONLY CERTIFICATION OF FILING																					
1 Name of business entity filing form, and the city, state and country of the business entity's place of business. GBJ Inc. dba ECHO AFC Transportation Houston, TX United States		Certificate Number: 2025-1275556																					
2 Name of governmental entity or state agency that is a party to the contract for which the form is being filed. Texas Southern University		Date Filed: 02/27/2025																					
3 Provide the identification number used by the governmental entity or state agency to track or identify the contract, and provide a description of the services, goods, or other property to be provided under the contract. RFP 717-25-715 Campus Shuttle Bus Services		Date Acknowledged:																					
4		Nature of interest (check applicable)																					
Name of Interested Party	City, State, Country (place of business)	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"><thead><tr><th style="width: 50%; padding: 2px;">Controlling</th><th style="width: 50%; padding: 2px;">Intermediary</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;">X</td><td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;"></td></tr><tr><td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;"></td><td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;"></td></tr><tr><td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;"></td><td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;"></td></tr><tr><td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;"></td><td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;"></td></tr><tr><td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;"></td><td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;"></td></tr><tr><td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;"></td><td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;"></td></tr><tr><td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;"></td><td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;"></td></tr><tr><td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;"></td><td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;"></td></tr><tr><td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;"></td><td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;"></td></tr></tbody></table>		Controlling	Intermediary	X																	
Controlling	Intermediary																						
X																							
Ferrari, John	Houston, TX United States																						
5 Check only if there is NO Interested Party. ☐																							
6 UNSWORN DECLARATION																							
My name is <u>Denae Richards</u> , and my date of birth is <u>03/03/1965</u> .																							
My address is <u>1505 Skyline Rd</u> , <u>Grand Prairie</u> , <u>TX</u> , <u>75051</u> , <u>US</u> . (street) (city) (state) (zip code) (country)																							
I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.																							
Executed in <u>Dallas</u> County, State of <u>Texas</u> , on the <u>27</u> day of <u>February</u> , 20 <u>25</u> . (month) (year)																							
 _____ Signature of authorized agent of contracting business entity (Declarant)																							