

Biohazard and Sharps Cleanup Services

BACKGROUND

The New Orleans Regional Transit Authority (NORTA) requires a Vendor to provide on-call removal, decontamination, transportation, and disposal of biohazardous waste, not limited to used hypodermic needles ("sharps") and associated biological fluids. This program will ensure the health and safety of transit riders, RTA employees, and the general public across NORTA's transit system, including bus stops, streetcar stations, and transit hubs.

SCOPE OF WORK

The Vendor shall furnish all labor, tools and equipment necessary for the complete and satisfactory performance of cleanup and disposal of hazardous materials on NORTA's transit system in accordance with the following requirements:

- The Vendor will provide properly trained and vaccinated individuals for hazardous material cleanup and/or large scale needle pickup;
- The Vendor shall properly dispose of the hazardous material.
- The Vendor must be able to respond within:
 - 2 hours for any incident that places a transit vehicle out of service or requires a stop closure.
 - 4 hours for any incident in public-facing areas that can be isolated without disrupting service.
 - 24 hours for non-emergency cleanup requests.
- The Vendor will provide NORTA with a contact phone number that is checked regularly throughout the day and night, to ensure rapid and proper response to calls for cleanup services. The contact phone number may be a cell phone, live answering service, or an office phone that is staffed 24 hours per day.

REQUIREMENTS

The Vendor must:

- Have been regularly and actively engaging in performing hazardous material cleanup services at residential, commercial, or industrial property or similar type experience that demonstrates the ability to respond to and perform services as described herein for a minimum of one (1) year.
- Have experience working in communities with vulnerable populations, such as unhoused individuals.
- Provide the name and contact information of at least one (1) entity the Vendor is currently contracted with to provide similar biohazard remediation service, to illustrate the ability to act as the primary conveyer in accordance with specifications of this request for bid.

HOURS OF WORK

- The Vendor must be available to respond to NORTA 24-hours a day including weekdays, weekends, and holidays.

CONTRACTOR'S PERSONNEL

- The Vendor shall only use trained personnel who are directly employed and supervised by the Vendor.
- All Vendor personnel must have knowledge of and follow:
 - Bloodborne Pathogen Safety (OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens Standard 29 CFR 1910.1030)
 - Hazardous Waste Operations (HAZWOPER) awareness
 - Proper use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- The Vendor shall ensure all personnel performing on-site biohazard and sharps remediation are certified in NORTA's Roadway Worker Protection (RWP) program. Certification must be completed within six (6) weeks of the Notice to Proceed (NTP). No personnel shall perform work within the NORTA Right-of-Way (ROW) without a valid RWP credential.
- Collection personnel shall use FDA-cleared, puncture-resistant, leak-proof, and labeled sharps containers for all collections.
- Collection personnel shall use mechanical tongs or forceps for pickup; under no circumstances shall personnel use bare hands or manipulate needles (e.g. bending/breaking) prior to disposal.
- Vendor must provide proof that all field staff have been offered the Hepatitis B vaccination series.

DISPOSAL AND CHAIN OF CUSTODY

- All collected waste must be transported to a permitted treatment and disposal facility.
- Vendor must provide a "Medical Waste Tracking Form" or manifest for every pickup, documenting the chain of custody from point of collection to final destruction.

REPORTING AND INVOICING

- Vendor shall submit a digital report for each site visit including:
 - Date, time, and specific location (e.g. Riverfront Streetcar Stop)
 - Number/estimated volume of sharps collected
 - Before and After photos of the cleanup site
- Invoices shall be itemized by location and date.