

January 12, 2010

In re: REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) FOR THE PROVISION OF SHORT-TERM CASH  
MANAGEMENT FUNDS TRANSACTIONAL INVESTMENT SERVICES

Dear Interested Party:

The County of Columbus (hereinafter referred to as the "County") Finance Office is requesting proposals from the broker/dealer community for the provision of cash management related services and activities.

The County manages an operational portfolio ranging in size from \$15 million to \$22 million, which is comprised mainly of money market instruments. Authority to manage these monies is derived from North Carolina General Statute, Section 159-30, and granted to the Finance Director, hereinafter referred to as the Investment Officer.

The County is soliciting proposals from qualified broker/dealer firms. The successful bidder(s) will facilitate transactional protocols applicable to the investment of the County's short-term operating funds, and consistent with the County's Investment Policy, approved by the Columbus County Board of Commissioners on September 21, 2009.

The RFP package and Investment Policy files are also accessible on the County's website at: <http://www.columbusco.org> by visiting the Home Page, selecting Finance Office in the County's Departments drop down box, and clicking "Go".

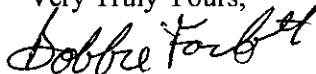
The RFP contains the service requirements, proposal content and format requirements, a description of the proposal selection process, accompanying Exhibit(s).

Firms that fulfill the minimum mandatory requirements set forth in Exhibit A, Broker/Dealer Request for Information, Sections I and II, are invited to submit a proposal to provide the services described further in the Statement of Work section of the RFP.

Potential proposers should carefully review the RFP and ensure that their proposal complies with all RFP requirements.

Responses must be prepared in accordance with the proposal submission requirements of the RFP. **Proposals are due no later than 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time, February 8, 2010**, and shall be delivered or mailed to: Bobbie Faircloth, Columbus County Finance Director, Columbus County Government, 111 Washington Street, Whiteville, NC 28472. Proposals received after the scheduled deadline will not be accepted and shall be returned to the sender unopened.

Very Truly Yours,



Bobbie Faircloth  
Columbus County Finance Director