

From: [Joey Sanchez](#)
To: [Maureen Lewis](#)
Cc: [Elizabeth Ramirez](#); [James Hemphill](#); [Sayd Hussain](#); [Marie N. Cine](#); [Yvette Zuluaga](#); [Francisco Touron](#)
Subject: [-EXTERNAL-] RE: Bid # 12504-613 (Annual Construction of General Stormwater Infrastructure) - CONTRACT PAYMENT METHOD
Date: Thursday, September 30, 2021 11:47:45 AM
Attachments: [image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)

Maureen,

Good morning. The Stout Group, LLC **WILL NOT** accept the P-Card as payment. **YOU** let me know what the City decides so we can take appropriate measures.

Thank you,



Joey Sanchez, PE

THE STOUT GROUP, LLC.

10850 NW 138th STREET | BAY #3 | HIALEAH GARDENS, FL 33018

M - 305.216.8406 | F - 305.397.2311 | jsanchez@thestoutgroup.com

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From: Maureen Lewis <MLewis@fortlauderdale.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2021 11:29 AM
To: Joey Sanchez <jsanchez@thestoutgroup.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Ramirez <eramirez@thestoutgroup.com>; James Hemphill <JHemphill@fortlauderdale.gov>; Sayd Hussain <SHussain@fortlauderdale.gov>; Marie N. Cine <MCine@fortlauderdale.gov>; Yvette Zuluaga <yzuluaga@thestoutgroup.com>
Subject: RE: Bid # 12504-613 (Annual Construction of General Stormwater Infrastructure) - CONTRACT PAYMENT METHOD

Hi Joey,

I had previously discussed this matter with Yvette in July when she sought clarification on it and SunTrust's role. As mentioned, it was indicated in the solicitation that payment on this project will be made by P-Card, and Stout subsequently signed the related form agreeing to accept payment by Master Card (attached in my 9/29/2021 e-mail).

For clarification, I was simply responding to Yvette's 9/29/2021 e-mail where she mentioned that "**Joey and Elizabeth had a meeting about a month ago and they were told we did not have to proceed with this payment method. We have never used this payment method and prefer to get paid directly by the City of Fort Lauderdale.**"

My understanding from said e-mail is the members of your group, Joey & Elizabeth, met with someone (unknown to Procurement) and decided that Stout doesn't need to honor the P-Card agreement. I didn't see any City personnel mentioned/copied in the e-mail. Please note that Procurement should be included/consulted on any decisions/matters relating to the solicitation and its requirements; we (Procurement) were neither involved or had knowledge of this meeting or the information conveyed to you.

Nonetheless, please let us know the status of the P-Card matter, so the City can decide on what, if any, next step(s) to take.

Hope this helps to clarify any misunderstanding that may have existed.

Maureen Lewis MBA, CPPB | Senior Procurement Specialist

City of Fort Lauderdale | Procurement Services Division

100 N. Andrews Ave. | Fort Lauderdale FL 33301

P (954) 828-5239 | F (954) 828-5576 | maureenl@fortlauderdale.gov



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*"A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger."
[Proverbs 15:1]*

From: Joey Sanchez <jsanchez@thestoutgroup.com>

Sent: Wednesday, September 29, 2021 11:57 AM

To: Maureen Lewis <MLewis@fortlauderdale.gov>; Yvette Zuluaga <yzuluaga@thestoutgroup.com>

Cc: Elizabeth Ramirez <eramirez@thestoutgroup.com>; Marie N. Cine <MCine@fortlauderdale.gov>;

James Hemphill <JHemphill@fortlauderdale.gov>; Sayd Hussain <SHussain@fortlauderdale.gov>;

Marie N. Cine <MCine@fortlauderdale.gov>

Subject: [-EXTERNAL-] RE: Bid # 12504-613 (Annual Construction of General Stormwater Infrastructure) - CONTRACT PAYMENT METHOD

Maureen,

Good morning. I particularly am not a fan of argumentative emails. I believe they are counterproductive and undermine a healthy working relationship within the project team of which

we all have a role for the tax payers of Fort Lauderdale. It is my humble opinion that the tax payers of the City of Fort Lauderdale can only benefit from a project team working in harmony.

If we have done something wrong, I apologize in advance as this is the first project we perform for the City of Fort Lauderdale in the middle of a pandemic where we are still trying to get our bearings in the “new norm.”

Maybe the tone of the email was misunderstood but Mrs. Zuluaga was not implying anything. She was simply informing you of what the City’s Project Manager said to us in the Preconstruction meeting when we asked the question.

Nevertheless, I assure you that The Stout Group has, and always will, abide by its contractual obligations. I am not sure if the project manager for the contract has the authority to make these decisions or not. I would need the City to advise me on that.

Thank you,



Joey Sanchez, PE
THE STOUT GROUP, LLC.
10850 NW 138th STREET | BAY #3 | HIALEAH GARDENS, FL 33018
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From: Maureen Lewis <MLewis@fortlauderdale.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 28, 2021 4:14 PM
To: Yvette Zuluaga <yzuluaga@thestoutgroup.com>
Cc: Joey Sanchez <jsanchez@thestoutgroup.com>; Elizabeth Ramirez <eramirez@thestoutgroup.com>; Marie N. Cine <MCine@fortlauderdale.gov>; James Hemphill <JHemphill@fortlauderdale.gov>
Subject: RE: Bid # 12504-613 (Annual Construction of General Stormwater Infrastructure) - CONTRACT PAYMENT METHOD

That’s news to me!! Are you implying then that the vendor (Stout), although it signed the bid documents, doesn’t have to abide by the City’s (agency/owner) Solicitation requirements?

Maureen Lewis **MBA, CPPB** | Senior Procurement Specialist
City of Fort Lauderdale | Procurement Services Division
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*“A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.”
[Proverbs 15:1]*

From: Yvette Zuluaga <yzuluaga@thestoutgroup.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 28, 2021 3:29 PM
To: Maureen Lewis <MLewis@fortlauderdale.gov>
Cc: Joey Sanchez <jsanchez@thestoutgroup.com>; Elizabeth Ramirez <eramirez@thestoutgroup.com>; Marie N. Cine <MCine@fortlauderdale.gov>
Subject: [-EXTERNAL-] RE: Bid # 12504-613 (Annual Construction of General Stormwater Infrastructure) - CONTRACT PAYMENT METHOD

Hi Maureen,

Joey and Elizabeth had a meeting about a month ago and they were told we did not have to proceed with this payment method. We have never used this payment method and prefer to get paid directly by the City of Fort Lauderdale.

Thank you,

Yvette Zuluaga
The Stout Group LLC
M: 786-355-7627

From: Maureen Lewis <MLewis@fortlauderdale.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 28, 2021 1:58 PM
To: Yvette Zuluaga <yzuluaga@thestoutgroup.com>
Cc: Joey Sanchez <jsanchez@thestoutgroup.com>
Subject: RE: Bid # 12504-613 (Annual Construction of General Stormwater Infrastructure) - CONTRACT PAYMENT METHOD

Good afternoon Yvette,
Suntrust, our P-Card administrator has indicated that your company has yet to finalize the process

for P-Card acceptance.

As indicated in the solicitation, payment on this contract will be made by P-Card. Furthermore, by signing the related Contract Payment Method form (attached), The Stout Group had agreed to accept payment by Master Card as well as the terms of the contract. Therefore, please provide an update on this matter **no later than by close of business on Thursday, September 30, 2021.**

Thank you.

Maureen Lewis MBA, CPPB | Senior Procurement Specialist

City of Fort Lauderdale | Procurement Services Division

100 N. Andrews Ave. | Fort Lauderdale FL 33301

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[Proverbs 15:1]*

From: Yvette Zuluaga <yzuluaga@thestoutgroup.com>

Sent: Tuesday, July 27, 2021 3:14 PM

To: Maureen Lewis <MLewis@fortlauderdale.gov>

Subject: [-EXTERNAL-] Bid # 12504-613

Good afternoon Maureen,

We were contacted by Suntrust for the Contract we were awarded Bid # 12504-613.

Is the credit card payment the only method? Never received payments this way nor do we have a merchant. Please call me or email me to make sure we are on the same page.

Thank you,

Yvette Zuluaga



THE STOUT GROUP, LLC.

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