



HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Office of Management and Budget 1001 Preston; Suite 500 Houston, TX 77002 713-274-1135

Grants Coordination Section - Conveyance Form Application Award

Department Name / Number		DUNS	Grant Title	
Community Services - 289		JFMKAENLGN81	IFS Laboratory (CDS) FY 23	
Funding Source: U.S. Department of Commerce: CFDA# 11.617		Grant Agency: U.S. Department of Commerce		
Program Year: 1 st		Program Ending:		
Grant Begin Date: 01/01/2024		Grant End Date: 12/31/2025		
Grant Org. Key:		If applicable, Prior Year Org. Key: N/A		

Grant Description:

This grant is administered through the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), an agency of the United States Department of Commerce whose mission is to promote American innovation and industrial competitiveness. NIST's activities are organized into physical science laboratory programs that include nanoscale science and technology, engineering, information technology, neutron research, material measurement, and physical measurement.

	Total Budget	Grant Funded	County Funded
Salary & Benefits	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Non-Labor	\$12,042,360.00	\$12,042,360.00	\$0.00
Sub Tot. Incremental Cost	\$12,042,360.00	\$12,042,360.00	\$0.00
Indirect Cost	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00*
TOTALS	\$12,042,360.00	\$12,042,360.00	\$0.00

* under development

Full Time Equivalent Positions

% of Positions Paid by Grant

Date Guidelines are Available

Grant Submittal Deadline Date

Grant Discussion:

This project was approved as part of the FY23 Congressionally Directed Spending program. The grantor requires that a formal application be submitted to the grantor. Community Services, Engineering and the Institute of Forensic Sciences are collaborating on this project, which entails relocating an existing laboratory to the main IFS building, and adding capacity of over 13,000 square feet, and will have the added benefit of co-locating staff so they can work to reduce backlogs of forensics cases. There is no match required. The application is still being developed, and will be reviewed by GCS prior to submission.

County Funded Cost Projection

Year	Required	Discretionary
2023	-	-
2024	-	-
2025	-	-
2026	-	-
2027	-	-

Completed by: Michael Mattingly Mattingly, Mike

Date: 5/9/23

Reviewed by: [Signature]

Date: 5/9/23

ORDER

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF HARRIS

On this, the 16th day of May, 2023, the Commissioners' Court of Harris County, Texas, sitting as the governing body of Harris County, upon motion of Commissioner _____, seconded by Commissioner _____, duly put and carried,

IT IS ORDERED that County Judge Lina Hidalgo or her designee be hereby authorized to approve, and on behalf of Harris County, Texas, to apply for, the following grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce:

IFS Laboratory (CDS) FY '23

Application Amount:	\$12,042,360
Grant Period:	1/1/24 – 12/31/25

Entity: Harris County, Texas

Project: Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences Design and Renovation

Awarded Amount: \$12,042,360

Project Narrative:

A. Impact

- i. Purpose - The Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences (HCIFS) is a science-based, operation that delivers two distinct forensic services for Harris County as well as other neighboring counties - the Medical Examiner Services and the Crime Laboratory Services. While each service has its own objectives, they are jointly dedicated to providing statutorily required services to Harris County and the criminal justice system.

The existing 9-story HCIFS building, located at 1861 Old Spanish Trail, Houston, TX 77054, is approximately 208,000 GSF, which includes a laboratory tower and one-story morgue. The proposed federal funding will be applied to planning and design, construction, materials testing and other project-related expenses. .

The build-out will increase the size of the Forensic Genetics Lab by over 11,000 sf; providing approximately 55% more square footage than the current space, and the space is 100% County owned. The three shell floors at 1861 Old Spanish Trail that are not currently occupied will be built-out, adding an additional 13,000+ square feet, allowing for the co-location of various Divisions within HCIFS.

Currently, HCIFS is split among two different facilities, both of which are undersized. This project addresses the necessary expansions and consolidations to improve operations. The expansion requires the relocation of several Divisions within HCIFS to provide room for staff growth and additional services. The project will also provide for renovation and technological updates of the Medical Examiner morgue area and autopsy suites, relocation and expansion of the Forensic Genetics (DNA) Laboratory, currently located off-site at 2450 Holcombe Boulevard, expansion of Evidence Intake and storage as well as Information Technology, and addition of centralized breakroom and staff wellness / exercise area, and assessment and potential replacement of morgue and toxicology storage coolers, as well as building HVAC system. This includes the build-out of three existing shell floors currently unoccupied in the main HCIFS building.

Currently, HCIFS has no space to accommodate steadily rising caseloads, particularly in the morgue where there is a great need to assess the decedent cooler storage space for potential replacement. Without the renovation, HCIFS will also have no space to relocate / expand the Forensic Genetics Laboratory. The relocation of the Forensic Genetics Lab is necessary to allow DNA testing to keep up with the rising caseload and provide additional services that cannot be accommodated in the current Forensic Genetics Lab space.

ii. Activities to be Performed - Funds will be spent on engineering and construction related activities necessary to expand the functions of the existing building. The primary change will be to build out shell space to house forensic laboratory functions presently located at a separate, leased facility. Consolidation of the laboratory with the bulk of the forensic functions housed in the existing building will bring virtually all of the department's staff to a single location, increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of vital operations. Other system-level upgrades and improvements to the existing building may also be included if budget allows. This will result in the Medical Examiner Services (Morgue Services, Morgue and toxicology storage coolers, and Property DNA & Information Systems) and the Crime Laboratory Services (Forensic Genetics, Forensic Toxicology, Drug Chemistry, Trace Evidence, and Evidence Intake & Firearms Identification) to be enhanced and consolidated.

iii. Expected Outcomes – Increasing the operational capacity of the HCIFS is one part of a holistic strategy to address the County's rise in crime. This expansion and consolidation will help improve the criminal justice system. For instance, greater efficiency in forensic analysis can help reduce the criminal case backlog.

HCIFS morgue assessment is a necessity as the Medical Examiner Services have seen a dramatic increase in cases and decedents being transported to the morgue. The HCIFS morgue and toxicology storage coolers have outgrown its current cold storage space and must assess its capacity for potential replacement.

Forensic Genetics Lab will allow HCIFS units to more easily work together and collaborate by being housed all in one facility. It will also help improve communications and operations and will ensure a more reliable chain of custody for evidence being received and tested by HCIFS. The relocation will also allow the Lab to provide greater and more efficient services to its customers.

The expected outcomes will be to:

- Schedule and facilitate completion of 90% of autopsies within 48 hours,
- Complete sexual assault DNA cases within 90 days,
- Complete homicide/death investigation DNA cases within 90 days;
- Ensure quality and expedient customer service to decedent families; and
- Lower long-term costs by consolidating the Forensic Genetics Lab with other core HCIFS Divisions in one location.

iv. Intended Beneficiaries

- a. General population
- b. Crime victims
- c. Defendants
- d. Law enforcement and Judicial system

v. Other funding participants or subrecipients

No other funding participants

B. Summary

- i. 208,000 existing building space in gross square footage (gsf)
- ii. renovated building space in sf
- iii. the use or occupancy type of each space
- iv. 1861 Old Spanish Trail site location and size in sf
- v. any (non-building) equipment under the award

C. Documents -Provide available studies, images, schematics, and design drawings. Explain the planned or completed steps, e.g., planning, land acquisition, environmental considerations, design, construction, and inspection provisions.

- i. Attachment: Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences Master Plan, 2021
- ii. After the award, a Request for Qualifications will be submitted for professional architectural and engineering services for planning and design. After design is completed, construction will commence.

D. Permits –Building permitting will be through the City of Houston and Harris County Fire Marshalls Office.

E. Constraints - Describe any design or construction constraints for the proposed project, to include existing conditions, e.g., utility, road, and pre-existing building infrastructure

F. Construction Procurement – The project will be procured under traditional design/bid/build under sealed competitive bidding, consistent with 2 C.F.R. § 200.320(c).

G. Schedule - Provide a timeline to identify project milestones and status of each phase of the project from the preliminary planning to the target occupancy date.

Anticipated Project Timeline:	
Project Milestones	Estimated Completion Date
Preliminary Planning	Completed
Design	Q1 2024
Construction Bidding	Q3 2024
Permitting	Q2 2024
Bid Award and Notice to Proceed	Q4 2024
Construction/Renovation	Q4 2025
Target Occupancy	Q1 2026

Key Personnel - Identify all key personnel associated with the management of the project.

Personnel Name	Job Title	Description of role on project	Email
Patrick Mandapaka	Director Of Community Resilience	Project Management - Engineering	patrick.mandapaka@eng.hctx.net
Christy Lambright	Directory of Disaster Recovery & Resiliency	Application developer	Christy.lambright@csd.hctx.net
Lina Hidalgo	County Judge	Harris County's Authorized Officer	cjograntsnotification@hctx.net
Jenna Ford	Environmental Contact	Environmental documentation contact	jenna.ford@harriscountytexas.gov

Budget Justification Narrative –

- i. Completed SF-424 and SF-424C forms attached.
- ii. Provide a basis for the determination of construction costs and contingencies.
 - a. Construction Cost estimates represent the opinion of probable construction costs for this project using information available for the current market conditions. Estimates are based on professional consultant cost estimates provided by CCS Inc., which included design contingency funding, Overhead & Profit. In addition, since the pandemic, the construction market is very fluid and might further have implications on construction costs that could occur moving forward. A 5% escalation fee has been factored in.
- iii. If separate contracts are anticipated for demolition or site work, provide a separate detailed cost estimate for these components. If demolition or site work will not be separate contracts, include the costs in the overall detailed construction cost estimate. Information on cost allowability is available in subpart E to 2 CFR Part 200 (Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards), which applies to awards in this program.
 - a. N/A

Budget Information - Construction Programs

SF-424C - Budget Information for Construction Programs

Harris County

Institute of Forensic Sciences Design and Renovation

Date

1-May-23

Awarded Amount

\$12,042,360

Cost Classification	Budget Justification Statement	a. Total Cost of Project
1. Administrative and legal Expenses	Costs for internal project management by County	\$ -
2. Land, structures, rights-of-way, appraisals, etc	n/a	\$ -
3. Relocation expenses and payments	n/a	\$ -
4. Architectural and engineering fees/costs	Anticipated costs for architectural and engineering services for the architectural planning, design services, construction administration, and project management	\$ 1,501,500.00
5. Other architectural and engineering fees	Construction Material Testing	\$ 40,000.00
6. Project inspection fees	City of Houston Permitting fee	\$ 60,000.00
7. Site work	n/a	\$ -
8. Demolition and removal	n/a	\$ -
9. Construction	Provides for renovation costs of the 208,000 GSF facility. Includes architectural, MEP, HVAC, and sprinkler	\$ 11,550,000.00
10. Equipment	Provides for IT/AV, Security and FF&E	\$ 2,028,700.00
11. Miscellaneous	A 5% escalation costs is factored in due to the fluidity of the construction market	\$ 739,200.00
12. SUBTOTAL (sum of lines 1-11)		\$ 15,919,400.00
13. Contingencies	Provides funding to resolve unanticipated expenditures required during the construction process.	\$ 1,732,500.00
14. SUBTOTAL		\$ 17,651,900.00
15. Project (program) income	none	\$ -
16. TOTAL PROJECT COSTS (subtract #15 from #14)		\$ 17,651,900.00

b. Costs Not Allowable for Participation	c. Total Allowable Costs (a-b)
\$ -	\$ -
\$ -	\$ -
\$ -	\$ -
\$ -	\$ 1,501,500.00
\$ -	\$ 40,000.00
\$ -	\$ 60,000.00
\$ -	\$ -
\$ -	\$ -
\$ 3,486,500.00	\$ 8,063,500.00
\$ 1,399,591.25	\$ 629,108.75
\$ 200,473.75	\$ 538,726.25
\$ 5,086,565.00	\$ 10,832,835.00
\$ 522,975.00	\$ 1,209,525.00
\$ 5,609,540.00	\$ 12,042,360.00
\$ -	\$ -
\$ 5,609,540.00	\$ 12,042,360.00