

## **Grayson County Regional Mobility Authority Conflict of Interest Policy for Financial Team Members**

The Grayson County Regional Mobility Authority (GCRMA) anticipates utilizing outside consultants for a significant portion of the work necessary to develop financial plans for the financing of specific GCRMA projects and for advice concerning the overall management of the GCRMA's financial affairs. The GCRMA also anticipates developing projects through a variety of means, including through private sector involvement and contracts which combine various elements of the work necessary for design, construction, financing, operation and/or maintenance of projects. The GCRMA recognizes that many of the same individuals and firms that provide financial planning and advisory services to it may also have, or previously have had, some business relationship with individuals and firms seeking to do business with the GCRMA. To assure that any such relationships are fully disclosed and so as to assure that the impartiality of the individuals and firms working for the GCRMA on financial matters is not compromised, individuals and firms working for the GCRMA, and those seeking to do business with the GCRMA, must adhere to the following procedures:

1. The GCRMA shall maintain, on its website and in the records of the authority, a list of key financial personnel and firms performing work for the GCRMA. At a minimum, this group will include the GCRMA's financial advisor(s), bond counsel, accountants and auditors, and investment banking firms which are part of an underwriting syndicate for any GCRMA project. Other individuals or firms may be classified as GCRMA key financial personnel at the sole discretion of the authority.

2. Any individual, firm, or team (including individual team members) submitting a proposal (including an unsolicited proposal and a response to a solicited proposal) to the GCRMA to perform work for the authority shall disclose in its submittal the existence of any current or previous (defined as one terminating within 12 months prior to submission of the proposal) business relationship with any of the GCRMA's key financial personnel. The disclosure shall include information on the nature of the relationship, the current status, and the date of termination (or expected termination, if known) of the relationship. *Failure to make the disclosure required in this paragraph is grounds for rejection of the proposal and disqualification from further consideration for the project or work which is the subject of the proposal.*

3. Separate and apart from the disclosure required to be made by proposers under the preceding paragraph, any key financial personnel of the GCRMA must disclose the existence of any current or previous business relationship with any individual, firm, or team (including team members) making a proposal to provide goods or services or a proposal to perform work to be supervised. *Failure to make the disclosure required in this paragraph is grounds for termination of work by the key financial personnel failing to make the disclosure.* Disclosures required under this paragraph shall be made to the GCRMA's general counsel within three business days of receipt of information from the GCRMA concerning the identity of a proposer (including its team members and known subconsultants). Disclosures shall be made in accordance with paragraph 6 below.

4. For any disclosures required under paragraphs 2 or 3 above, the affected key financial personnel shall complete and submit the form attached hereto as Attachment A. (Submittal of such form shall be sufficient to constitute the disclosure required under paragraph 3 above.) Completion of the required information is necessary to provide the GCRMA with information to assess the nature of the prior or current business relationships, the role of individuals and firms involved, internal safeguards which may be implemented by the key financial personnel to protect against access to, or disclosure of, information, and the potential for the prior or current business relationship to compromise the independence of the affected key financial personnel.

5. Except for investment banking firms, key financial personnel shall not be permitted to be part of a team (as a partner, subconsultant, or in any other capacity) proposing or competing to develop a transportation project through a comprehensive development agreement. Investment banking firms shall not be permitted to participate in a syndicate of firms designated by the GCRMA to participate in the financing of a GCRMA project and also be part of a team (as a partner, subconsultant, or in any other capacity) proposing or competing to develop that same project (or a variation of that project). Investment banking firms may be part of a team proposing or competing to develop a project for which they have not been designated as part of the underwriting syndicate for that project by the GCRMA. These prohibitions are intended to preclude key financial personnel from working both for the GCRMA and for (or with) entities seeking to do business with the GCRMA in a manner which would result in or create the appearance of conflicting loyalties in financial matters.

6. The GCRMA's general counsel shall be responsible for compiling and presenting to the Board of Directors information concerning all conflict of interest disclosures (e.g., those contained in proposals and those made by key financial personnel). The Board of Directors shall determine whether to permit the affected key financial personnel to continue its work on the proposal or the work giving rise to the conflict, and if such work is permitted to continue, the safeguards to be implemented as a condition of the continuation. *If continuation of work is approved subject to the implementation of safeguards, failure to implement and maintain those measures is grounds for termination of that work and any further work for the authority.* If the Board of Directors does not approve of the continuation of work by the key financial personnel, the key financial personnel shall immediately cease any work and shall turn over all records concerning such work to the authority.

7. These policies and procedures may be amended or modified at any time action of the GCRMA board of directors. Key financial personnel and proposers seeking do business with the GCRMA are responsible for complying with these policies and procedures as amended from time to time.