Request for Proposal

Men’s Baseball Equipment

July 1, 2004

Issued by
Procurement Services
Charlottesville, Virginia
Men’s Baseball Equipment
Request for Proposal #RW070104
July 1, 2004

This Request for Proposal (RFP) has been posted on Procurement Services web site for your convenience. Addenda and attachments are posted if issued. It is the firm’s responsibility to ensure that the entire RFP and associated links, in its latest version, is reviewed prior to due date of a proposal. To receive a hard copy of the RFP or addenda, please contact Becky Sims, Contracts Administrator, at (434) 924.1346 or email pur-rfp@virginia.edu. For questions about the content of the RFP, contact the buyer listed in Section VI, Proposal Deadline. Additional information can be found on Procurement Services web site: http://www.virginia.edu/procurement/

The University of Virginia (the “University”) seeks a qualified firm to provide baseball equipment and sponsorship to the University’s Men’s Baseball program.

For ease of reference, each firm or individual receiving this RFP is referred to as a “firm” and the firm or individual selected to provide services for the University is referred to as the “Selected Firm.” This RFP states the instructions for submitting proposals, the procedure and criteria by which a firm may be selected, and the contractual terms by which the University proposes to govern the relationship between it and the Selected Firm.

I. Background Information

When Thomas Jefferson founded the University in 1819, he intended it to be nothing less than a world-class institution of higher learning. Jefferson’s spirit lives on – not only in the Rotunda and Academical Village he designed, and which remain treasures of American architecture, but in the University’s standing as a leader in education, research, and community service.

The over 23,500 students attending the University work within a true meritocracy and live by an Honor Code unique among American universities. Each student is exposed to the widest spectrum of disciplines – from arts and athletics to humanities and technology. Our students also enjoy a unique connection to the world beyond college through the University’s outstanding professional training, exemplified by its nationally ranked schools of Law, Business, and Medicine. The University as a whole has had a consistently high ranking not only among public schools, where it often heads the list, but among all American universities, public and private.

Over 12,000 permanent University faculty and staff are committed to serving both the local and national community. The University makes a real difference in the world, through its invaluable research, a hospital ranked among the nation’s finest, and graduates who have consistently been among the forefront of our
nation’s shapers. At the University, our bright future is the direct result of our great history.

The University’s Men’s Baseball program has added to the prestige of the University through it’s continued success in the athletic arena. The baseball program competes in the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC), which is regarded as one of the top baseball conferences in the country. During the 2004 season, under coach Brian O’Connor’s leadership, the University’s Men’s Baseball program produced the best season in school history. The 2004 Cavaliers tied the school record for 44 wins, finished runner-up for the ACC regular season title, hosted an NCAA regional for the first time in school history, was selected as #1 seed in NCAA regional, and was ranked as high as # 7 in national polls during the season.

II. Scope of Goods and Services

It is the University's intent to enter into an Agreement with a Selected Firm for those services (“Goods and Services”) necessary to help the University achieve its goals as outlined in this RFP. The Selected Firm will provide these Goods and Services:

A. Equipment
   The University’s Men’s Baseball team has the following minimum baseball equipment requirements for the 2004-2005 academic year.
   - Aluminum Bats – 100
   - Wood Bats – 60
   - Batting Gloves – 150 pair
   - Fielding Gloves – 45
   - Wristbands – 90 pair
   - Batting Helmets – 24
   - Catchers Gear – 6 sets
   - Game Day Field Bags – 40
   - Travel Bags – 40
   - Fungos – 6
   - T-Shirts – 500
   - Golf Shirts - 50

B. Consideration
   The University will provide the following considerations to the Selected Firm.
   1. Use of the Selected Firm’s products by the University’s Men’s Baseball team, with the exception of individual fitting or physical problems.
   2. Personal appearances by the University’s head Men’s Baseball coach.
3. Use of the University’s name and the name of its head Men’s Baseball coach in promotional efforts after obtaining written approval from the Director of the University’s Department of Athletics.

4. Evaluation of new products and samples, of any item, which would be provided to the University under the terms of an Agreement.

In addition to the provision of equipment requirements the Selected Firm may provide sponsorship and financial support to the University’s Men’s Baseball program. The support can be in the form of financial consideration, advertising, promotion and marketing of the University’s Men’s Baseball program.

III. Basis of Selection

The University will evaluate proposals, and if a firm is to be selected, select the firm on the basis of:

A. The firm's plan to provide the University with the Goods and Services as described in Section II, Scope of Goods and Services;
B. The firm’s experience in providing Goods and Services similar to those described in this RFP, and the experience of the individuals which the firm proposes to provide such Goods and Services;
C. The firm’s references from clients which are comparable to the University;
D. The firm’s financial proposal;
E. The contractual terms which would govern the relationship between the University and the Selected Firm;
F. Any other factors relevant to the firm’s capacity and willingness to satisfy the University; and
G. The quality of the firm’s products.

IV. Contents of Proposal

Firms should provide this information:

A. Services
   1. State the firm’s ability to provide the Services as described in Section II, Scope of Services. Provide a brief history of the firm and its experience, qualifications and success in providing these Services.
   2. Describe the experience of the individual(s) who would be responsible for providing the Services to the University.
   3. Describe in detail how the firm plans to provide the Services detailed in Section II, Scope of Services.
   4. State the firm’s references comparable to the University, including the name and telephone number of a contact person the University may call.
B. Financial Proposal
1. Describe the firm’s proposed support for the University’s Men’s Baseball program. Include the annual amount of equipment, advertising, promotional, marketing and financial consideration.
2. A copy of the firm's most recent audited financial statements.

C. Contractual Arrangements
1. State the firm’s acceptance of Attachment 1, Mandatory Contractual Provisions;
2. State the firm’s acceptance, with any proposed modifications, of Attachment 2, Preferred Contractual Provisions; and
3. Provide any contract the firm will request that the University sign.

D. Virginia Freedom of Information Act
Except as provided below, once an award is announced, all proposals submitted in response to this RFP will be open to the inspection of any interested person, firm or corporation, in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. Trade secrets or proprietary information submitted by firms as part of its proposal will not be subject to public disclosure under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; however, the firm must invoke the protections of this section prior to or upon submission of its proposal, and must identify the specific data or other materials to be protected and state the reasons why protection is necessary. Firms may not request that its entire proposal be treated as proprietary information.

E. Small, Women-owned and Minority (SWAM) Status
Specify whether the firm is a SWAM firm. The Commonwealth of Virginia’s definition of a SWAM firm is

- **Small Business** means a corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship or other legal entity formed for the purpose of making a profit, which is independently owned and operated, and has fewer than 100 employees or less than $1,000,000 in annual gross receipts.
- **Women-owned business** means a business concern that is at least 51 percent owned by a non-ethnic woman or women (a minority woman is considered as a minority) who are U.S. citizens and who also control and operate it. "Control" in this context means exercising the power to make policy decisions. "Operate" in this context means being actively involved in the day-to-day management of the business. “Ownership” in this context includes stock ownership.
- **Minority-owned business** means any business concern that is at least 51 percent owned by a minority individual or individuals
Who are U.S. citizens) who also control and operate it. “Control,” “Operate,” and “Ownership” have the same meanings mentioned above. "Minority" includes African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, Asian-Pacific Americans, Subcontinent-Asian Americans, and other minorities. "Native Americans" include American Indians, Eskimos, Aleuts and Native Hawaiians. "Asian-Pacific Americans" include U.S. citizens whose origins are in Japan, China, the Philippines, Vietnam, Korea, Samoa, Guam, U.S. Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (Republic of Palau), Northern Marina Islands, Laos, Kampuchea (Cambodia), Taiwan, Burma, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, Brunei, Republic of the Marshall Islands, or the Federated States of Micronesia. "Subcontinent- Asian Americans" include U.S. Citizens whose origins are in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, or Nepal.

If the firm is not a SWAM firm, describe the firm’s partnering relationships with SWAM firms and how it plans to support the University’s goal to increase business annually by 5% with these firms.

V. Preproposal Conference

A conference for firms receiving this RFP will be held on Wednesday, July 14, 2004 at 11:30a.m. EST in Carruthers Hall, Conference Room G, Charlottesville, Virginia (map enclosed or viewed at this web site: http://www.virginia.edu/Map/). Firms may either participate in the Preproposal Conference in person, or be connected via conference call. Attendance at this conference is advised if your firm wishes to raise any questions in connection with this RFP. Please print a copy of the RFP and bring it with you as no additional copies will be provided at the conference. No firm may have more than two representatives present at the conference.

Firms planning to attend the Preproposal Conference should notify Becky Sims, (434) 924-1346 or via email (pur-rfp@virginia.edu) no later than 4:00 p.m. on Monday, July 12, 2004 of the names and titles of the individuals who will attend.

VI. Proposal Deadline

All proposals must be received at the University of Virginia, Procurement Services, 1001 North Emmet Street, Carruthers Hall, P. O. Box 400202, 1001 North Emmet Street, Charlottesville, VA 22904-4202 by 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 21, 2004. Five copies of each proposal must be provided.

Any questions concerning this RFP will be directed to Robert Wilson as listed below and not to any other person at the University. The University will
determine whether any addenda should be issued as a result of any questions raised or other matters raised.

Robert Wilson, Buyer Specialist
Telephone: (434) 982-3092
Fax: (434) 982-2690
TDD: (434) 982-HEAR
Email: rw9u@virginia.edu

VII. Procurement Schedule

Here is a brief schedule for this procurement, specifying the important dates and milestones:

Issue Date of RFP: 07/01/04
Preproposal Conference: 07/14/04
Deadline for Receipt of Proposals: 07/21/04
Oral Presentations/Negotiations: 08/05/04
Contract Award: 09/01/04
Mandatory Contractual Provisions

A. Nondiscrimination
During the performance of this Agreement, the Selected Firm will comply with the contract provisions contained in Section 2.2-4311 (1) & (2) of the Code of Virginia or any successor provisions which may be applicable to this Agreement. Also, in accordance with Section 2.2-4343.1, the University does not discriminate against faith-based organizations.

B. Conflict of Interests
The Selected Firm represents to the University that its entering into this Agreement with the University and its performance through its agents, officers and employees does not and will not involve, contribute to nor create a conflict of interest prohibited by the Virginia State and Local Government Conflict of Interests Act (Va. Code 2.2-3100 et seq), the Virginia Ethics In Public Contracting Act (Va. Code 2.2-4367 et seq), the Virginia Governmental Frauds Act (Va. Code 18.2-498.1 et seq) or any other applicable law or regulation.

C. Assignment
Neither party to this Agreement will have the right to assign this Agreement in whole or in part without the prior written consent of the other.

D. Amendments
No amendment of this Agreement will be effective unless it is reduced to writing and executed by the University's Director of Procurement Services and by the individual signing the Selected Firm's proposal or by other individuals named by either party as specified in Section E, Notices below. If the Selected Firm deviates from the terms of this Agreement without a written amendment, it does so at its own risk.

E. Notices
All notices will be given in writing and deemed given when delivered to, or deposited in the U.S. Postal Service mail, certified mail return receipt requested, and addressed to the other party as shown below.

If to the University:
Eric N. Denby, C. P. M.
Director of Procurement Services
University of Virginia
Carruthers Hall
1001 North Emmet Street
P. O. Box 40020
Charlottesville, Virginia 22904-4202
If to the Selected Firm:

The person signing the Selected Firm's proposal in response to the University's RFP, at the Selected Firm's address indicated in such proposal; or to such other person or address as either may designate for itself in writing and provide to the other.

F. Independent Contractor
The Selected Firm is not an employee of the University, but is engaged as an independent contractor. The Selected Firm will indemnify and hold harmless the Commonwealth of Virginia, the University, and its employees and agents, with respect to all withholding, Social Security, unemployment compensation and all other taxes or amounts of any kind relating to the Selected Firm's performance of this Agreement. Nothing in this Agreement will be construed as authority for the Selected Firm to make commitments which will bind the University, or to otherwise act on behalf of the University, except as the University may expressly authorize in writing.

G. Worker's Compensation and Employers Liability
The Selected Firm will comply with all federal or state laws and regulations pertaining to Worker's Compensation Requirements for insured or self-insured programs.

H. Drug-Free Workplace
The Selected Firm, its agents and employees are prohibited, under the terms of this Agreement and the Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Personnel and Training Policy Number 1.02 executed by Governor Lawrence Douglas Wilder on July 1, 1991, from manufacturing, distributing, dispensing, possessing, or using any unlawful or unauthorized drugs or alcohol while on University property.

During the performance of this Agreement, the Selected Firm agrees to 1) provide a drug-free workplace for the Selected Firm's employees; 2) post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, sale, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance or marijuana is prohibited in the Selected Firm's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violations of such prohibition; 3) state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Selected Firm that it maintains a drug-free workplace; and 4) include the provisions of the foregoing clauses in every subcontract or purchase order of over $10,000, so that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor.

For the purposes of this section, "drug-free workplace" means a site for the performance of work done in connection with a specific agreement awarded to a Selected Firm, the employees of whom are prohibited from engaging in the
unlawful manufacturing, sale, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of any controlled substance or marijuana during the performance of the agreement.

I. Information Technology Access Act
In accordance with §§ 2.2-3504 of the Code of Virginia, the following will apply to all information technology Agreements:

NON-VISUAL ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY: All information technology (the "Technology") which is purchased or upgraded by the University will comply with the following non-visual access standards from the date of purchase or upgrade until the expiration of the Agreement:

- Effective, interactive control and use of the Technology will be readily achievable by non-visual means;
- Technology equipped for non-visual access will be compatible with information technology used by other individuals with whom any blind or visually impaired user of the Technology interacts;
- Non-visual access technology will be integrated into any networks used to share communications among employees, program participants or the public; and
- Technology for non-visual access will have the capability of providing equivalent access by non-visual means to telecommunications or other interconnected network services used by persons who are not blind or visually impaired.

Compliance with the foregoing non-visual access standards will not be required if the Director of Procurement Services, University of Virginia determines that 1) the Technology is not available with non-visual access because the essential elements of the Technology are visual and 2) non-visual equivalence is not available.

Installation of hardware, software, or peripheral devices used for non-visual access is not required when the Technology is being used exclusively by individuals who are not blind or visually impaired, but applications programs and underlying operating systems (including the format of the data) used for the manipulation and presentation of information will permit the installation and effective use of non-visual access software and peripheral devices.

If requested, the Agreement must provide a detailed explanation of how compliance with the foregoing non-visual access standards is achieved and a validation of concept demonstration.

J. eVA Business To Government Registration
The eVA Internet electronic procurement solution, web site portal [www.eva.state.va.us](http://www.eva.state.va.us), is the Commonwealth of Virginia's comprehensive electronic procurement system. The portal is the gateway for firms to conduct business with state agencies and public bodies. All agencies and public bodies are expected to utilize eVA. All firms desiring to provide goods and/or services
in the Commonwealth are encouraged to participate in the eVA Internet e-
procurement solution. Selected Firm are required to register in the eVA Internet
e-procurement solution prior to an award being made.
Attachment 2
Preferred Contractual Provisions

A. Goods and Services
During the term of this Agreement, the Selected Firm will provide for the University the goods and services offered to the University by the firm in its proposal and/or any addenda to its proposal which has been approved in writing by the University and as may be further specified by the University in writing when it selected the firm.

B. Term of the Agreement
The term of this Agreement will be for four years, with an option for renewal by the University, if agreeable to the Selected Firm on the same terms and conditions, for one additional one-year term. The Selected Firm and the University will mutually agree at least 180 days prior to the renewal option whether to renew the terms of the Agreement.

C. Contract Administrator
The University will identify a Contract Administrator for any Agreement which results from this RFP. The individual will be the point of contact at the University for day-to-day operations, but cannot approve amendments to the Agreement or price changes.

D. Waiver
No waiver of any right will be deemed a continuing waiver, and no failure on the part of either party to exercise wholly or in part any right will prevent a later exercise of such or any other right.

E. Indemnification
The Selected Firm will indemnify and hold harmless The Commonwealth of Virginia, The Rector and Visitors of the University of Virginia, and their agents, employees and officials from any and all costs, damage or loss, claims, liability, damages, expenses (including, without limitation, attorneys' fees and expenses) caused by or arising out of the performance or non performance of the Agreement by the Selected Firm or its agents or subcontractors, including the provision of any services or products. The Selected Firm warrants that the products, goods and services provided the University may be used by the University without being in violation of any copyright, patent or similar property right or claim by others and will defend, indemnify and save the University (its employees and agents) from and against any such claim.

F. Governing Law
This Agreement will be governed in all respects by the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia.
G. **Termination**
If the Selected Firm fails to provide quality goods or services in a professional manner, solely as determined by the University, and, upon receipt of notice from the University, does not correct the deficiency, to the University's satisfaction within a reasonable period of time, not to exceed five calendar days unless otherwise agreed to by both parties in writing, the University reserves the right to terminate this Agreement upon written notice to the Selected Firm.

H. **Non-Appropriation**
Funding for any Agreement between the University and a Selected Firm is dependent at all times upon the appropriation of funds by the Virginia General Assembly and/or any other organization of the Commonwealth authorized to appropriate such funds. In the event that funding to support this Agreement is not appropriated, whether in whole or in part, then the Agreement may be terminated effective the last day for which appropriated funding is available.

I. **Right of Audit**
The University reserves the right to audit or cause to be audited the Selected Firm's books and accounts regarding the University's account at any time during the term of this Agreement and for five years thereafter. The Selected Firm will make available to the University all books and records relating to performance of this Agreement as may be requested during said period.

J. **Contractual Claims**
This Agreement is subject to the University's policy on Contractual Claims which is provided as Attachment 3, Procedure for Resolution of Contractual Claims.

K. **Insurance**
Listed below is the insurance which the Selected Firm must maintain under any Agreement resulting from this RFP. Each Firm will propose insurance which meets or exceeds the needs of the University. No Agreement will be executed by the University until the Firm satisfies the insurance requirements of the University. The Selected Firm will provide the University with a valid Certificate of Insurance before providing any goods or services to the University. The University reserves the right to approve any insurance proposed by the Selected Firm.

Comprehensive Commercial General Liability
The Selected Firm and any Subcontractor will maintain a minimum combined single Limit of Liability for bodily injury and property damage of $2,000,000 per occurrence, to include products liability coverage and personal injury coverage, with general and products aggregate limits of not less than $4,000,000.
L. Use of Agreement by Third Parties
In accordance with 2.2-4304 of the Code of Virginia, these organizations may have access to any Agreement resulting from this RFP to allow for cooperative purchasing by \textit{only} the Virginia Association of State College and University Purchasing Professionals (VASCUPP) and all other Commonwealth of Virginia public institutions of higher education (to include four-year, two-year and community colleges). Current VASCUPP member institutions include: College of William and Mary, George Mason University, James Madison University, Old Dominion University, Radford University, University of Virginia, Virginia Commonwealth University, Virginia Military Institute, and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. A list of all other Virginia Public Colleges and Universities is available at \url{http://www.ExploreVirginiaColleges.com/}. In addition, access to the Agreement may also be extended to 1) Any University related foundation, and 2) City of Charlottesville and County of Albemarle. Potentially, other member schools of the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) may also have access to any Agreement resulting from this RFP if such access is confirmed by the University. The other ACC member schools which may potentially participate are: Clemson University; Duke University; Florida State University; Georgia Institute of Technology, North Carolina State University; University of Maryland, University of North Carolina; Wake Forest University, and Wake Forest University Health Sciences. Other institutions which may participate include Emory University.

Participation in this cooperative procurement is strictly voluntary. If authorized by the Selected Firm, the Agreement will be extended to the public bodies indicated above to purchase at the fees in accordance with the terms of the Agreement. The Selected Firm will notify the University in writing of any such institutions accessing the Agreement. No modification of the Agreement or execution of a separate agreement is required to participate. The Selected Firm will provide semi-annual usage reports for all VASCUPP member institutions and public institutions accessing the Agreement. Participating public bodies will place their own orders directly with the Selected Firm and will fully and independently administer use of the Agreement to include contractual disputes, invoicing and payments without direct administration from the University. The University will not be held liable for any costs or damages incurred by any other participating public body as a result of any authorization by the Selected Firm to extend the Agreement. It is understood and agreed that the University is not responsible for the acts or omissions of any VASCUPP member institution, or other public body and will not be considered in default of the Agreement no matter the circumstances.

Use of this Agreement does not preclude any participating public body from using other agreements or competitive procurement processes as required by law.
M. Favored Nations
The Selected Firm represents that the prices, terms, warranties, and benefits specified in its proposal are comparable to or better than the equivalent terms being offered by the firm to any present customer.

N. Payment Terms
Invoices submitted to the University for Services will be paid Net 30 days after receipt and University approval of invoice.

O. Cancellation of Contract
The University reserves the right to cancel this Agreement, in part or in whole, without penalty, upon 30 days written notice to the Selected Firm. Any Agreement cancellation notice will not relieve the Selected Firm of the obligation to deliver and/or perform on all outstanding issues prior to the effective date of cancellation.

P. Small, Women-owned and Minority (SWAM) Business Reporting
The Selected Firm will identify and fairly consider SWAM firms for subcontracting opportunities when qualified SWAM firms are available to perform a given task in performing for the University under the resulting Agreement. The Selected Firm will submit a quarterly SWAM business report to the University by the 15th of the month following each calendar quarter, specifically the months of April, July, October, and January. The Selected Firm will submit the quarterly SWAM business reports to:

Contracts Administrator
University of Virginia
Procurement Services
Carruthers Hall, PO Box 400202
1001 North Emmet Street
Charlottesville, Virginia 22904-4202

The quarterly SWAM business reports will contain this information:
- SWAM firms name, address and phone number with which the Selected Firm has contracted over the specified quarterly period.
- Contact person at the SWAM firm who would have knowledge of the specified information.
- Type of goods and/or services provided over the specified period of time.
- Total amount paid to the SWAM firm as it relates to the University’s account.

Q. Human Rights
The Selected Firm will accept and meet the requirements of The Collegiate Licensing Company (CLC) Labor Codes or Conduct dated January 2000 including all Riders except for Rider 1A. Additionally, the Selected Firm agrees
to be monitored by groups and organizations as directed by the Fair Labor Association (FLA).
Attachment 3
Procedure for Resolution of Contractual Claims

Section 2.2-4363 of the Virginia Public Procurement Act requires contractors with the University to submit any claims, whether for money or other relief, in writing no later than 60 days after final payment, however, written notice of the contractors intention to file such a claim will have been given at the time of the occurrence or beginning of the work upon which the claim is based.

The University's procedure for deciding such contractual claims is:

A. The Selected Firm must provide the written claim to:
   Assistant Director of Procurement Services
   University of Virginia
   1001 North Emmet Street
   P. O. Box 400202
   Charlottesville, Virginia 22904-4202

B. Although the Selected Firm may, if it chooses, attempt to resolve its claim by dealing with a University department other than the one stated in Section A above, the Selected Firm must submit any unresolved claim in writing no later than 60 days after final payment to the Assistant Director of Procurement Services if it wishes to pursue its claim.

C. Upon receiving the written claim, the Assistant Director of Procurement Services will review the written materials relating to the claim and decide whether to discuss the merits of the claim with the Selected Firm. If such discussion is to be held, the Assistant Director of Procurement Services will contact the Selected Firm and arrange such discussion. The manner of conducting such discussion will be as the Assistant Director and the Selected Firm mutually agree.

D. The Assistant Director of Procurement Services will mail his or her decision to the Selected Firm within 60 days after receipt of the claim. The decision will state the reason for granting or denying the claim.

E. The Selected Firm may appeal the decision to:
   Director of Procurement Services
   University of Virginia
   Carruthers Hall
   1001 North Emmet Street
   P.O. Box 400202
   Charlottesville, Virginia 22904-4202

   by providing a written statement explaining the basis of the appeal, within 15 days after the Selected Firm's receipt of the decision.
F. Upon receiving the written appeal, the Director of Procurement Services will review the written materials relating to the claim and decide whether to discuss the merits of the claim with the Selected Firm. If such discussion is to be held, the Director of Procurement Services will contact the Selected Firm and arrange such discussion. The manner of conducting such discussion will be as the Director of Procurement Services and the Selected Firm mutually agree.

G. The Director of Procurement Services will mail his or her decision to the Selected Firm within 60 days after the Director of Procurement Services receipt of the appeal. The decision will state the reasons for granting or denying the appeal.