

Attachment F – Guideline for Reimbursable Expenses

MILWAUKEE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES, FACILITIES MANAGEMENT DIVISION

GUIDELINES FOR REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES

GENERAL

Milwaukee County reimburses consultants under contract for expenses in connection with authorized out-of-town travel; long distance communications; fees paid to approving authorities; reproductions which are products of service; requested renderings, presentation models and mockups; and the expenses of requested additional insurance coverage. There may be other qualifying reimbursable expense items if the project or circumstances are unique and terms concerning them are contained in an approved and signed contract. These guidelines are intended to clarify the County's general policies concerning payments for reimbursable items.

DEFINITION

Reimbursable expenses are out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the consultant and consultant's employees in direct support of the project. Over and above compensation for Basic and Additional Services, they are unique and non-recurring costs. By their nature, the cost is not predictable in advance of occurrence.

Approved reimbursable expenses are billed at the same cost paid by the consultant and are not subject to retainage provisions found in Milwaukee County service agreements.

DOCUMENTATION

Most reimbursables can be documented by presenting a copy of the original sales slip or invoice clearly highlighted, dated, and labeled with the appropriate job number/name and person incurring the expense. When the original charge has been recorded on an employee expense log, an in-house printing or copy log, or on a phone bill printout, for examples, a copy of the appropriate log or journal can be submitted as long as the costs are clearly highlighted, dated and labeled. All documentation must be attached to a cover sheet which itemizes and sub-totals the charges, by type. The documentation and cover sheet is attached to the consultant's monthly invoice.

REIMBURSABLES BUDGET ALLOWANCE

All agreements shall establish a pre-approved budget allowance for the total out-of-pocket reimbursable expenses of consultants. Changes to the approved allowance total require a written amendment to the consultant's contract. As part of final contract negotiations, the consultant shall prepare an itemized budget estimate for reimbursables for review and approval by the County. Special care should be taken to differentiate those out-of-pocket expenses that will be initially borne by the consultant and those that will be paid directly by the County (under a separate County Services line item in the project budget).

AUTHORIZED OUT-OF-TOWN TRAVEL

Reimbursable travel expenses can accrue for both travel to and from Milwaukee for work in connection with a project if that travel involves a distance greater than a 100 mile radius from Milwaukee **or if the consultant's working office is more than 100 miles from Milwaukee**. Milwaukee County will reimburse consultants for reasonable expenses incurred for such transportation, subsistence and lodging. Mutual agreement about what constitutes an authorized travel expense begins at the time of contract negotiations when the budget for these items is established and continues as the project proceeds. Milwaukee County policy is to pay for essential, not luxury, services.

Whenever possible, air travel dates should be planned in advance to take advantage of the lowest coach fares available on connecting airlines; Milwaukee County does not pay for first-class or business-class travel.

Daily rental car rates are rarely competitive with airport van or taxi fares to and from the airport, hotel and project meeting sites. Consultants should confer with Milwaukee County's project manager regarding the most reasonable and cost-effective means for transportation while in Milwaukee. If traveling by personal

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car, the total mileage may be charged at the prevailing cost per mile rate allowed by the Internal Revenue Service. Highway tolls and parking fees for out of town consultants are also reimbursable, if properly documented and if the consultant's office is more than 100 miles from Milwaukee.

Meals reimbursement qualifies if the consultant's employees are required to eat in restaurants in connection with an out-of-town (100 mile radius) visit/trip directly in service of the project. The consultant's choice of restaurants should be modest in every circumstance. Milwaukee County does not pay for meals taken in first-class restaurants, for cocktails, or for entertaining guests or in-town project team members. Milwaukee County discourages the scheduling of a business meeting over a meal period, thus avoiding the question of which meals might be authorized for reimbursement. Check with Milwaukee County's project manager if you are uncertain about which kind of meal expenditure might be disallowed.

Lodging costs at medium-priced accommodations will be approved. Deluxe accommodations and charges involving personal services of any kind will be disallowed.

LONG DISTANCE COMMUNICATIONS

Milwaukee County will reimburse the consultant for properly documented long distance telephone tolls made for project business.

FEES PAID TO APPROVING AUTHORITIES

Milwaukee County will reimburse the cost of fees paid for securing the approval of authorities having jurisdiction over the project. Consultants should plan for this expense in advance, because cutting County checks to coincide with dates of submittal cannot usually be done. The County will accept, however, an out-of-sequence invoice covering an unusually high plan exam fee in order to minimize the inconvenience to the consultant.

REPRODUCTIONS AND REPROGRAPHICS

The cost of drawings, specifications, reports, exhibits and other documents which are products of service are reimbursed with proper documentation. Charges for postage, handling and shipping of reproductions are considered overhead expenses and are not reimbursed. Bid sets, which are often the most expensive segment of the out-of-pocket expense paid by the consultant, are sometimes contracted for by the County on larger jobs that could benefit from competitive bidding for that service. Consult with the County project manager if the furnishing of bid sets is not specifically excluded from consultant's reimbursable allowance budget.

ADDITIONAL INSURANCE

When additional insurance coverage or limits, over and above that normally carried by a consultant is specifically requested by the County, the County will reimburse that additional premium cost. Specific documentation will be requested by the County project manager if this expense qualifies as reimbursable.