

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE
IFB No. 27P-002 – Athletic Fields Management
Addendum No. 1

Date of Addendum: October 26, 2026

This Addendum is issued to correct errors in IFB No. 27P-002 and to respond to questions received from prospective bidders. This Addendum is hereby made part of the IFB and modifies the original solicitation as set forth below. Except as modified by this Addendum, all other terms, conditions and specifications of the IFB remain unchanged.

Bid Due Date: November 4, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. (unchanged)

Bidders must acknowledge receipt of this Addendum by signing the Acknowledgment at the end of this document and submitting it with their bid.

Part 1 – Corrections to the IFB

Item 1: Cover Letter – Bid Due Date

The cover letter incorrectly states that bids are due October 2. The correct bid due date is November 4, 2026, at 11:00 a.m., as stated on the IFB cover page and the Key Information sheet.

Item 2: Key Information Sheet – IFB Number and Title

The IFB number is corrected from “267-002” to read “27P-002,” and the title is corrected from “Landscape Management Services” to read “Athletic Fields Management.”

Item 3: Section 4.1 – Bid Due Date

The bid due date, which was left blank in Section 4.1, shall read: November 4, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.

Item 4: Section 4.4 – Bid File Naming

The IFB number in the bid file naming convention is corrected from “_2 P-002” to read “27P-002.”

Part 2 – Responses to Bidder Questions

Section 4.3 of the IFB established October 16 as the deadline for bidder questions. Any questions below that were received after that date have been answered at the College’s discretion. The following responses are incorporated into and made part of the IFB.

Bidder 1 – General Site Questions

Question 1: Can you provide an outline map of the entire area that encompasses this IFB?

Response: A site map outlining the contract limits (Fields #1, #3, #4 and #5; the surrounding Athletic Complex grass; and the five (5) foot area outside the athletic fields fence perimeter) is attached to this Addendum as Attachment A – Athletic Fields and Non-Playable Areas Map.

Question 2: For the line of 5' perimeter fence clearing, will there be a one-time cleanup of the area in order to get it in maintainable condition? Currently, the fence is covered in vines and tall brush in the 5' perimeter buffer.

Response: Yes. A one-time initial cleanup of vines and brush within the five (5) foot perimeter buffer shall be included in the base scope of work. Once in maintainable condition, the area shall be maintained per Section 1.5.

Question 3: For the Bermuda fields, is a reel type mower required? Looking at the site, it is not evident a reel type mower is currently in use.

Response: Yes. Per Section 1.4, Field #1(a) and Field #3(a), a reel-type mower is required on Bermuda Fields #1 and #3, mowing to a height no higher than 1", regardless of the equipment currently in use.

Question 4: For the site manager, is it required the site manager is on site 5 days/week?

Response: No. The IFB does not require a minimum number of days on site. Per Section 2.0, the sports turf manager must:

- Hold a two- or four-year degree in horticulture and have a minimum of three (3) years of supervisory sports turf management experience;
- Report weekly via email to the Facilities Services Manager, Athletic Facilities Manager, Athletic Director, and Athletic Transportation & Program Coordinator;
- Conduct weekly crew appearance reviews and safety meetings; and
- Walk the fields with Athletics and Facilities staff once every two months in the spring, summer and fall.

Question 5: Are there certain days/times that this work is to be completed?

Response: The IFB does not establish fixed work days or hours, and there are no fixed blackout dates. Work shall follow the Contractor's operational calendar as approved by the College (Section 1.3). All application dates must be approved by the College in advance (Section 1.4), topdressing must be scheduled with the Athletics Facility Manager, and irrigation on Fields #1 and #5 shall be checked on the Monday following any weekend track meet. Practice, game and rental usage schedules will be provided to the Contractor prior to the start of each playing season, and service shall be scheduled around those dates to avoid interference with athletic events and practices.

Bidder 2 – Technical / Agronomic Questions

Question 6: 1.4.A – Mowing requires a reel type mower. Can you please validate if there is a spec as to number of blades per reel?

Response: No specific blade count is required. The reel mower must produce a clean, even cut at a height no higher than 1".

Question 7: 1.4.B – The spec references Maryland Fertilizer Regulation but then says 6–8 lbs per 1,000. This amount exceeds the Maryland regulation and the recommendation for Bermuda from the Maryland Extension Service for a rate of 2.7 lbs per 1,000. Please acknowledge if we are to follow the Maryland Fertilizer Regulation or the spec?

Response: Maryland regulations shall govern. All fertilizer applications shall comply with the Maryland Fertilizer Use Act and COMAR 15.20.04, and the fertilizer application rate specified in

Section 1.4.B shall not exceed applicable regulatory limits. Bidders shall price the fertilization program at the maximum rate permitted by regulation, with applications based on soil test results.

Question 8: 1.4.B – When was the last soil sample completed and can a copy of that sample be shared?

Response: No current soil test is available.

Question 9: 1.4.D – On the overseeding, can you provide a specification as to the variety of Bermuda that is currently on the fields?

Response: The Bermuda varieties currently established on Fields #1 and #3 are Latitude and Tahoma.

Question 10: 1.4.D – A total pounds is provided but not a rate per 1,000 SF for each of the overseedings?

Response: Overseeding shall be performed with turf-type perennial ryegrass at a rate of 6–8 lbs per 1,000 square feet per application, in three to four (3–4) applications beginning in September. The total annual quantity shall be approximately 2,000 lbs per field, subject to the field's actual square footage.

Question 11: 1.4.D – Is the overseeding specified for broadcast seeding, drill seeding or slit seeding?

Response: The seeding method is at the Contractor's discretion, provided that adequate seed-to-soil contact is achieved and the method is identified in the operational calendar for College approval.

Question 12: 1.4.H – Can you please confirm on the topdressing the particle size requirement and that there are no organics, only sand?

Response: Confirmed. Topdressing shall be 100% sand with no organic amendment and shall meet USGA recommendations for topdressing sand particle size distribution.

Question 13: 1.4.I – Sodding: Please specify the current/dominant type of Bermuda grass?

Response: Goal-mouth sod shall match the existing Bermuda varieties, Latitude and Tahoma. See response to Question 9.

Question 14: Field Blankets – Please provide the spec for the field blankets and the pinning material?

Response: The Contractor shall submit proposed field blanket and pinning materials for College approval. Blankets shall be installed in the third or fourth week of November, inspected at least two (2) times per month, and removed at the end of February.

Bidder 3 – Experience Requirement

Question 15: We understand the solicitation may require five years of experience specifically maintaining athletic fields of similar size and scope. Could you please clarify whether five or more years of comparable commercial landscaping and grounds maintenance experience would satisfy this requirement, even if the contractor has not exclusively maintained athletic fields?

Response: No. Section 1.3 requires a proven record of at least five (5) years' experience in providing athletic fields maintenance services of similar size and scope. General commercial landscaping and grounds maintenance experience alone does not satisfy this requirement. Bidders must also provide

at least three (3) references for projects of similar scope completed within the last five years, and the assigned sports turf manager must meet the qualifications in Section 2.0. The athletic field maintenance experience need not be exclusive, provided it meets the five-year, similar size and scope requirement.

Acknowledgment of Addendum No. 1

The undersigned acknowledges receipt of Addendum No. 1 to IFB No. 27P-002 – Athletic Fields Management and has included its provisions in the bid submitted. This signed Acknowledgment must be submitted with the bid.

Company Name: _____

Authorized Signature: _____

Printed Name and Title: _____

Date: _____

Attachment A – Athletic Fields and Non-Playable Areas Map

The shaded area shows the contract limits referenced in the response to Question 1.

