**Public Notice**

**FRANKLIN COUNTY CONVENTION FACILITIES AUTHORITY**

**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS:**

**Bond Underwriting Services to Finance the Development of a 470 +/--room Addition to the Hilton Columbus Downtown**

Qualifications to provide bond underwriting services to finance the development of a 470+/--room addition to the Hilton Columbus Downtown in downtown Columbus, Ohio adjacent to the Greater Columbus Convention Center will be received by the Franklin County Convention Facilities Authority (FCCFA) until **Friday August 3, 2018 at 4:00 PM EST**. Sealed qualifications (one original and fifteen copies) are to be submitted to the FCCFA offices located at the Greater Columbus Convention Center, 400 North High Street, 4th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

The FCCFA is the owner/developer of the Greater Columbus Convention Center, the Hilton Columbus Downtown Hotel, Nationwide Arena, and three parking garages, all located in downtown Columbus, Ohio. Established by the Franklin County Commissioners in July 1988 pursuant to Chapter 351 of the Ohio Revised Code, the FCCFA is a special governmental unit governed by an eleven-member board appointed by the Franklin County Commissioners, Mayor of Columbus, and suburban mayors.

As owner/developer of these facilities, the FCCFA is responsible for the improvement, management, and successful operation of these facilities. In addition, the FCCFA is responsible for ensuring the continued success and growth of the convention business within the Greater Columbus community. Both responsibilities are directly linked to the FCCFA’s continued investment in and support of services, resources, facilities, and community projects that enhance the use and improvement of the convention center, hotel, arena, and parking facilities.

The purpose of this request for qualifications (RFQ) is to select a professional firm or firms who are most qualified to provide bond underwriting services to finance the development of a 470+/--room expansion of the Hilton Columbus Downtown. The FCCFA will select one or more senior managing underwriters with significant experience and qualifications in providing revenue backed bond underwriting services in the State of Ohio and/or national tax-exempt markets and the ability to sell debt obligations similar in structure and credit to obligations proposed by the FCCFA. Most qualified will be determined by, but not limited to; the competence/ability of the firm to provide the requested services, availability of resources to meet the requirements of the RFQ, past performance/related experience of the firm and the proposed structure of the bond issuance. To be considered for this RFQ, submittals should include, but not be limited to; a description of the firm, proposed staffing for the project along with resumes and credentials, information on the firm’s underwriting experience for projects that are similar in size, scope and function to the hotel being constructed by the FCCFA (references included), and a discussion of the firm’s proposed approach towards structuring the bond issuance.

A copy of the complete request for qualifications can be obtained from the FCCFA offices. All requests for copies of the RFQ and questions regarding the RFQ should be directed to Jordan Edmonds at jedmonds@fccfa.org or 614-827-2811.