Purpose of Request for Proposal
The Northwest Georgia Regional Commission (NWGRC) is administering and implementing the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP1) on behalf of Whitfield County. The Whitfield County Neighborhood Stabilization Program will be administered through September 2013.

One of the activities in this program involves the acquisition, rehabilitation and resale of abandoned and foreclosed properties. These properties must be sold to low, moderate and middle income families whose annual household income is at or below 120 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI). Whitfield County has acquired five (5) properties in the first round of acquisitions. Subsequent acquisitions will be made with proceeds from sales. Therefore, the number of additional homes to be acquired will depend on the success of the marketing program.

NWGRC is looking to engage qualified Real Estate Realtors to serve as listing agents and to provide a current valuation of these properties as required in the law. This solicitation is competitive and is designed to enable NWGRC to select the best offer from the Realtor best suited to market and sell the property. Selection will be made by the NWGRC staff and NSP Committee. NWGRC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals not deemed acceptable. Selection will be primarily based on the qualifications of the Realtor to perform the services outlined below.

Role of Realtor
The realtor should have considerable experience in marketing vacant residential property. Responsibilities are as follows. The following list should not be considered as all inclusive.
1. Recommend the listing price of the properties based on their marketability and comparable properties in the area. Note that the maximum sales price is limited to Whitfield County’s total investment in the property.
2. Recommend a minimum sales price for each site for NWGRC to consider and a projected timeline for sales at various listing prices.
3. Develop a marketing plan for the sale of the property.
4. Advertise the property for sale.
5. Present offers to the NWGRC staff with recommendation for acceptance or refusal.
6. Provide NWGRC with a quarterly status report listing:
a. Date and listing of when the property was advertised.
b. Summary of contacts made, either in response to specific inquires or realtor initiated.
c. Impression as to progress of marketing effort.
d. Suggestions, if any, as to how to change or improve the marketing plan.

Items 1-3 must be submitted to NWGRC within 1 week of notification of the availability of any given property. NWGRC will notify the realtor of the listing price within 1 week of the submission of the marketing plan. Properties will be on the market within two (2) weeks of notification of availability of the property.

Response Date
One original of the proposal must be delivered to Northwest Georgia Regional Development Center, Attn: NSP Manager, P.O. Box 1798, Rome, GA 30162-1798. The address for overnight delivery is 1 Jackson Hill Drive, Rome, GA 30161. In addition, an electronic copy of the proposal must be sent to mmiller@nwgrc.org by the deadline.

Any response may be withdrawn or modified prior to acceptance.

Administrative Guidance
This RFP is designed to provide interested respondents with basic information to submit a proposal that will meet the minimum requirements. It is not intended to limit a proposal’s content or exclude any relevant or essential data. Respondents are encouraged to expand upon the minimum requirements of the RFP. NWGRC may award a contract based on the proposals received without further discussion of such proposals. NWGRC will not be responsible for any costs associated with the preparation of responses to this RFP. If you should have any questions about this RFP, please contact Michael M. Miller, NSP Manager at 706-295-6485 or via email at mmiller@nwgrc.org.

Required Submittals
A complete proposal shall be submitted containing the following items:
1. Cover Letter – A cover letter summarizing the offer being proposed to NWGRC and the realtor’s commitment to the program.
2. Name and contact information (including contact person and email address) of the organization submitting the proposal.
3. Specific Details of Proposed Services and qualifications
   a. Evidence of the qualifications listed under the Qualifications of Realtors including but not limited to copies of State of Georgia Residential Real Estate Broker / Real Estate License; and certificates of insurance for workers compensation and general liability
   b. Proposed commission rate.
   c. A list of the multiple listing publications in which the property will be listed.
   d. A detailed description of experience marketing vacant residential property.
e. A statement of qualifications including experience with the HUD HOME Program and low, moderate and middle income purchasers.

f. A list of at least three references for the sale of comparable properties sold.

g. Description of marketing program including affirmative action marketing strategies.


i. A statement spelling out the relations between the realtor and any parent company or subsidiary that might also be involved in marketing the property.

j. Names and background of any persons, firms, or organizations proposed by the realtor to be involved in the marketing of the property.

4. Disclosure of any business or familial relationship with Whitfield County employees and or members of the Whitfield County / NWGRC staff or Board of Commissioners members.

5. Any additional information the respondent feels will strengthen the proposal

6. The following statement -

“The undersigned hereby certifies/certify that the information contained in this proposal is true, complete and correct to the best of my/our knowledge.”

Signed ________________________________
Date    _____________________
Signed ________________________________
Date    _____________________

Evaluation Criteria
Each respondent should follow the above required format. All submittals will be carefully considered by Whitfield County and NWGRC staff for inclusion in the NSP approved contractor’s pool.

HOWEVER, WHITFIELD COUNTY AND NWGRC ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THERE MAY BE SOME SUBJECTIVITY IN EVALUATION OF THE LISTED CRITERIA. EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE BY WHITFIELD COUNTY AND NWGRC OR ANY PANEL OF JUDGES TO BE IMPARTIAL AND FAIR IN THE EVALUATION PROCESS. NOTWITHSTANDING THE ABOVE, WHITFIELD COUNTY AND NWGRC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL RESPONSES.

Timeline
RFQ posted on Website – September 5, 2012
RFQ advertised in each county’s legal organ – September 5, 2012
Bidder’s Conference – September 13, 2012
Responses due – September 27, 2012