

Understanding Contracts

February 8, 2013 Luncheon



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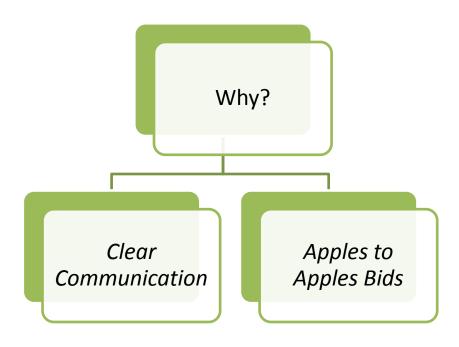


Association Contracts: A Manager's Perspective



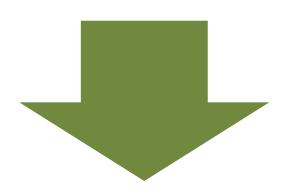
Avoiding Problems with Contracts

Detailed Written Specifications





Check References



Are they good vendors?

Or do they just have good sales people?



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Verify Insurance & Licenses

Property

Liability

Workers' Comp

Bonds

How to verify licensing?

Construction Contractors
Board

What if contractor doesn't have licensing obligation?



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Selecting Vendors

Considerations for selecting low vs. high bidders

How to evaluate experience level, references, insurance, licenses



Do I need an architect, engineer, envelope consultant, construction manager, general contractor, or subcontractor?

What's the difference?

COMMUNITY

ASSOCIATIONS INSTITUTE

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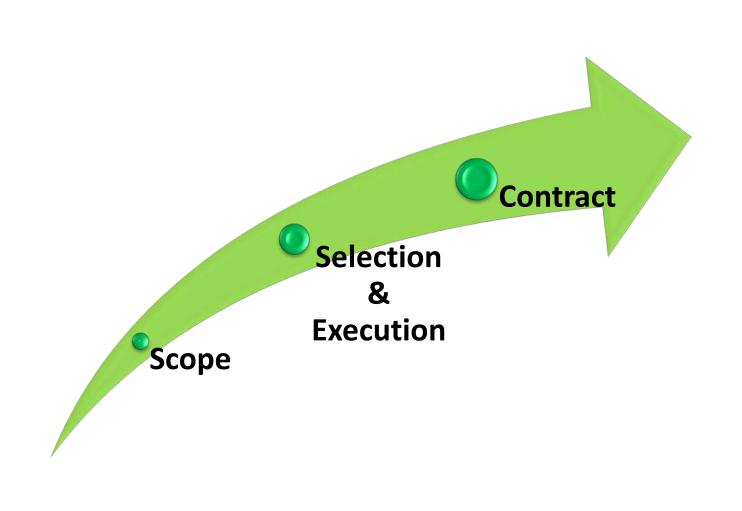
Payments

Tie payments to completion of work



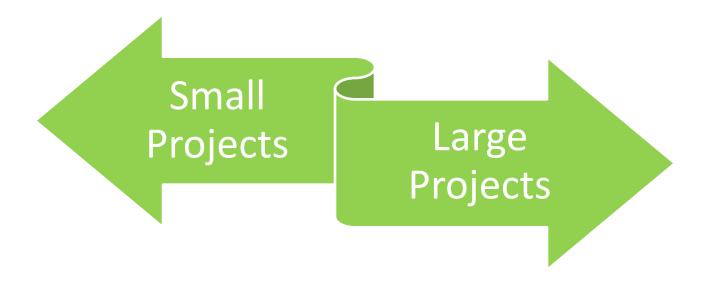
Association Contracts: An Owner's Perspective







Selection Considerations





Selection Considerations

Small

Repeat Purchase

> Lower Risk

Large

One Time Buyer

> Higher Risk



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Be Thorough

- Ask Advisors
- Face to Face Interviews
- Do your own reference checking
 - No cherry picking
 - Ask tough questions of other clients
- Be streetwise
- Ask for detail appropriate to the job
 - e.g., financial statements



Reference Checking

Relationship

- Would you hire them again?
- Communication

Performance

- Budget
- Schedule/timeliness
- Change Orders
- Quality
- Cleanliness
- Warranty



Association Contracts: An Attorney's Perspective

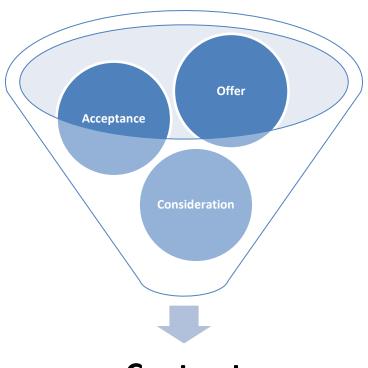


Overview

- What is a contract?
- Common Types of Association Contracts
- Key Provisions
- Common Clauses
- Tips



What is a contract?



Contract



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Types of Contracts

- Management Contracts
- Maintenance Contracts
- Professional Services
 - Accounting
 - Legal
 - Consultant
- Construction



Key Provisions Explained

- Scope of Work
- Payment
 - Retention
 - Progress payments
 - Change orders
- Termination



Common Clauses Explained

- Indemnity
- Insurance
- Dispute Resolution
- Attorney Fees



Indemnity

• Requires the indemnitor to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the indemnitee from claims made by a third party when the claims arise from the acts/omissions of the indemnitor



Indemnity by Client: Client shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless , Inc., its owners, employees and agents, from any and all actions, liabilities, damages and expenses, including attorneys fees (collectively "Harms"), arising out of the negligence of Client, its employees or other contractors (provided that to the extent any such Harms result from concurrent negligence of Client and , Inc., each party shall bear the percentage of Harm which corresponds to its percentage of fault). To the fullest extent permitted by law, Client will defend, indemnify and hold harmless , Inc., its owners, employees, subcontractors and agents, from any future related claims or damage at the site, including potential claims from third parties that may name , Inc., as a claimant.

Liens: It is understood by the Client that should payment not be made in accordance with the provisions outlined in this agreement, ______, Inc., may, in addition to other remedies provided by law, lien the subject real property improved by the services described within this agreement as provided by RCW 60,04.

It is understood that . Inc., reserves the right to file pre-claim notice at commencement of the services described herein.



Indemnity Example

Indemnitor (HOA)



Injured Third Party (homeowner)



Indemnit*ee* (manager)



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Insurance

- Required for large projects or activities where significant risk is involved
- Obtain copy of policy to verify coverage (to be reviewed by Association's agent/broker)
- Additional Insured coverage may be needed



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| Modelond General Insurance Agry PO Box 847 Modelond WA 98073-0847 Phone: 425-885-2203 Fax: 425-885-6631 | | | | ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER, THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW. | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Mosbrucker Excavating, Inc. | | | | INSURER CI | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mosbrucker Excavating, Inc. PO Box 745 Bothell WA 98041 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| | | HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAIMS. | T POLICY EFFECTIVE | PERSON EXPERATION | Lawre | 5 | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | TYPE OF INSURANCE | POLICY NUMBER | DATE (MILODYY) | DATE (MM/DDYY) | EACH OCCUPRENCE | 11,000,000 | | | | | | | | |
| | MINIRAL CABILITY | KK08400128 | 07/16/99 | 07/16/00 | FIRE DAMAGE (Any one fire) | 100,000 | | | | | | | | |
| P | X COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY | KK08400128 | 0//10/99 | 3,,10,00 | MED EXP (Any one person) | 5,000 | | | | | | | | |
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| μ | X Stop Gap | | | | GENERAL AGGREGATE | 12,000,000 | | | | | | | | |
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INSURFRS AFFORDING COVERAGE



Dispute Resolution

Statutes of Limitation

Mediation

Arbitration/Litigation



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Attorney Fees & Forum Clauses

- Common in many standard contracts
- Prevailing Party entitled to attorney fees, costs?
- Which law is going to apply to disputes?
- Where do you have to go to enforce your contract?



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Tips for Contracting

- Don't simply sign the other party's contract
- Designate someone on the board to be in charge of contracting
- Ask your attorney to review
- Make sure your contract terms are reasonable and not too one-sided



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