

**WRITTEN RFIs AND VA RESPONSES TO RFIs RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE THE
DEADLINE**

RFI No. 1:

Per the 1442, it is requesting 1 original sealed offer and 1 CD for submission to the VA. We anticipate on receiving subcontract bids up until the last minutes before the bid is due. That will make it impossible to generate a CD to submit with original offer.

Could we overnight the CD with 24 hours of bid time? Or could you please reconsider the CD submission.

VA Response to RFI No. 1:

The CD requirement is deleted in its entirety. An original bid is required. The SF1442 is revised of Section 13, Paragraph A to read as follows:

- A. Sealed Offers in **original** and **0** copies to perform the work required are due at the place specified in item 8 by 11:00 A.M. (hour) local time 12-05-2013 (date).

RFI No. 2:

Specification Section– General Commissioning Requirements, Subsection 1.5-B states: “the following systems will be commissioned as part of this project: Fire Suppression, Plumbing, HVAC, Electrical, Electronic Safety & Security.” Subsection 1.2 lists the various Commissioning Specification Sections (21 08 00, 22 08 00, etc.) yet these sections are not included in this Project Manual. Since this project essentially revolves around restroom remodeling, please define the actual commissioning work required and then provide the individual Specification Sections for the specific systems required to be commissioned. If commissioning is not actually required for this project, please clarify.

VA Response to RFI No. 2:

Delete Specification Section 01 91 00 General Commissioning Requirements.

RFI No. 3:

Specification Section– General Commissioning Requirements, Subsection 1.6 – B indicates the Commissioning Agent (CxA) is engaged by the VA under a separate contract. Please confirm the VA will retain the CxA and not the Contractor.

VA Response to RFI No. 3:

Delete Specification Section 01 91 00 General Commission Requirements.

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RFI No. 4:

Drawing Sheet AE-601, Door Schedule indicates there are (2) hardware sets (HW-1 & HW-2). Specification Section 08 71 00, Subsection 3.5 – Hardware Sets does not have a HW Set 02, please provide.

VA Response to RFI No. 4:

HW-2 is **20 min. rated door** with the same hardware as HW-1.

RFI No. 5:

The Project Manual has a Specification Section 10 14 00 – Interior Signage. The Finish Schedule 09 06 00 has a section for Interior signage but it is completely blank. No additional information regarding signage can be located at the door schedule or on any of the drawing elevations. In order to determine if there is any signage required for this project, please specify the exact signage type and locations where signage must be installed, so we may qualify and quantify any signage.

VA Response to RFI No. 5:

For rooms 4642, 4641, 4636, and 4635 – Signs to be relocated if necessary due to wall reconfiguration.

For rooms 4622 and 4621 – Signage is existing, and to remain or relocated if necessary due to wall / door reconfiguration.

No new signage is anticipated for all other rooms not listed.

RFI No. 6:

Which contractor's license is required to bid on this project.

VA Response to RFI No. 6:

Please review Amendment No. A00002, Attachment 1, Page 7 of 48, Paragraph 9(c).

RFI No. 7:

105113, 1.2, A and B list two different steel specifications, one for galvanized steel and one for non-galvanized.

Are all the locker parts required to be galvanized, or only the locker bottoms as called for in 2.3D?

VA Response to RFI No. 7:

All locker to be per ASTM A653 as noted in paragraph 2.2 F1.

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RFI No. 8:

105113, 2.2, C and 2.3, E calls for lockers to be 78 inches high, including 6 inch legs with closed bases.

6/AE-502 shows a locker with a metal stud supporting the rear of the locker and a front base, which we believe to be B-1. This would appear to be the correct base in a room where the floor may be subject to frequent mopping.

Please clarify if lockers are to be equipped with 6 inch legs with closed bases, or if they will be set on a 6 inch coved base

VA Response to RFI No. 8:

Lockers to be equipped with closed base with 6 inch Cove Base as indicated on 6/AE-502.

RFI No. 9:

105113, 2.2, C and 2.3, E calls for lockers to be 6'6" inches high, including 6 inch legs or closed bases. Note 6 2/AE-102 shows a locker with a soffit at 7'6". 6/AE-502 shows the soffit directly above the locker, presumably at 6'6".

Please clarify the correct soffit opening height, and/or revise drawings 9/A502 and 6/A502 to show a twelve inch open space between the flat locker top and the underside of the soffit.

VA Response to RFI No. 9:

Delete the portion of Keynote #6 on AE102 (at 7'-6"). Height must be verified in field. There is no open space between locker top and underside of soffit. The soffit height will be per existing or new locker.

RFI No. 10:

105113, 2.3, H calls for lockers to have a 14 gauge steel end cover panel. While we can see the need for such a panel with exposed sides, the lockers in this project are all recessed, eliminating the need for the additional cost of end cover panels.

Please clarify if end cover panels are actually required.

VA Response to RFI No. 10:

Provide closure strip where lockers abut walls. End panel covers are not required.

RFI No. 11:

Please confirm the lockers in the following room are not in contract:
4624 sheet AE-102.

If they are in contract, what is their equipment number?

VA Response to RFI No. 11:

Lockers in Room 4624 on sheet AE-102 are not in the contract.

RFI No. 12:

Please confirm the equipment numbers for all lockers in each of the following rooms:

4634 EQ24 sheet AE-105
4637 EQ24 sheet AE-105
4640 ?? sheet AE-106
4643 ?? sheet AE-106
4653 ?? sheet AE-108
4654 ?? sheet AE-108

VA Response to RFI No. 12:

All lockers in rooms 4634, 4637, 4640, 4643, 4653, & 4654 are equipment #EQ24 unless they are existing.

RFI No. 13:

Specification 220511: Provide pipe sizing for all plumbing systems including branch lines. Minimal pipe sizing shown on plans.

VA Response to RFI No. 13:

Information was per As-Builts drawings and site observation inside interstitial space. Contractor to fields verify existing condition prior to connecting and shutting down utilities. The minimal sizes correspond to the area served.

RFI No. 14:

Specification 220511: Will contractor need to x-ray or radar slab before concrete coring can proceed?

VA Response to RFI No. 14:

It is the contractor to decide. There is an interstitial floor below to locate the pipes.

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RFI No. 15:

Please verify standard CISPI 310 two band no hub couplings are acceptable for waste and vent piping and not Husky 2000 or Husky 4000 heavy duty no hub couplings?

VA Response to RFI No. 15:

No, Contractor shall use Heavy Duty 4 band coupling

RFI No. 16:

Is pipe freezing of domestic water piping acceptable in order to make POC's and minimize area and duration of shut downs?

VA Response to RFI No. 16:

Yes, it is acceptable.

RFI No. 17:

Please provide the height from floor to bottom of slab above.

VA Response to RFI No. 17:

As per "As-Built" drawings, the height from floor to bottom of slab above is 16' & 8.5" at 4th Floor.

RFI No. 18:

General Note 8 on AD-101 calls "Existing fire alarm system including controls to be protected, repaired, adjusted & cleaned like new for (N) layout."

- a) Please provide a specification of the existing system and manufacturer.
- b) Please provide a scope of work for repairing and adjusting the system. For bidding purposes, please provide quantities for replacement, if required.
- c) If replacement parts are not available, how should scope be bid?
- d) Please provide a standard for the statement "like new".
- e) For bidding purposes, please provide an allowance for parts that do not meet this standard or are unavailable.

VA Response to RFI No. 18:

Fire Alarm system is not part of the scope, unless there is a device shown that is to be relocated or is damaged during construction due to demolition of wall or ceiling.

RFI No. 19:

General Note 9 calls "Existing public address system to be protected, repaired, adjusted & cleaned like new for (N) layout."

- a) Please provide a specification of the existing system and manufacturer.

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- b) Please provide a scope of work for repairing and adjusting the system. For bidding purposes, please provide quantities for replacement, if required.
- c) If replacement parts are not available, how should scope be bid?
- d) Please provide a standard for the statement "like new".
- e) For bidding purposes, please provide an allowance for parts that do not meet this standard or are unavailable.
- f) Please provide (N) layout.

VA Response to RFI No. 19:

Public Address system is not part of the scope unless there is a device shown that is to be relocated due to demolition of a wall or ceiling or is damaged during construction.

RFI No. 20:

General Note 10 calls "Existing Closed Circuit Camera System to be protected, repaired, adjusted & cleaned like new for (N) layout."

- a) Please provide a specification of the existing system and manufacturer.
- b) Please provide a scope of work for repairing and adjusting the system. For bidding purposes, please provide quantities for replacement, if required.
- c) If replacement parts are not available, how should scope be bid?
- d) Please provide a standard for the statement "like new".
- e) For bidding purposes, please provide an allowance for parts that do not meet this standard or are unavailable.
- f) Please provide "(N) layout".

VA Response to RFI No. 20:

Closed Circuit Camera System is not part of the scope unless there is a device shown that is to be relocated due to demolition of a wall or ceiling or is damaged during construction.

RFI No. 21:

Please confirm the lockers in the following room are not in contract:
4624 sheet AE-102.

If they are in contract, what is their equipment number?

VA Response to RFI No. 21:

Patient Monitoring System is not part of the scope unless there is a device shown that is to be moved due to demolition of a wall or ceiling or is damaged during construction.

RFI No. 22:

General Note 13 calls "Existing ceiling lift to be protected, repaired, adjusted & cleaned like new for (N) layout."

- a) Please provide a specification of the existing system and manufacturer.

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- b) Please provide a scope of work for repairing and adjusting the system. For bidding purposes, please provide quantities for replacement, if required.
- c) If replacement parts are not available, how should scope be bid?
- d) Please provide a standard for the statement "like new".
- e) For bidding purposes, please provide an allowance for parts that do not meet this standard or are unavailable.

VA Response to RFI No. 22:

Delete the portion of General Note #13 referencing to ceiling lifts. There are no ceiling lifts in these rooms.

RFI No. 23:

General Note 13 calls "Existing privacy curtain to be protected, repaired, adjusted & cleaned like new for (N) layout."

- a) Please provide a specification of the existing system and manufacturer.
- b) Please provide a scope of work for repairing and adjusting the system. For bidding purposes, please provide quantities for replacement, if required.
- c) If replacement parts are not available, how should scope be bid?
- d) Please provide a standard for the statement "like new".
- e) For bidding purposes, please provide an allowance for parts that do not meet this standard or are unavailable.

VA Response to RFI No. 23:

See Keynote 27 on AD-101 and General Notes 18, 19, 20 on AD-101 for clarification. VA to provide specification for track, contractor to provide and install as indicated in drawings. VA to supply curtains, contractor to install.

RFI No. 24:

Key Note 2/3 calls for new lockers. Both single and stacked are called on plans. Please provide specifications for the new lockers.

VA Response to RFI No. 24:

Lockers are under specification section 10 51 13. Please review this section.

RFI No. 25:

Equipment and Accessory Schedule on AE-602 shows the Nurse Call is to be Government Furnished, Contractor Installed. Please provide specifications and cut sheets on the government furnished nurse call system and manufacturers name of furnished system.

VA Response to RFI No. 25:

Nurse Call system, the patient bathrooms, is to remain. The contractor should protect it.

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The existing Nurse Call system in 4 West, B and C, the locations of this project, is a wireless system.

The pull cords, in the bathrooms, have a wireless device – IF one or two need to be relocated, it's a simple matter of moving the cord and the attached small device.

This system will be replaced, as soon as funding is available, and that work will be done by the VA. If possible, VA will install conduit during the renovation.

Therefore, the note should NOT say VA supplied, contractor installed.

It should simply say “protect existing Nurse call pull cord. Relocate, if required.”

Please also review VA response to RFI No. 28.

RFI No. 26:

Finish Schedule on AE-602 note solid surface O-5 “to match existing”. Corian and “or equal” per the specification was not found on the jobsite walk. Please provide finish color of existing.

VA Response to RFI No. 26:

Provide Corian color “Sahara” for O-5.

RFI No. 27:

There is a Fire Alarm Deferred Approval note on sheet E-001. Is contractor to design/build the fire alarm system? If so, please provide specifications. What is the existing fire alarm system?

VA Response to RFI No. 27:

Fire Alarm system is not part of the scope, unless there is a device shown that is to be relocated or is damaged during construction due to demolition of wall or ceiling.

RFI No. 28:

Key Note 6 on E-101, 8 on E-102, 6 of E-103 and 6 on E-103 states the new nurse call devices shall match and be compatible with existing system. This conflicts with Equipment and Accessories Schedule EQ21 on AE-602 states the existing system to be replaced and it is government furnished contractor installed.

- a) Please clarify if existing system is to remain in place or be replaced.
- b) Please provide existing system manufacturer.
- c) If it is to be GFCI, please provide the nurse call manufacture and parts list for bidding.

VA Response to RFI No. 28:

- a) All nurse calls are existing to remain in place.
- b) West-Com System serviced by CLIMATEC.
- c) All nurse calls are existing to remain in place.
- d) Please review VA response to RFI No. 25.

RFI No. 29:

During the job walk, the wing was vacant and it appeared all patient bathrooms would be available at the same time. Amendment 4 states only 1-3 bathrooms will be available at a time. Please clarify if the wing will be vacant or occupied during construction and if all bathrooms will be available at once.

VA Response to RFI No. 29:

Amendment No. A00004 states the current information. The wing was vacant during the site visit; however, the wing will be occupied during construction services, and 1 – 3 bathrooms will be available at a time, availability of the bathrooms is at the discretion of the Nurse Managers, based on patient census.

RFI No. 30:

The solicitation requires a CD of the proposal to be turned in at bid time. During the job walk, dropping this requirement was discussed. Please confirm a CD is no longer required, but two (2) hard copies are to be turned in at bid time.

VA Response to RFI No. 30:

Please review the VA response to RFI No. 1.

RFI No. 31:

I am a certified SDVOSB in Washington, D.C. that has worked on VA Set-Aside projects at the Los Angeles V.A. National Cemetery and the Long Beach V.A. In the past; I have only had to show the Contract Officer that my Company CAN complete the work from experience, assets, bonding, insurance and all local licensing, permits, etc.. I do not have a license in California. Texas and other places don't even have contractors' Licenses. Does a new V.A. Rule bar construction from Texas Companies or other SDVOSB companies; Or, does Texas have different rules for SDVOSB V.A. Construction companies? I have reviewed the Rule and would appreciate your review. I know you'll objectively see that where it talks about "bonding, insurance and all local licensing, permits, etc"; It specially states "LOCAL" licensing, permits and fees. Of course I will have all local permits, fees and licenses; And my subcontractors have all state, OSHA, Safety, permits and other requirements. Please confirm that my firm will be able to bid as a General Contractor on this project.

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VA Response to RFI No. 31:

As a Contracting Officer (CO) for NCO22, I cannot make a business decision for you on behalf of the VA relating to your question whether your firm should or should not provide a bid in response to the solicitations issued by NCO22. However, you should base your decision on whether your firm can meet the solicitation's requirements in submitting a bid which has to be in compliant with the bid contents referenced in the solicitation.

RFI No. 32:

What are the working hours for this project?

VA Response to RFI No. 32:

7 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday

RFI No. 33:

1. Is commissioning a requirement for this contract? The commissioning specification was just deleted from a similar project – VA Loma Linda, Restroom Renovations, VA262-14-0009.
2. If not, then what is VA's expectation of the contractor regarding commissioning? Is it VA's expectation that the contractor personnel to work directly with the VA's commissioning?

VA Response to RFI No. 33:

Delete Specification Section 01 91 00, General Commissioning Requirements.

RFI No. 34:

Page 7, Section G.1a. – Specification 01 00 00: Does the VA really want the contractor to completely furnished a phase and have it accepted before starting another? If so, then it will require the contractor to mobilize/de-mobilize 7 times, one for each phase.

VA Response to RFI No. 34:

The VA did not state that the Contractor must de-mobilize during the project. 1 – 3 bathrooms to be released at a time. The other bathrooms will be released as available. This will be planned and scheduled during pre-construction meetings with the VA. Bathrooms must be completed, accepted and returned to patient occupancy before others bathrooms can be released.

RFI No. 35:

- a) Are we matching the existing pipe sizing for all plumbing systems including branch lines when we replace it, or follow as shown on the plans?
- b) Are we required to perform x-ray or radar to slab before concrete coring can proceed?

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- c) Can we substitute standard CISPI 310 two band no hub couplings are acceptable for waste and vent piping and not Husky 2000 or Husky 4000 heavy duty no hub couplings?
- d) Is pipe freezing of domestic water piping acceptable in order to make POC's and minimize area and duration of shut downs?

VA Response to RFI No. 35:

- a) Follow pipe sizes as per construction documents. Contractor MUST field verify existing condition as conditions inside the interstitial space requires contractors experience.
- b) It is for the Contractor to decide. There is an interstitial floor below to locate the pipes.
- c) No. Contractor cannot substitute couplings. Provide 4 band Heavy Duty couplings.
- d) Pipe freezing is acceptable.