

SOLICITATION QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Amendment 1 A00001

1. Site Visit: (page 1 of 48) of the Solicitation, Offer and Award page. Section 10
Requirements:

Question: Will there be more than one site visit scheduled on August 7, 2014.

Answer: NO

ONE Site visit is scheduled for Thursday August 7, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. CST, for both Exterior and Interior IDIQs.

Question: Where will the meeting be held for the site visit?

Answer: Location Building 100 at the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center 4th Floor Auditorium Room 4A-300., Houston, TX.

2. **Question:** Will both Bid Openings be HELD at the same time for the Exterior and Interior IDIQ (page 11 of 48). **Answer:** NO

EXTERIOR IDIQ BID OPENINGS WILL BE AT 10:00 a.m., CST 4th Floor Auditorium at the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center, Houston, TX August 25, 2014

INTERIOR IDIQ BID OPENINGS WILL BE AT 1:30 p.m., CST 4th Floor Auditorium at the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center, Houston, TX August 25, 2014.

3. Correct contact email address for Wanda W. Thomas (page 1 of 48 and page 11 of 48) is: wanda.thomas2@va.gov (713-794-7405)
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Amendment 2_A00002

1) Question: TO Whom and where **MUST** the BIDS be delivered?

a. Answer: ALL BIDS MUST BE DLEIVERED BEFORE THE SHCEDULED BID OPENING TO BE ACCEPTED AND STAMPED. BIDS MUST BE PROVIDED TO: Wanda W. Thomas, Contract Officer., at THE MEDVAMC, Houston, Texas 77030; **IN ROOM 4B-331, 4th FLOOR, no later than 1:15 p.m.,**

BID OPENINGS WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE AUDITORIUM ROOM **4A-300**
AT 1:30 A.M.

2) WHEN WILL SITE VISITS BE AVAILABLE?

a. Answer: August 14, 2014 at the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center, Houston 77030 at **9:00 a.m., and again at 1:00 p.m.,** CST Conference Room 4B-300.

3) WHAT CONTRACTORS PARTICIPATED IN THE SITE VISIT PRE BID CONFERENCE?

a. (see attachment)

Amendment 3 _A00003

Question (1)

- 1) I have read through the solicitations and other documents for both of these projects and I am still a little confused. Am I to supply only a coefficient % which would be used on each task order to determine cost per, or are you looking for a cost total. The problem with a cost total is that I find no explanation of what scope exactly that I am to bid. Any help clarifying this would be greatly appreciated.

Answer: Offerors are to supply a coefficient % which will be used on each task order to determine the cost of the project. Yes

Question/**Answer** (2)

1. Is a Bid Bond or a Surety Letter required to be turned in? **Yes**
2. If a Bid Bond, in what amount? **Duly executed Bid Bond/Guarantee: Bidders shall use form SF24 Bid Bond. Bid bonds that are found noncompliant with bid guarantee requirements may result in the rejection of the bid. See clause 52.228-1 Bid Guarantee for additional information on the compliance with bid guarantee requirements.**

52.228-1 -- Bid Guarantee.

As prescribed in 28.101-2, insert a provision or clause substantially as follows:

Bid Guarantee (Sep 1996)

- (a) Failure to furnish a bid guarantee in the proper form and amount, by the time set for opening of bids, may be cause for rejection of the bid.
- (b) The bidder shall furnish a bid guarantee in the form of a firm commitment, *e.g.*, bid bond supported by good and sufficient surety or sureties acceptable to the Government, postal money order, certified check, cashier's check, irrevocable letter of credit, or, under Treasury Department regulations, certain bonds or notes of the United States. The Contracting Officer will return bid guarantees, other than bid bonds --

- (1) To unsuccessful bidders as soon as practicable after the opening of bids; and

(2) To the successful bidder upon execution of contractual documents and bonds (including any necessary coinsurance or reinsurance agreements), as required by the bid as accepted.

(c) The amount of the bid guarantee shall be 20% percent of the bid price or \$3,000,000, whichever is less.

(d) If the successful bidder, upon acceptance of its bid by the Government within the period specified for acceptance, fails to execute all contractual documents or furnish executed bond(s) within 10 days after receipt of the forms by the bidder, the Contracting Officer may terminate the contract for default.

(e) In the event the contract is terminated for default, the bidder is liable for any cost of acquiring the work that exceeds the amount of its bid, and the bid guarantee is available to offset the difference.

Question (3)

1. Section 4.4 states that Division 1 costs are to be included in the coefficient; however, Section 4.6.4 states they can be included in the Means line items. Can you confirm which clause is correct?

Answer:

Section 4.4 does not directly state Division 1 but it provides a list of items that are considered General Conditions that would apply for the duration of the project. Items like job trailer, general office expenses etc... These items would be in the coefficient factor and not priced per task order

4.6.4 Allow for the non-general condition items from Division 1 to be included on the estimate (items not included in the coefficient) like special equipment needed to complete the task order. Items like scaffolding or crane for setting equipment.

2. There are no Attachments 2-7 for this Solicitation. Will the VA be providing these forms to complete the Exterior IDIQ solicitation response? **Answer:** In the Statement of Work attachments are in both the Exterior and Interior IDIQ. The attachments are for informational purpose only unless required to be submitted with the Solicitation.

Note: SOLCITATIONS ARE ONLY 48 pages (DO NOT ALTER)

Question (4)

1. PAST PERFORMANCE EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE ATTACHMENT 4, states that it is to be filled out and the person completing it is to "Send completed form to: Mailing

Address: Physical Address: Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center 2002 Holcombe Blvd (90C) Houston, TX 77030 OR Email” and that “Questionnaires will not be released to Offeror.”

- a. Are they to be included within our bid package on bid day or sent directly to you from our previous owner representatives to protect the statements?

Answer: This is an IFB so, past performance is not required by the offerors.

Question (5)

I wanted to know if the line item could be more specific on this project. As written it is very general and does not give the skill level of personnel required or equipment/materials needed. Please advise.

Answer: Skill levels should be conducive to the job requirement of each task requested when required.

Question (6)

1. Could you clarify what our bid bond should be based on? **The amount of the award.** Is it going to be 20% of the whole amount, or 20% of the largest task order amount? Can you elaborate or clarify?

(c) The amount of the bid guarantee shall be 20% percent of the bid price or \$3,000,000, whichever is less.

Amendment 4_A00004 (Request for All signed amendments) No additional changes

Questions and Answers

1. Can you please execute a draft bid schedule for clarity on how the VA intends to see the schedule completed? How do you reach a grand total? **(The schedule has been provided asking for the co-efficient information please write your information on the pages provided, use the newest version of RS Means.)**

Does the contractor add together the normal and after hours coefficients together? Please clarify.

Contractor shall provide normal and after hours coefficient separately. Upon task order requirement which of the coefficient to be used.

2. Please provide an example breakdown of bare cost plus coefficient establishing a total contract amount for a proposed task order?

The estimate will be line item cost by division using bare material and labor from national average. The coefficient will be applied upon requirement of specific task order.

3. Please provide the current RS means construction cost or more detailed information on what will serve as the basis for all coefficients. This cost is open to interpretation and many factors such as weighted average, unit cost, division, etc. but most importantly location.

See SOW Section 4 Price Information. It is explained how to determine the coefficient. At the time of a task order the latest version on RS Mean will be used for estimates.

4. How will the low contractors coefficient be deemed fair, reasonable and responsible?

(This will be a contracting issue, on solicitation document, Wanda could you please answer this question)

5. The solicitation requires and office within 50 miles of the VAMC. What are the requirements of the office, and is the contractor able to secure if awarded if they don't have an office within that range currently?

It will be required to have a typical construction office, with a superintendent or PM on call during the duration of the project. Upon requirement superintendent or PM should be able to be on site within 1 hours of notification. (Wanda if you want to add any other requirement on this topic)

6. 4.5.2. states **Means Cost Works** provides the unit pricing to be used on this contract. Estimates shall be computed using the settings of "Facilities Repair, Union Labor". This setting is not possible within the software, please advise?

Unit pricing to be based on Facilities Maintenance and Repairs unless requested otherwise.

7. Will a tax exemption certificate be provided when pricing task orders?

No.

8. 2.0 states "site security" be included in the coefficient. Please elaborate what is to be included in "site security".

CONSTRUCTION SECURITY REQUIREMENTS

A. Security Plan:

1. The security plan defines both physical and administrative security procedures that will remain effective for the entire duration of the project.
2. The General Contractor is responsible for assuring that all sub-contractors working on the project and their employees also comply with these regulations.

B. Security Procedures:

1. General Contractor's employees shall not enter the project site without appropriate badge. They may also be subject to inspection of their personal effects when entering or leaving the project site.
2. For working outside the "regular hours" as defined in the contract, The General Contractor shall give 3 days notice to the Contracting Officer so that security //escort// arrangements// can be provided for the employees. This notice is separate from any notices required for utility shutdown described later in this section.
3. No photography of VA premises is allowed without written permission of the Contracting Officer.
4. VA reserves the right to close down or shut down the project site and order General Contractor's employees off the premises in the event of a national emergency. The General Contractor may return to the site only with the written approval of the Contracting Officer.
5. Contractor shall provide security measures to any job trailer on site used to stored materials.
6. Contractor shall immediately notify VA police of any security incident at construction job site.