

**St Cloud VAHC
Construct New IT Center for Healthcare
RFI Contractor questions and answers
May 01, 2015**

1. The drawings as issued seem to be missing a number of drawing sheets: S030, S202, S400, S500, S600, S601, S610, S611, and S620. In addition, sheet M403 is in the plans but not listed in the Sheet Index on the Title Sheet.

Answer:

It appears that the structural file was overwritten at a point along the line. See newly issued Structural file (656-14-246 Struct Compiled 2015 April30).

The structural sheets included with this new file are as originally listed in the spec section 00 01 15 List of Drawings. See also revised G100 Cover page with updated structural listing of sheets.

Sheet M403 should be deleted from the set of drawings. Mechanical work at the identified B29 room has been removed from the project base bid. (All updates are attachments to this amendment.)

2. At the pre-bid walk-through we were told that mechanics entering the IT closets and other sensitive areas would require a VA escort. Recently we bid (and were not awarded) a similar project in Minneapolis where the plan was to have FBI background checks completed on contractor personnel who would be required to work in IT closets and other sensitive areas thus eliminating the need for VA escorts. This provides a number of advantages for both VA and contractors including reducing the burden of providing an escort on VA contracting staff, and permitting greater flexibility and speed on the part of trades contractors thereby reducing construction time and costs.

Answer:

The escort process will stand as stated in the scope of work, please keep this in mind in preparing your proposals.

This contract will require extensive access to VA Information Technology and data areas. Due to the sensitive information contained in these secure areas, the Contractor or sub-contractors will be required to have an escort from the VA when entering, and while executing work in these areas. These areas can be defined as any areas that contain secure VA communications and data equipment that requires a clearance or specific VA credentials to enter. These areas include but are not limited to individual building data closets, and building 108, the current campus data center.

A. The contractor must coordinate with his sub-contractors to determine in advance when access to these defined areas will be needed.

B. Request for access and escort shall be submitted in writing to the COTR a minimum of 10 business days prior to the day access is requested. Request shall include: building and room the work is being executed in, summary of work to be executed and the expected duration of the work. The COTR will coordinate access with SCVAMC OI&T staff. The VA will make all reasonable efforts to provide access/ escort at the requested date and time. If the specific date and time requested is not available the COTR will provide the contractor the closest available dates and times escort is available.

C. The contractor should have subsequent work scheduled in the event the specific dates and times requested are not available. In the event the first available date for access/ escort exceeds the requested access date by 72 hours (not including weekends and holidays) the Contracting Officer shall be notified in order to make a determination as to whether the postponement of access constitutes a legitimate delay, and if a modification to the contract is required.

3. Regarding the above project, can you clarify the ceiling finish in rooms 105 and 109? The Room Finish Schedule and the RCP contradict each other.

A. Storage Room 105, is scheduled as open to structure and shown on the ceiling plan as ACT-1.

ANSWER:

Storage Room 105 shall be provided with an ACT-1 ceiling and grid. Please change the Room Finish Schedule on sheet A601 to reflect an ACT ceiling in Room 105. No changes are needed to the First Floor Ceiling Plan on sheet A701.

B. Work Room 109, is scheduled as ACT ceiling and shown on the ceiling plan as gypsum board.

ANSWER:

Work Room 109 shall be provided with an ACT-1 ceiling and grid. No change is needed in the Room Finish Plan found on sheet A601. Please note this change to ACT-1 on the First Floor Ceiling Plan (sheet A701) where gypsum board is incorrectly shown.