

Question

Soil/GeoTech Borings are not on the FPO share link. After speaking with staff, they do not exist. Will there be an Addendum with assumptions to take into consideration?

Answer

The geotechnical assumptions based on information from other projects on the St. Cloud VA campus are as follows:

- Minimal top soil.
- Silty/sandy fill to 2'-4'.
- Native clean, poorly graded sands to 20+ feet deep.
- Sand and Gravel.
- N-Value: 12-15 to over 50.
- Groundwater 10-14' below the surface.
- Medium dense to very dense.
- 3000 psf bearing capacity.

Question

During the pre-bid site walk, we were told that VA would provide the Network service from a LEC to VA St. Cloud Demarc Point. The bid documents still ask to include the cost of the Utility Company in the bid. Will there be a clarification or addendum excluding this? Please note that CenturyLink is asking for 30-45 days for an Engineering Review of the VA Hospital facility.

Answer

Per an agreement on the previous project bid, a \$75,000 cost was set cross the board for the Contractor to assume the cost associated with Demarc Point as Century Link could not give an estimate of the actual cost. It was also pointed out that a credit was going to be received by the VA if the costs ended up been lower than \$75,000. A change order for the difference above the \$75,000 was going to be paid by the VA if the results were the other way around.

Question

Can we get a clarification for the precast beam shown on 2/S202? The beam as shown does not appear to work structurally and we are wondering if the owner and design team would be fine with a rectangular beam with a bearing angle on the side so we can get the proper reinforcing.

Answer

An inverted T beam section is commonly used in precast construction. If design loads and analysis by the precast supplier indicate a deeper beam section than the one shown in detail 2/S202, then other options can be explored which maintain the overall depth of the designed beam. As part of this statement, the contractor shall include costs in their bid for all required fire proof construction of any exposed steel bearing angles, etc. (2-hr).

Question

Does the releasing panel for the clean agent fire suppression system in the new IT room need to be a Notifier panel or will you accept other manufactures?

Answer

The releasing panel is not required to be a Notifier panel (as indicated in the specification). A separate releasing panel is required (use of the building FACU is NOT allowed) but any panel/manufacture that meets the specification requirements may be used as a separate releasing panel.

Question

Who currently maintains the fire system and card access system?

Answer

The VA on a daily basis has employees versed in the two systems.  
AllState Communications, as a subcontractor, is under a 3 year warranty period for the newly upgraded campus wide fire alarm system project.  
The card access system is typically programmed by Floyd Security.

Question

How are we to bid the graphics for all buildings as we do not have plans with points, etc.?

Answer

Contractors shall include time in their bid for updating the graphics program used by the VA (Fireworks). This involves a .dwg file as a background and then placing nodes within the program at devices.  
For this project, a contractor would only be expected to deal with an update/integration of any change to Bldg. 4 and the addition of the New Data Center systems and devices.

Question

Is there a requirement for a sole source or brand name or equal products, J&As in this solicitation? What about Best Locks 7 pin core? If we are using this product for our locks, we will need the appropriate J&A, please advise. This question should also include the fire suppression question above.

Answer

Best Locks, 7-pin cores: these are spec'd per St Cloud VA standards/request.  
Other products thru-out the spec have been listed as Basis of Design or equal.