

JUSTIFICATION
FOR OTHER THAN FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION

1. Contracting Activity: Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
Office of Acquisition Operations
Technology Acquisition Center
23 Christopher Way
Eatontown, NJ 07724

2. Description of Action: This proposed action is a firm-fixed-price modification for a three month extension to contract VA118-15-C-0064, originally awarded on October 1, 2014 to SBC Global Services, Inc. (Doing Business As (DBA) AT&T), located at 225 Randolph St., Room 15D, Chicago, IL, 60606. The subject contract provides for wired telephone services for VA's Office of Information and Technology, Enterprise Operations, Hines Information Technology Center (HITC).

3. Description of the Supplies or Services: This proposed action is for the continuation of telecommunication services for HITC, inclusive of dial tone lines, integrated services digital network primary rate interface and basic rate access, Direct Inward Dialing traffic, foreign and domestic directory listing services, and digital subscriber line internet connectivity. The Contractor is responsible for ensuring the current infrastructure remains consistent. The Contractor provides telecommunication services at the facility 24 hours per day, seven days per week with maximum service availability such that no break in telephone services shall occur. These services are currently being provided under sole source contract with AT&T however, these services are set to transition by September 30, 2016 to contract VA118-15-C-0133 awarded to Granite Telecommunications, LLC on June 29, 2015. The period of performance for the proposed modification is three months; the total dollar value of this proposed action is [REDACTED]

4. Statutory Authority: The statutory authority permitting other than full and open competition is 41 U.S.C.3304(a)(1) as implemented by Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 6.302-1 entitled, "Only One Responsible Source and No Other Supplies or Services Will Satisfy Agency Requirements."

5. Rationale Supporting Use of Authority Cited Above: Currently AT&T remains the only responsible source capable of providing the aforementioned wired telephone services. This is due to the type of services that are currently installed, which prevents other vendors from installing, testing and activating new services immediately, which is necessary to prevent a lapse in service. Any lapse in these essential telephone services would significantly impact Veteran care, and any other vendor would require a minimum of 60-90 days to provide the aforementioned telecommunication voice and data services. To that extent, Granite was awarded contract VA118-15-C-0133 on June 29, 2015, to replace the services being provided by AT&T. However, due to delays with internal circuit provisioning, the targeted cutover date of the new circuits was only recently put into service on February 10, 2016. During that time VA pursued a new

voice over internet protocol (VoIP) telephone system to replace the old Centrex telephone services, that are currently provided by AT&T; the contract for the installation, training and support of the new VoIP system was awarded on May 25, 2016 and installation and testing will be fully completed in 4th Quarter Fiscal Year 2016 (FY16). The circuit provisioning delays coupled with the subsequent VoIP procurement have necessitated the need to extend the current contract with AT&T. The extension will provide sufficient time for cutover assistance of the old Centrex telephone service to the new VoIP telephone system for approximately 400 users that will be serviced by the new PRI circuits under the Granite contract. Existing telephone service provided by AT&T must remain in place for at least 30 days after cutover and testing is complete to avoid loss of telephone services. Any other source would require immediate access to the current proprietary AT&T infrastructure in order to provide the current wired telephone services and failure to immediately access the AT&T infrastructure would result in disruption of service of communications systems that serve our Veterans, the inability to share resources within the Veterans Health Administration network, increased maintenance time, increased system blockages, and reduced computer access to patient record databases.

6. Efforts to Obtain Competition: Market research was conducted, the details of which are in section 8 of this document. This effort did not yield any additional sources that can meet the Government's requirements within the given timeframe. There is no competition anticipated for this acquisition. In accordance with FAR 6.305(a) this Justification will be made publicly available within 14 days after contract award.

7. Actions to Increase Competition: The Government will continue to conduct market research to ascertain if there are changes in the market place that would enable future actions to be competed.

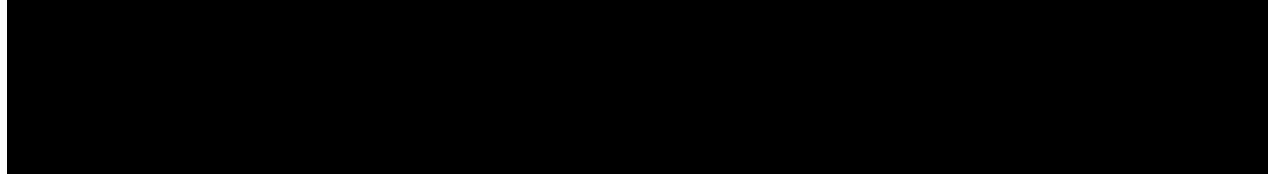
8. Market Research: In June 2016, VA's technical experts conducted market research by utilizing the Public Service Commission's website to ascertain if there are other sources that can provide the aforementioned wired telephone services. It was determined that while there were other sources that could provide similar services, no other sources were available with the technical and proprietary services to support the AT&T infrastructure without a formal transition process. Based on this market research, the Government's technical experts have determined that AT&T is the only source that can meet the Government's requirements, and thus no competition is anticipated for this acquisition.

9. Other Facts: None.

10. Technical and Requirements Certification: I certify that the supporting data under my cognizance, which are included in this justification, are accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.



11. Fair and Reasonable Cost Determination: I hereby determine that the anticipated price to the Government for this contract action will be fair and reasonable based on a comparison of the prices against the Independent Government Cost Estimate and past historical prices paid for the same and/or similar services.



12. Procuring Contracting Officer Certification: I certify that this justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. As this contract action does not exceed \$700,000, the certification below required by FAR 6.303-2(b)(12) serves as approval.

