

VA255-17-R-0204 – 657-345 SEISMIC UPGRADE AND REMODEL BUILDING 8
AMENDMENT A00003

1. At the wall sections, there are notes saying “existing asbestos containing cement stucco”. Is this to be removed? If so, all of the EIFS system would need to be removed. Does EIFS need to be put back? If so, are there specs?

VA RESPONSE: The information on the existing stucco under the EIFS was included in the drawings and specifications in the event secondary damage is caused to the existing exterior finish during the interior seismic reinforcing. The information is provided so the Contractor will be aware of the existing obscured hazardous material.

2. Bid item #5 has eliminating work associated with the 2nd floor. Does this include the demolition involved and the shotcrete on the exterior walls?

VA RESPONSE: Yes

3. Factor 2, section A, asks to give examples of past projects with emphasis on seismic upgrades and abatement work. What constitutes as “seismic upgrades”?

VA RESPONSE: A Seismic upgrade experience example would be by showing prior work in an older building that required reinforcing existing structure not only in isolated areas but as a complete building upgrade. When describing past projects include a description outlining the type of work, the level of performance objective (ie public safety, structure survival, structure unaffected) and techniques utilized to retrofit building. Earthquake damage mitigation efforts within new building construction such as strapping of HVAC equipment / lighting are not considered a seismic upgrade.

4. VA Statement of Information: Building 8 is a contributing building to the Historic District boundary of the VA campus. As a historic building the original elements that are on and in the building are to be protected any damage to the terra cotta, railings, or stairs during construction, even the most minor, will be the responsibility of the Contractor to repair or replace in kind and in accordance with agreed upon preservation standards.

Contractor should review the specifications and drawings and be familiar with the monitoring requirements & documentation listed during construction. Especially as it relates to the exterior skin of the building and unintended movement within the exterior wall planes.

5. Work Schedule. How many hours will the contractor be allowed to work per day? Is the contractor authorized to work on the weekends?

VA RESPONSE: Contractor working hours 7:00am-4:30pm M-F. Weekend and evening work may be necessary for some utility shut-downs. Any after hour work, weekend work, or work on Federal holidays will require 3-week advance notice and approval in-writing from the Chief of Engineering and CO/COR. COR or designee must be on station for contractors to perform work.

The VA will entertain discussions during the Pre-Construction Kick-off Meeting with the winning bidder regarding extended working hours if such extended hours can speed up the construction process.

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6. Contractor Lay Down Area. Spec Section 01 00 00 -6: “D. Working space and space available for storing materials shall be as determined by the COR.” Can you please identify the location where the contractor can stage equipment, material, office trailer, etc.?

VA RESPONSE: Contractor can utilize grassy area between Building 8 and Road. Any office trailer, materials, dumpster, etc. will need to be stored within construction fence. Additional gravel lot for trailers and parking is available in the southeast corner of the VA property.