

Q1. How do you plan to post Amendments? I'm curious to know if the Amendments will be posted on FedBizOpps or if you will be sending a CD again.

A1. All Amendments will be posted to FedBizOpps.

Q2. We would like to request an extension of two weeks to the due date of this proposal.

A2. The proposal due date has been extended until February 8, 2013 at 3 PM CST.

Q3. In reference to page 22 of 51, Section 2.2.2 Management Approach and Attachment 11, the instructions ask for "experience with boiler and chiller installations, testing and start-up;" Is this relevant to this project?

A3. The project listed "experience with boiler and chiller installations, testing and start-up" are general construction projects. They are example of the type of projects that will be mostly covered within the MATOC.

Q4. VOLUME I- PAST PERFORMANCE: What would you like to see in this volume? There doesn't seem to be anything specific you are looking for us to include. The solicitation only discusses providing no more than five (5) relevant contract references from previous contract customers, and these would be the people we send Attachment 2, Past and Present Performance Questionnaires to. Would you like a description of the projects in Volume I?

A4. Yes

Q5. Can the projects used in Attachment 10, Project Experience, be the same projects referenced in Volume I- Past Performance?

A5. Yes

Q6. How many projects should we use when answering questions in Attachment 11, Management Approach?

A6. Bidders should provide sufficient information that accurately demonstrates their ability to provide the seed project specifically and the MATOC requirements. No more than three projects should be needed.

Q7. If we bid the seed project but do not submit a bid bond can we still be awarded a MATOC slot and not win the seed project?

A7. Yes, you can be a MATOC awardee. The Bid Bond is not needed for the seed project until award.

Q8. We would like to know if this is a set aside project for certified Small Business companies or Veterans only.

A8. This project is set-aside for 100% SDVOSB.

Q9. Please clarify if contract references are preferred for contracts performed within the past three years OR contracts performed within the past five years.

A9. Bidders should provide sufficient information that accurately demonstrates their ability to provide the seed project specifically and the MATOC requirements. No more than three years should be needed.

Q10. Are previously completed questionnaires acceptable to submit in lieu of having clients complete and submit Attachment 2, Past and Present Performance Questionnaire?

A10. Please have clients complete and submit the attachment.

Q11. If questionnaires are to be submitted directly to contracting personnel, what information should offerors include in the Past Performance – Volume I?

A11. The same information and other relevant information if you would like to provide any.

Q12. Please confirm that Attachment 1 – Release of Claims does NOT need to be submitted with the proposal.

A12. Release of Claims does NOT need to be submitted with the proposal.

Q13. Please confirm that Attachment 3 – Background Investigation Requirement does NOT need to be submitted with the proposal.

A13. Background Investigation does NOT need to be submitted with the proposal.

Q14. Please confirm that Attachment 4 is Wage Rates.

A14. Attachment 4 is Wage Rates in the areas covered within the MATOC.

Q15. Please confirm that Attachment 6 is Wage Rates for the Seed Project.

A15. Attachment 6 is Wage Rates for the Seed Project ONLY.

Q16. Section 2.2.2 Management Approach requires that the offeror “demonstrate the capability to manage projects of the same size and scope of this project...” applying the narrative into Attachment 11.

A16. Bidders should provide sufficient information that accurately demonstrates their ability to provide the seed project specifically and the MATOC requirements.

Q17. Please clarify if projects described in this section should be the same as those in 2.2.1 Project Experience.

A17. yes

Q18. Are electronic copies of the proposal required? If so, how many electronic copies should be provided?

A18. No, electronic copies of the proposal is not required. Hard copy only.

Q19. Deliver proposal binders to Dallas VA instead of shipping them to Temple VA.

A19. Please ship via (UPS, FedEx) to: Department of Veterans Affairs, ATTN: William F. Dunlap, 1111N. General Bruce Drive, Temple, Texas 76504

Q20. Reference Plan Sheet A101, Key Note 3, Details F1 , F4/A501 and Plan Sheet A601 Materials & Color Schedule, Ref “W9”. All these items reference a rock panel/stone veneer. Will the VA issue a specification for the rock panel/stone veneer?

A20. Type/Style: Norstone Rock Panel Ochre Blend or Similair  
24” Wide X 6” Tall ¾” Variable Thicknes  
¾”-13/4” Variable Thickness

Q21. Do liquidated damages apply to the seed project?

A21. No.

Q22. Door types for new doors are not identified on the door schedule/details plan A601. Reference Column ‘D\_Type’ on the door schedule, plan sheet A601 and Door Type detail F2/A601. Please clarify new door types (HM, Wood, Other?)

A22. New doors shall be Hollow metal.

Q23. Keynote 1 on plan sheet E303 (and keynote 2/E402) indicates “As an add alternate remove existing 4th Floor penthouse motor control center and recircuit all existing equipment served from MCC to panel ‘4MEQ’ located in 4th floor roof electrical room. Recircuit to match existing feeder and breaker sizes.”

a. Plan detail 2/E303 identifies a panel ‘4MHEQ’ (not ‘4MEQ’). Please confirm that panel ‘4MHEQ’ and Not ‘4MEQ’ is the panel referred to by keynote 1 this sheet.

A23a. Panel ‘4MHEQ’

b. The bid form (Seed Project Pricing Sheet-Attachment 5) does not include a line item for an Add Alternate. If Alternate Pricing is required for this work, can the bid form be revised to include the Add Alternate by Amendment? Should the alternate be disregarded as it is not identified on the bid schedule?

A23b. See response to question 24.

c. Please identify existing feeder/breaker sizes.

A23c. Feeder and Breaker sizes will need to be field verified.

Q24. Keynote 4 on plan sheet E201 indicates “As an add alternate provide a lighting control panel to control the on/off function of the kitchen, dining, and serving line areas. Refer to lighting control panel on line diagram on sheet E4.03 for additional information.” There is not a line item on the bid schedule (Seed Project Pricing Sheet-Attachment 5) for the lighting control panel. If add Alternate Pricing is required for this work, can the bid form be revised to include the Add Alternate by Amendment?

A24.

Yes, VA shall reuse bid form.

Should the add alternate be disregarded as it is not identified on the bid schedule?

Yes, VA shall reuse bid form.

Q25. Mechanical Make Up Air Unit MAU-1 shown on detail 3/M401 (3rd Floor Roof) and Exhaust Fan EF-20 on 2/M401 (1st Floor Roof) are shown to be roof mounted. Please identify the type of roof to be patched at these two roofs and provide a roof detail.

A25. Built Up Roof Verify in field

Q26. Mechanical Make Up Air Unit MAU-1 shown on detail 3/M401 (3rd Floor Roof) and Exhaust Fan EF-20 on 2/M401 (1st Floor Roof) is shown to be roof mounted. Are these existing roofs under warranty? If yes, please indicate manufacturer and/or roofing contractor who holds the warranties for these roofs.

A26. No warranty in effect

Q27. It was indicated at the site visit that demolition phase would require Level 4 Infection Control, but would be downgraded after demolition. If this is not a correct understanding, please clarify otherwise

A27. Level 4 Infection control is required until all demolition phases have been completed. A down grade of Infection Control Level will be base on work activities that will occur after the demolition activities have been conducted. See attached .

#### 1.8 INFECTION PREVENTION MEASURES

A. Implement the requirements of VAMC’s Infection Control Risk Assessment (ICRA) team.

ICRA Group may monitor dust in the vicinity of the construction work and require the Contractor to take corrective action immediately if the safe levels are exceeded.

B. Establish and maintain a dust control program as part of the contractor's infection preventive measures in accordance with the guidelines provided by ICRA Group. Prior to start of work, prepare a plan detailing project-specific dust protection measures, including periodic status reports, and submit to Resident Engineer and Facility ICRA team for review for compliance with contract requirements in accordance with Section 01 33 23, SHOP DRAWINGS, PRODUCT DATA AND SAMPLES.

Q28. Will the contractor be able to locate a dumpster at the loading dock shown to bidders at the official site visit? If not, please identify dumpster locations on a floor plan

A28. Yes. Loading dock

Q29. General note A on plan sheet AD101 states "Existing kitchen equipment to be re-used will be removed by owner prior to construction. The existing trayline equipment will be re-used. Existing trayline equipment shall be reinstalled in its current location." Is the trayline equipment the only equipment being reused and all other equipment is to be demolished by the contractor?

A29. YES

Q30. Wording "VAMC Contractor" is used on the Food Service Equipment Schedule drawing F549\_1. Does the VA Medical Center have a separate contractor for the food service equipment work who is the VAMC Contractor? Or is "VAMC Contractor" intended to mean the general contractor?

A30. VAMC Contractor is the one awarded under seed project

Q31. Note 2 on Food Service Equipment Schedule drawing F549\_1 states "The medical center is responsible for the movement assembly and installation of all food counters and equipment identified on the equipment schedule with the notation, "CC" and "KC". If this is not correct, please clarify otherwise.

A31. Food Service Equipment Schedule on F\_549\_1 1 of 3 listed CC or KC is contractor responsibility as noted on the schedule.

Q32. If a mortar bed is required at new quarry tile floors, please clarify.

A32. Yes a new mortar bed will be required below the quarry tile

Q33. If a mortar bed is required at new ceramic tile floors, please clarify.

A33. Yes a new mortar bed will be required below the quarry tile

Q34. Specifications contain numerous TCA setting methods. Please identify the TCA setting method which will be required at: (1) new quarry tile floors and (2) new ceramic tile floors.

A34. There are multiple setting methods and we request that tile contractor propose the best method to warrant adhesion for five (5) years minimum

Q35. Can the list of General Contractor's who have been issued a copy of the CD be released so subcontractors may know who they can bid too?

A35. No, the site visit sign in sheet is available upon request.

Q36. Siemens the proprietary Direct Digital Control package used on the Dallas VA Campus?

A36. Yes.

Q37. Is there a sole source Direct Digital Control Contractor used on the Dallas VA Campus? If so, can you provide the company name and POC?

A37. Siemens HVAC Control,  
Gary Dunker  
SIEMENS Building Technologies, Inc.  
Building Automation (Dallas 250)  
(972) 465-1557 (Direct)  
(972) 550-8488 (Main)  
(214) 202-2136 (Cell)

Q38. In the Instructions, Conditions and Notices to Offerors paragraph 2.1 regarding past performance allows references on projects "within the past (5) years" whereas paragraph 2.1.2 states "within the last three (3) years". Please clarify whether the requirement is for projects used in Past Performance to have been performed in the last 3 or 5 years?

A38. Three years

Q39. Regarding Management Approach as described in paragraph 2.2.2 please clarify what is expected in Attachment #11. Is it the intent of this attachment to provide a general narrative of how the Seed Project would be managed or how a similar project was managed or just a general narrative of how the company manages projects of any kind?

A39.. Bidders should provide sufficient information that accurately demonstrates their ability to provide the requirements of the seed project specifically and the MATOC generally.

Q40. Is it the intent to have the Project Experience projects describe the same projects submitted for Past Performance? If so there are only three projects required for Project Experience and five for Past Performance.

A40. Bidders should provide sufficient information that accurately demonstrates their ability to provide the requirements of the seed project specifically and the MATOC generally.

Q41. Sheet FA201 General Note 2A references compatibility with the new fire alarm system being installed on the VA Campus. What is the manufacturer of the "new fire alarm system"?

A41. SSD Systems

Q42. At the site visit it was noted that the Canteen could only be shut down for 6 months. The contract documents state the project has a 365 day duration. Please confirm this 6 month phase requirement and clarify what rooms need to be completed in the 6 month period noted at the site visit.

A42. The Canteen Kitchen and at least one dining room must be operation by the end of the 6 month period.

Q43. The solicitation states there will be a minimum of five contractors awarded. Are there a maximum number of awards which will be made?

A43. Dollar value of MATOC will determine maximum awards

Q44. Referencing sheet M501, AHU Schedule; the notes reference note 12. Should it say reference note 1?

A44. YES.

Q45. The pricing sheet refers to a single cost for the entire project. However, Sheet E303 Notes By Symbol 1 and Sheet E402 Notes by Symbol 2 reference an add alternate for the fourth floor penthouse. Is this to be an alternate and priced separately or part of a lump sum base bid?

A45. Alternate priced separately.

Q46. Sheet A102 note 1 states Kitchen equipment is to be provided by the owner and installed by the General Contractor which indicates all equipment will be contractor installed. This differs to some degree from the schedule on Sheets F549\_1 equipment schedule. Is it the intent to follow the Kitchen Equipment Schedule for specific item responsibilities?

A46. YES

Q47. Referencing Sheet F549\_1 Drawing 1; can you please confirm whether "VAMC Contractor" when referencing equipment to be supplied and/or supplied and installed is the responsibility of the General Contractor for this project?

A47. General Contractor of this project

Q48. Is there a warranty on the 1st floor and 3rd floor roofs shown on Sheet M401? If so, can you provide the Company name and POC for the roof warranty for coordination to maintain the existing warranty?

A48. No warranty

Q49a. Reference Plan Sheet A102 and F549\_1 (DWG 1 of 3).

Who provides and installs the Freezer and Cooler in the Bottom RH corner of the Kitchen?

A49a. Contractor will furnish and install the coolers and freezers.

Q49b. If these items are to be provided and/or installed by the GC, please issue plans and specs for the Freezer and Cooler.

A49b. Contractor will provide allowance for freezer/cooler to be installed in space provided. The contractor will provide the cooler and freezer.

Q50. Regarding the use of beam detectors shown on sheets FA101 and FA201 for temporary protection, the VA has recently moved to using wireless heat detectors connected to a standalone fire panel that would connect to the campus fire alarm system for monitoring. Will this be the preferred method in lieu of beam detection? Will the purchase of this equipment be funded under this project?

A50. Contractor will determine and provide methods and means for fire protection within the jobsite

Q51. The new system installed uses mass evacuation strobes in addition to fire alarm notification. The drawings do not show these strobes. Please confirm they will be required.

A51. The fire alarm work for this project must comply with the current campus wide fire alarm upgrade project.

Q52. What is the address to hand deliver proposals to (instead of using UPS/Fedex)?

A52. See A19

Q53. During the site visit meeting it was mentioned that the government will furnish and install all kitchen equipment and the contractor is to just provide the connections only.

a) Does this mean the government will physically bring all the equipment to the canteen or renovation area, uncrate, and place equipment in its proper location?

A53a. Government will receive and store at its on campus warehouse. GC will transfer to jobsite according to Food Service Equipment Schedule

Q53b. Will the government, receive, unload and store until the equipment is needed as well?

A53b. Yes

b) Also, please confirm and/or verify if the contractor is responsible to provide the connection for the government's equipment subs to install the equipment or if the contractor is to not only provide the means for the connection but also connect the kitchen equipment.

A53c. GC will connect IAW Food Service Equipment Schedule.

c) Regarding certification of kitchen equipment and ancillary fire system, who is responsible for such as it relates to the equipment and/or kitchen exhaust hood only?

A53d. Final approval by Fire Protection Engineer. Certification will be by VA

Q54. The discussion came up about the utilization of negative pressure fans during demolition.

a) Please confirm if they are required.

A54a. Refer to attached ICRA requirements which are very specific regarding negative air.

b) What CFM will the fans be required to have?

A54b. Refer to attached ICRA requirements which indicate that GC must provide negative air. Since this is a "means and methods" item, Contractor shall determine what CFM is needed to provide "negative air".

c) Will the government waive the requirement in section 01 00 00 page 12, item 1?

A54c If this question is referencing Section 01 00 00 Paragraph E.1, there is no reason to waive this item..

Q55. During the site walk we were shown the Loading Dock area. There doesn't appear to be any work in that area per the plans. Was the purpose of this to show material and equipment access to the Work areas?

A55. Yes

Q56. Also, will an area be identified to where a dumpster and/or dumpster be located adjacent the dock?

A56. Yes

Q57. The demolition plans do not indicate the location and types of dust partitions required either by the govt or Infectious Control. When will a plan and partition schedule be available?

A57. The A/E will not be issuing the types or locations of dust partitions. Refer to Spec Section 01 00 00 Paragraph 1.8.B (shown below) which states that Contractor is to establish the dust control program per ICRA guidelines and submit the layout for approval prior to any work commencing.

## 1.8 INFECTION PREVENTION MEASURES

A. Implement the requirements of VAMC's Infection Control Risk Assessment (ICRA) team. ICRA Group may monitor dust in the vicinity of the construction work and require the Contractor to take corrective action immediately if the safe levels are exceeded.

B. Establish and maintain a dust control program as part of the contractor's infection preventive measures in accordance with the guidelines provided by ICRA Group. Prior to start of work, prepare a plan detailing project-specific dust protection measures, including periodic status reports, and submit to Resident Engineer and Facility ICRA team for review for compliance with contract requirements in accordance with Section 01 33 23, SHOP DRAWINGS, PRODUCT DATA AND SAMPLES.

- a) It was mentioned that we will be blocking some fire exists. Will the government provide us locations and critical partitions and the construction type, such as required fire rated partitions?

A57a. Refer to Section 01 00 00 Paragraph 1.5.B shown below. It states that Contractor is responsible for creating said fire safety plan which must be approved prior to work commencing.

## 1.5 FIRE SAFETY

A. Applicable Publications: Publications listed below form part of this Article to extent referenced. Publications are referenced in text by basic designations only.

1. American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM):  
E84-2008.....Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials

2. National Fire Protection Association (NFPA):  
10-2006.....Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers  
30-2007.....Flammable and Combustible Liquids Code  
51B-2003.....Standard for Fire Prevention During Welding, Cutting and Other Hot Work  
70-2007.....National Electrical Code  
241-2004.....Standard for Safeguarding Construction, Alteration, and Demolition Operations

3. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA):  
29 CFR 1926.....Safety and Health Regulations for Construction

B. Fire Safety Plan: Establish and maintain a fire protection program in accordance with 29 CFR 1926. Prior to start of work, prepare a plan detailing project-specific fire safety measures, including periodic status reports, and submit to Resident Engineer and Facility Safety Officer for review for compliance with contract requirements in accordance with Section 01 33 23, SHOP DRAWINGS, PRODUCT DATA AND SAMPLES Prior to any worker for the contractor or subcontractors beginning work, they shall undergo a safety briefing provided by the general contractor's competent person per OSHA requirements. This briefing shall include information on the construction limits, VAMC safety guidelines, means of egress, break areas, work hours, locations of restrooms, use of VAMC equipment, etc. Documentation shall be provided to the Resident Engineer that individuals have undergone contractor's safety briefing.

Q58. Will the existing furniture, serving area equipment and kitchen equipment remain and be required to be removed and disposed of by the contractor?

A58. Existing furniture will not remain

Q59. Will any of the existing furnishings or equipment be retained by the owner?

A59. Only as indicated on drawings



Q60. Section 01 00 00 Page 3, 1.1.B states visits can be made by appointment. Is this applicable to subcontractors who need to see the site?

A60. The response is yes—it applies equally to everyone.

Q61. Will it be acceptable for subcontractors and/or suppliers to bid “or equal” products or will prior approval be required?

A61. Bid as specified

Q62. Section 01 00 00, page 3, item B.2 states “regular hours” for work.

a) Please define regular work hours.

A62a. 7:30-am/ 4:30pm

b) Will any hours of work be required outside of “regular work hours”?

A62b. Means and methods for meeting deadlines

c) Will there be any shut down periods or noise restrictions?

A62c. None are planned

Q63. During the pre-bid it was discussed there is a staging and laydown area around a thermal unit for contractors.

a) Is this area large enough for us to set up an office trailer and still have room for storage?

A63a. Yes

b) Are there utilities available for trailer hook up?

A63b. Electricity and water/sewer are NOT available in the laydown area. Office trailer may be located near the base of the crane, outside of the emergency generators where electricity is available.

Q64. Section 23 38 13 Commercial-Kitchen Hoods and drawing M501 indicate the three (3) each new Kitchen Exhaust hoods to be provided and installed by the contractor. Since commercial kitchen hoods are part of commercial kitchen equipment shouldn't they be included in the Kitchen Equipment package provided by the government?

A64. They are not part of equipment package provided by owner

Q65. Who is providing the suppression system for the hoods?

A65. Provided with the hoods.

Q66. Sheet A401 item 9 indicates double tier lockers. No specification section was provided. (I'm afraid without the spec section we would not get bids on this item.) Or are these items OFOI?

A66. Lockers are specified on Sheet A401, keynote 9, Art Metal Products or approved equal.

Q67. Sheet A601 “Finish Schedule” calls out to install W9 (Stone Veneer), Norstone USA Rock Panel, OCHRE. No specification section was provided. (I'm afraid without the spec section we would not get bids on this item.)

A67. Stone veneer is specified on Sheet A601, Materials and Color Schedule as Norstone USA Rock Panel, color Ochre.

Q68. Sheet A101 note #2 replace existing ‘DIRTT’ wall to match existing. Sheet A203 note #4 indicates ‘DIRTT’ wall with waterfall, furnished by Owners and install by Contractor.

Who is to provide the ‘DIRTT’ walls as indicated on the plans?

A68a. Contractor shall furnish and install DIRT walls. Contact Christine Fleming at G.L. Seaman & Company for VA required design at 469-546-2206.

Q68b. Is there a spec available for these walls?

A68b. Contact Christine Fleming at G.L. Seaman & Company for VA required design at 469-546-2206.

Q69. Please confirm floor to deck height.

A69. Floor to deck height varies. Refer to drawing sheet S101 for existing conditions. Field verify all dimensions.

Q70. Sheet A101, item #14 & #15 indicate FRP wall covering. No specs provided and not listed on Finish Schedule on sheet A601. The finish schedule calls for Rigid Sheet Vinyl - which is correct?

A70. Rigid sheet vinyl by Armorwall is specified on Drawing A601, Materials and Color Schedule.

Q71. Sheet A601, Finish Schedule, items B6 and W11 call for Custom Wall panels and Base by Spectrim. No specification section was provided. (I'm afraid without the spec section we would not get bids on this item.)

A71. Spectrim wall panels are shown on Drawings A203 and A204. Spectrim finish is specified on Drawing A601, Materials and Color Schedule.

Q72. Regarding the built in freezers; are these items OFOI and if so, will the government's subcontractor be providing equipment specifications for each item?

A72. Contractor Furnished Contractor Installed (CFCI) Walk-in Cooler/Freezer

Q72a. Also, during the walk thru it was mentioned the compressors for the freezers are currently inadequate. Are the new compressors part of the kitchen equipment to be OFOI or is the contractor to provide and install the new compressors?

A72a. GC will provide complete NSF labeled, commercial grade walk-in coolers/freezers sized to fit in the floor space indicated with minimum of 7 feet interior headspace and insulated floor suitable for food service usage. Compressors shall be located in Mechanical room serving this project.

Q73. Is Government Construction Contractor Appraisal Support System (CCASS) rating documentation acceptable instead of providing Attachment 2 and 3 for Past Performance evaluations?

A73. No, Please use the Attachments provided.

Q74. Will hand deliveries by the offeror/ offeror team be accepted at the proposal address?

A74. Yes

Q75. With the release of the CDs on 1/14/2013, will the Government be extending the Bid date from 1/31/2013?

A75. The proposal due date has been extended until February 8, 2013 at 3 PM CST.

Q76. Any special exhaust requirements for the parlor?

A76. no

Q77. There is an area on sheet A101 in the lower right corner, plan view. Rooms BC-408 to BC-418 with the bold dashed line indicating that this is inside the work area. What work is to be done in this area? The finish schedule lists everything as existing, and the MEP drawings do not show work to be done in this area either.

A77. Refer to fire protection drawings for work in this area.

Q78. Section 10 26 00 Wall and Door Protection mentions handrail/wall guard comb, wall guards, corner guards, door/door frame protectors. None were found on the drawings, is this section applicable? If so please indicate the location of stated items.

A78. Delete this spec. section in its entirety.

Q79. No spec section was provide for the type of toilet partitions and urinal screen, please provide.

A79. Refer to attached spec section 10 21 13 for Phenolic Toilet Compartments

Q80. E-301 shown no electrical for the DIRT wall barber pole.

A80. Provide a 120V 20A/1P circuit breaker from panel 'BML' coordinate ON/OFF switch location with VA.

Q81. DIRT's original design was solid bottom glass top plans indicate glass top and bottom. Which is correct?

A81. Contractor shall furnish and install DIRT walls. Contact Christine Fleming at G.L. Seaman & Company for VA required design at 469-546-2206.

Q82. Does door hardware spec apply to DIRT wall item

A82. No.

Q83. At the pre-bid it was indicated that the canteen can only be shut down for 6 months, max. Are you going to amend solicitation to indicate this?

A83. No, this will not be amended.

Q84. Will the contractor be given the entire space to work in?

A84. As required

Q85. Plans indicate kitchen equipment is removed by owner, install by contractor. Is the equipment supplier going to provide a estimate to install and/or a complete set of installation instructions prior to bid

A85. Refer website drawing F549\_1 , 1 of 3 for equipment data

Q86. It was discussed in the pre-bid that proposals may be accepted at the VISN office in Duncanville rather than the Temple office. Will this be amended?

A86. See A19

Q87. DIRT wall states that there was originally DIRT provided doors to the Parlor-barbershop. Should these be included?

A87. Contractor shall furnish and install DIRT walls. Contact Christine Fleming at G.L. Seaman & Company for VA required design at 469-546-2206.

Q88. During the bidder site walk on 1/14/13, it was mentioned that kitchen equipment would be furnished and connected by the owner. The dwgs indicate a note for the equipment to be furnished by owner but connected by contractor.

A88. OFCI

Q89. Within specification section – Division 10, Specialties, there are no specifications for the bathroom toilet partitions. Please provide clarification as to type, style, etc.

A89. Refer to attached spec section 10 21 13 for Phenolic Toilet Compartments

Q90. Within specification section – Division 9, Finishes, there are no specifications for the C1 wall finish. Please provide clarification as to type, style, etc.

A90. C1 is ceiling tile.

Q91. Within specification section – Division 10, Specialties, please clarify the Avonite countertop color? It is not noted within the specifications.

A91. Bid will include allowance for cove base to be determined

Q92. Please confirm the level of infection prevention required throughout the project in it's different construction phases. The specific level requirements are not identified in the project information.

A92. Refer to Questions 27, 57, and 135.

Q93. Please confirm that there is zero hazardous/abatement work to be completed prior to demo/construction work meaning all hazardous abatement work has been completed by the VA.

A93. Any asbestos abatement needed to tap into a pipe will be limited to glove bag abatement nearest the location of work.

Q94. Specification section 07-13-52 Modified Bituminous Sheet Waterproofing is listed within the specs. This spec is for waterproofing under tile showers. Please clarify as to where this would apply.

A94. Delete this section in its entirety

Q95. During the bidder site walk on 1/14/13, it was noted that the space under the kitchen (crawl space) would be defined as a confined space. Please confirm the amount and locations of exit locations, please confirm this.

A95. Two stairways at the northeast and south west corners of the construction area

Q96. During the bidder site walk on 1/14/13, it was noted that the VA would provide written requirements and specifications for contractor badging. Can you please provide these?

A96. Company picture ID of employee visible at all times is sufficient

Q97. Regarding total area, Attachment 7 Scope of Work, page 1 for Project No.: 549-07-107 Project Title: Canteen Renovation. "Contractor to provide all supervision; labor; provide and install material and equipment and prepare site to Renovate 11,000GSF of which includes Canteen Kitchen, Dining, Storage, and Administrative areas located in Building No. 2, Basement Floor." Our calculation of area from the CD does not match the area on your scope of work of 11,000GSF. Please let us know if size variances found on the CD supersedes the printed 11,000GSF on attachment 7.

A97. Contractor is responsible for delivery within the boundaries of SOW

Q98. Reference Proposal format paragraph 4.5, page 18 of 51. Should Volume 1 past performance and volume 2 technical approach be in the same or separate binders. Both will easily fit in the same binder.

A98. Same binder if both will fit.

Q99. Specification Section 09 30 13 Ceramic Tiling, page 25, Paragraph 3.15.A.2 requiring Epoxy grout at quarry tile seems to be crossed out. Please clarify if quarry tile floors require epoxy grout

A99. Yes, epoxy grout will be required.

Q100. Given the magnitude of this project, will a bid bond in the full amount of the SEED project proposal price be needed to be able to be awarded a Slot in the MATOC? Many Small business firms will find it difficult to bond a project of this size, yet would still like to be able to be awarded a MATOC slot. Please clarify bonding Requirements for the Award of a MATOC slot.

A100. Bid bond for the seed project will be only for the seed project. Only the awardee of the seed project will have to provide the bond for that project. As for the awardees for the MATOC; each task order awardee will have to provide a bond for that project.

Q101. There is no Abatement shown on plans, but during the site walk we noticed a hole in the flooring showing another layer of old flooring which is likely to need abatement (see photo), Should we bid per plans and specs and assume a change order will be issued should abatement be needed?

A101. Bid the plans and specs.

Q102. Many General contractors were first given plans and specs for the SEED Canteen project at the Job walk on Jan 14th. I feel it is in the government's best interest to extend the bid deadline by at least a week to allow Contractors more time to acquire more competitive pricing on many aspects of the Canteen project. A project of this magnitude often requires a collaborative effort between general contractors and sub contractors to fully outline the Scope of Work and properly bid. Will a bid extension be granted?

A102. The proposal due date has been extended until February 8, 2013 at 3 PM CST.

Q103. At the job walk it was discussed the Sign in sheet would be posted of all the attendees who attended. Is it still your intention to make available this information for reference?

A103. It was stated that you could request a copy via email and one would be sent to the requestor.

Q104. On Sheet A401 - Key note 8 states; "Vinyl Wall cover by owner" Is the VA providing and we are installing, or is this existing and PIP?

A104. VA provides wall covering, G.C. installs.

Q105. Do you have more specifics/detail on the type/style of DIRT walls and Storefronts throughout this project?

A105. Contractor shall furnish and install DIRT walls. Contact Christine Fleming at G.L. Seaman & Company for VA required design at 469-546-2206.

Q106. Please verify if the design Intent still valid? The architect is showing us as all glass on the drawings, we have solid below.

A106. Contractor shall furnish and install DIRT walls. Contact Christine Fleming at G.L. Seaman & Company for VA required design at 469-546-2206.

Q107. Electrical to the fountain will be required and are not sure what the requirements are. There is nothing is shown in the electrical drawings for us to price. Please provide.

A107. The fountain just requires a 110V receptacle. This is indicated on E301 key note 8.

Q108. We will need electrical to the barber pole and probably the counter. Nothing is shown in the electrical drawings for us. There is existing electrical and data shown near the counter can this be relocated into our wall?

A108. Provide a 120V 20A/1P circuit breaker from panel 'BML' coordinate ON/OFF switch location with VA.

Q109. Please confirm the hardware on the doors?

A109. Hardware sets for new doors are listed on Sheet A601 which correspond with hardware sets listed at the end of Spec. Section 08 71 00. Other doors shown in schedule are existing to remain

Q110. The original intent of the 'DIRT' wall design included a door to the parlor, the architectural plans do not show one, please clarify?

A110. Contractor shall furnish and install DIRT walls. Contact Christine Fleming at G.L. Seaman & Company for VA required design at 469-546-2206.

Q111. Is this project Sales Tax exempt? If so please provide a certificate.

A111. Yes. Certificate will be provided upon award

Q112. What is the level of infectious disease control rating for this? What type of system will we need to setup for this project due to the location of the work site?

A112. This project is a Level IV IC. Refer to Questions 27, 57, and 135.

Q113. Who do we coordinate with for the security system?

A113. VA Police

Q114. Where is laydown area located and can we store materials in the same area? Where will the dumpster be located for construction waste?

A114. Dumpster loading dock, lay down southeast corner of property next to thermal storage tank.

Q115. The basement is considered to be a confined space. What are the VA requirements to work in the basement?

A115. Please see attached Confined Space SOP.

Q116. There are no details in the plans for location for construction barrier. Where will the VA want the barrier located?

A116. Barriers shall be placed to keep unauthorized personnel from entering construction area

Q117. During the site visit discussion, the location for the submitting the proposal was changed from Temple to Dallas. What is the new physical address for submitting the proposal?

A117. Department of Veterans Affairs, Attn: William F. Dunlap, 1111N. General Bruce Drive, Temple Texas, 76504

Q118. What are the badging requirements to work the Canteen Renovation project?

A118. Company picture ID of employee visible at all times is sufficient

Q119. What is the name of the fire alarm contractor?

A119. SSD

Q120. Where will we be allowed to place a dumpster?

A120. Loading dock

Q121. Is the area under the kitchen/canteen considered confined space?

A121. YES

Q122. What level will be required for infectious control?

A122. Level IV—Refer to attached ICRA requirements

Q123. Is the area where we will have a laydown yard already fenced or will we need to provide?

A123. GC to provide

Q124. The project completion is 365 days but it was stated that the kitchen and canteen can only be shut down for 180 days. Is this correct?. Please elaborate.

A124. The Kitchen and Canteen will only be closed for a continuous 180 days. Preliminary work outside of the kitchen, dining, serving areas will be programmed by the contractor to minimize the work within the 180 days.

Q125. Are the air handlers for this project existing?

A125. Yes, The air handlers located indoor are existing. The makeup air unit on the roof will be new.

Q126. Who does the controls work on the Dallas VA campus?

A126. Siemens

Q127. Is this project considered to be tax-exempt?

A127. YES

Q128. DIRT Wall: Supplier states that Prints show full height glass. All previous drawings and discussions with VA had half glass above Solid wood panel wall below. Please advise and clarify.

A128. Contractor shall furnish and install DIRT walls. Contact Christine Fleming at G.L. Seaman & Company for VA required design at 469-546-2206.

Q129. DIRT Wall: Sht A203 – Detail E8 shows the “Waterfall” surrounded by Dirt wall and is supplies by Owner and installed by Contractor. What is the Product information for the

Waterfall? Is there a Cut sheet? No electrical or plumbing is shown on the MEPs for this feature. Please provide info and full MEP requirements for this feature.

A129. Waterfall is provided by VA and is on site. Refer to drawing E301, P201 and P202.

Q130. Sheet A103: Note #1 on Sht 103 calls for Acoustic Spray on deck and also shows 2x2 ceilings in that area. Please clarify that both the spray and 2x2 ceiling are installed in this area.

A130. Existing concrete deck is exposed in various areas in Dining BC-430 and Open Dining BC-419. Apply acoustic spray on exposed deck as indicated by keynote 1 on drawing sheet A130. Yes

Q131. Kitchen Equipment: Sht A102 general Note A calls Kitchen Equipment to be Owner furnished and Contractor installed. Sht F549 shows both the Equipment schedule and Legend showing that either VAMC furnishes and installs or that the Canteen furnishes and the VAMC contractor installs. Question: Will VAMC install all equipment per F549 and if so, does GC need to contact VAMC for the installation dollars and carry it in the GC's proposal?

A131. OFCI

Q132. Flooring/Finishes: Spectrim comes in different sizes. What size is desired for this project?

A132. As shown on drawings A203 and A204.

Q133. Flooring/Finishes: American Olean Belmar is specified for this project. This series does not have a cove base. What base needs to be used for this flooring product?

A133. To be determined, Bid should include allowance for cove base

Q134. Please provide a project-specific Infection Control Risk Assessment (ICRA) for this project. Specific infection control measures that the VA will require the Contractor to implement must be stated. At the pre-proposal conference, it was stated that ICRA Class 4 would be required initially and that the ICRA might be downgraded following demolition. There was discussion about how to achieve negative air. Please define the VA's expectation regarding negative air. The infection control requirements that will be imposed must be specifically stated so we know what to bid.

A134. Refer to Questions 27, 57, and 135.

Q135. Concerning (1) above, please define locations for construction and dust barriers, access & egress door(s), ante room and type of construction. (i.e. hard barriers or Zip wall system, etc.)

A135. The A/E will not be issuing the types or locations of dust partitions. Refer to Spec Section 01 00 00 Paragraph 1.8.B (shown below) which states that Contractor is to establish the dust control program per ICRA guidelines and submit the layout for approval prior to any work commencing.

#### 1.8 INFECTION PREVENTION MEASURES

A. Implement the requirements of VAMC's Infection Control Risk Assessment (ICRA) team. ICRA Group may monitor dust in the vicinity of the construction work and require the Contractor to take corrective action immediately if the safe levels are exceeded.

B. Establish and maintain a dust control program as part of the contractor's infection preventive measures in accordance with the guidelines provided by ICRA Group. Prior to start of work, prepare a plan detailing project-specific dust protection measures, including periodic status reports, and submit to Resident Engineer and Facility ICRA team for review for compliance with contract requirements in accordance with Section 01 33 23, SHOP DRAWINGS, PRODUCT DATA AND SAMPLES.



Q136. The SF1442 requires 'Original + 1 copy' of the proposal. Page 17, Section VI, paragraph 2.1, requires '1' copy'. Which is preferred?

A136. Original + 1 copy

Q137. Attachment 5 details a 365 calendar day Period of Performance. There was discussion at the pre-proposal conference about project phasing. As best we can tell, the bid documents do not describe phasing requirements. If phasing is required, please specifically state those requirements. We will also need to know how many days it will take the VA to relocate between phases if that is applicable.

A137. Continuous project period

Q138. Has a recent hazardous material survey been conducted? Is asbestos and/or lead abatement required?

A138. Yes an asbestos survey has been conducted. Abatement will only be required as needed to attach to existing piping.

Q139. Section 010000, paragraph 1,1.F.1. requires all employees to have completed the 30-hour OSHA certified Construction Safety Course. The standard on other VA projects is 10-hour for employees and 30-hour for the project superintendent. Please confirm what is required.

A139. Use the Standard as used on other VA projects—10 hours for employees and 30 hours for project superintendents.

Q140. In reference to Section 010000, paragraph 1.22.A&B, will electrical power consumption be charged to the contractor?

A140. No, it will be supplied by VA.

Q141. Is the project tax exempt? Typically, VA projects are tax exempt; however, we just bid a Washington VA project that was represented as not being tax exempt.

A141. Tax exempt

Q142. Section VI, paragraph 2.3 references "electronic versions of proposals". Is an electronic version of our proposal required?

A142. Hard copies

Q143. Who pays for material testing if any is required?

A143. General Contractor

Q144. Who pays for material testing if any is required?

A144. General Contractor

Q145. Is a full-time, sole-responsibility quality control manager required in addition to the project superintendent?

A145. No

Q146. Where is the contractor storage and laydown area?

A146. Southeast corner of campus behind thermal storage tank

Q147. Where is contractor parking?

A147. Southeast corner of campus behind thermal storage tank

Q148. Solicitation paragraphs 3.4 and 5.7 require a progress chart" and "bar graph" schedule, respectively. Paragraph 5.19 further defines requirements for the bar chart schedule. Section 013216.15, Project Schedule-Design/Bid/Build calls for a CPM schedule. Which is required?  
A148. Either will be accepted

Q149. Discussion about confined space — define VA requirements  
A149. Permitted Confined Space Entry SOP to be provided at kickoff

Q150. The solicitation states the maximum ordering limit per task order is \$2,500,000. In reference to Section VI, paragraph 2.1.3., would a project exceeding \$2.5M be considered relevant for purpose of evaluation?  
A150. Yes

Q151. Attachment 11 requires the contractor to demonstrate capability to manage projects of the same size and scope of this project. The second sentence asks for experience with boiler and chiller installations both of which are not applicable to the seed project scope or work. Is a write-up detailing boiler and chiller installations required for the Canteen seed project?  
A151. Contractor should provide accurate information to government to assess their ability.

Q152. Technical Approach, Factor 2, Management Approach, paragraph 2.2.2, requires the proposer to use Attachment 11. Are any other 'management approach' write-ups required or should everything be presented on Attachment 11?  
A152. No

Q153. Large scale drawing A401 requires new staff locker/toilet rooms yet demolition of existing construction is not shown on AD101 or P101. Can the VA provide information about existing construction which has to be removed to facilitate new construction?  
A153. The existing space is an empty storage room so there is no architectural demolition. Existing fire sprinkler demolition is shown on Sheet FS101. Electrical demolition is shown on Sheet E101.

Q154. In reference to General Note A on AD101, is the existing trayline equipment the only equipment that will be removed by Owner prior to construction?  
A154. Bid As noted on drawings

Q155. In reference to drawing F549-1, will canteen-supplied/contractor-installed equipment be delivered to the dock area where the contractor can then take possession? Handling and liability becomes an issue if the Contractor has to go offsite to get the equipment or move equipment out of a storage facility.  
A155. Warehouse is on VA site where contractor will pick up and deliver to jobsite.

Q156. Key note 8, drawing A101, requires the contractor to install an owner-furnished waterfall. This is a specialty work item, installation of which is typically performed by the waterfall vendor. In order to estimate installation cost, we need to know what waterfall vendor/manufacture the owner is using.  
A156. Bid utilities as noted on drawing only

Q157. Please define DIRT'T' wall. It appears this wall is an aluminum storefront of sorts, yet it is not shown on the window/door schedule nor is there a specification section for DIRT'T walls.  
A157. Contractor shall furnish and install DIRT'T walls. Contact Christine Fleming at G.L.

Seaman & Company for VA required design at 469-546-2206.

Q158. What is the Basis of Design for the stone veneer panels?

A158. Cover existing surfaces with stone veneer panels as specified. Stone veneer panels have been installed in other areas of the VA facility.

Q159. The Bid Schedule and Scope of Work represent this project as 11,000 GSF. Our preliminary calculation (not including mechanical room and fire sprinkler only area) is over 15,000GSF. Which is more correct?

Q159. For bidding purposes allow for the greater GSF

Q160. Note 15 on drawing A101 calls for FRP (fiberglass reinforced panel?) 'floor' to 33" AFF. The finish schedule shows the flooring in the Food Court to be resilient flooring. Please clarify.

A160. Refer to Finish Schedule and Materials and Color Schedule for rigid sheet vinyl to be installed in Food Serving areas and Kitchen. Use rigid sheet vinyl in lieu of FRP. Flooring Food Court BC-430B is to be resilient flooring as specified on Materials and Color Schedule. Flooring in Food Serving areas BC-430-C, E and F is to be quarry tile as specified on Materials and Color Schedule.

Q161. Would the designer provide a RCP cross-section across the full width of the Dining (BC430) and Open Dining (BC419) areas for clarification purposes?

A161. Refer to drawing sheet A201, Elevations B1, C1, C3 and D1.

Q162. During the bidder site walk on 1/14/13, it was noted that all construction work needed to be completed in 6 months. Please clarify this requirement.

A162. Contract period is 365 days, kitchen, dining and serving areas will be closed for a 180 day period.

Q163. Is a full-time, sole-responsibility quality control manager required in addition to the project superintendent?

A163. No

Q164. ON SHEET M401 : Please clarify General note when it says, "all does this mean only the equipment duct etc for this specific scope of work for this project?"

A164. "ALL" refers to equipment, duct, piping, etc located on the roof that is added as part of this project.

Q165. ON SHEET M401 : Please clarify note concerning exhaust ductwork in and around EF-19.

This note says we terminate in an existing hood, but also states that we terminate with a goose-neck?

A165. Terminate in goose neck. Existing hood shall be demolished.

Q166. In the specifications it calls for 30 hour safety training for all workers, is this correct?

A166. 30 Hour for project supervisors, 10 hour for employees

Q167. M401 Detail #3: the note #4 says connect chilled water and heating water piping to existing systems inside mechanical penthouse. Provide shut off valves at branch connection. Are hot taps required for these connections ?

A167. Systems may be shut down for connection, if required.