



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

MEMORANDUM #1

Date: April 30, 2013

Project: Building 24 Seismic Corrections/Additions
Contract No: Project No: 570-215

Subj.: RFIs

VA Engineering issues this memo to clarify the following RFI that were brought up during job walk on April 18th and also received via email April 26th.

1. Can large groups attend the next site walk? **Yes, can be divided into two groups.**
2. Clarify the number of copies to be submitted. **Original and two copies (total of three), and one CD.**
3. Is phasing set in current order (top to bottom)? **Bidding is to be based on current phasing plan as laid out in construction documents.**
4. Staging areas? **Please see attached document labeled "B24 Staging Area".**
5. Will personnel still be using the building during construction? **Yes, this is discussed in the contract documents. See phasing plan.**
6. Contractor access (i.e. elevator)? **Existing passenger Elevator will not be available for use by the contractor. This is discussed in the specifications.**
7. Can the windows be delivered and keep on site until installation? Progress payment for them? **The staging area for this project is limited. Do not plan on keeping the windows stored on site. Material payments are made when installed.**
8. Operation of fire alarm system during construction. **Fire alarm system is to remain active for all occupied areas of the building and temporary systems are to be installed and operational in the construction areas. In the event that the fire alarm must be down for testing or configuration all work must be coordinated with the COR before starting.**
9. Fire alarm system phasing water from 1st, 2nd, and 3rd floor? **After completing each phase and prior to occupancy by VA staff the sprinkler system is to be fully tested and operational.**
10. Hire of inspector (i.e., OSHPD, specific (concrete))? **OSHPD inspector not required. VA COR, Project Staff and A/E will be general inspectors for the job. The specifications call out specific inspectors that the contractor is responsible for hiring including, but not limited to concrete testing lab, structure steel inspector, welding inspector etc. Contractor is advised to read specifications closely.**
11. Is landscaping protected? **Landscape is to be protected. Refer to Planting Note #10 on sheet LS101.**
12. Fire line in basement, where does it go? **Plans show connection points for the fire line for the sprinkler system to be installed. The line in the basement is coming from the boiler plant where the fire pumps are installed.**
13. Fire alarm proprietary? **Simplex is alarm company used by the VA. Contractor may use qualified electrician to wire for alarms, but the final connections and testing must be certified through Simplex.**
14. Deck to deck height? **Drawing AD502 shows deck height. Varies as follows: 1st to 2nd - 14', 2nd to 3rd - 14', 3rd to roof - 13' 6".**



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15. Furniture and Furnishings? **Removal and storage requirements for Furniture and Furnishings are spelled out in specifications. This is contractor's responsibility. AD201 – Demolition First Floor Plan: Note: 17,19,26,35,36; AD202 – Demolition Second Floor Plan: Note: 11,23; AD203 – Demolition Third Floor Plan: Note: 25.**
16. Room for storage or container space? **No onsite space for storage containers beyond staging area. See number 4 above regarding staging area.**
17. Clearance for construction works? **Background checks and badges are completed by the VA. Background checks include finger printing and all personnel must legally be able to work in the US.**
18. OSHA 10 and 30 HR required? **All personnel require 10 or 30 depending on job - see specifications**
19. Sealants. Requirement for temporary sealants? – **Fire Caulking to be applied per specifications. VA does not require temporary fire caulking during construction for this project.**
20. Mag meters in walls & in hallways. What are they, and/or are they being used? **The Mag Meters are part of an outdated duct monitoring system that is no longer active. In any wall that is being opened up for seismic work, contractor is to demolish and not re-install. Meters are to remain "as is" in walls that are not demolished.**
21. Satellite dish on third floor? **This is to be removed, and returned to the VA in same condition as found.**
22. Prevention of public from entering construction sites? Keys or punch key, or? **VA will re-key with contractor core in areas of the building that are being worked on by contractor. Additional measures for safety and security, such as fences with padlocks that have a VA core and chains, are to be used to ensure staging area is secure.**
23. Solar panels on roof, are they to be removed or relocated or? **The solar panels are still being evaluated and will be determined after the second site walk.**
24. The SF 1442 requests an **original and two copies** of the proposal be submitted. Item No. 3.1 of the Submission Instructions requests **3 hard copies** of the proposal be submitted. Please confirm an original and two copies of each Volume shall be submitted. **Original and two copies (total of three), and one CD.**
25. Item 9.9 of the Proposal Volume Contents states "written references for subcontractors may be included and are encouraged." Please confirm these written references will not be included in the 10 page (double sided) limitation of the Past Performance Volume. **Written references are not to be included in 10 page limitation.**
26. Item 9.7 of the Proposal Volume Contents requests to "include construction awards, customer letters of commendation, etc..." Please confirm these construction awards, customer letters of commendation, etc. will not be included in the 10 page (double sided) limitation of the Past Performance Volume. **Construction awards, customer letters of commendation, etc. are not to be included in 10 page limitation.**
27. Item 2.2.1 Evaluation Factors and Subfactors and Their Relative Order of Importance, 2) Factor 2- Major Subcontractor Experience (Volume 1) lists major subcontractor experience in descending order. The descending order indicated differs from Item 2.4.2 Evaluation Factor 2: Major Subcontractor Experience. Please clarify the descending order of importance being evaluated. **Please see amendment number A00005 to the solicitation for clarification of the subfactor order of importance.**
28. Item 2.4.1 Evaluation Factor #1: Key Personnel Experience, Item 1 states "references for each employer and client must be included." Please confirm these references for each employer and client will not be included in the 20 page (double sided) limitation of the Technical Volume. **The resumes WILL count in the 20 page (double sided) limitation of the Technical Volume. The references from each employer and/or client will not be included in the 20 page (double sided) limitation of the Technical Volume.**
29. Item 2.4.1 Evaluation Factor #1: Key Personnel Experience, Item 2 states "Contractor must include verification of status," a signed letter for current employees and letter of intent for potential employees. Please confirm these verification of status letters will not be included in the 20 page (double sided) limitation of the Technical



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Volume. **Verification of status letters are included in the 20 page (double sided) limitation of the Technical Volume.**

30. Item 2.4.3 Evaluation Factor #3: Prime Previous Experience states "Provide evidence of **minimum of two (2) contracts** completed or substantially completed eighty percent (80%) within the last five (5) years. **A min of one (1) of these projects** must be the remodeling of an **occupied public works building and/or occupied medical facility.**" Item 2.6.1 Evaluation Factor # 5: Past Performance states "the proposal shall include a **minimum of 3 occupied public works building and/or occupied medical facility** to be considered for award." Please clarify the minimum number of prime contractor projects required to be submitted. **The minimum of two (2) contracts for evaluation factor number 3: prime previous experience remains. The minimum of three (3) contracts for evaluation factor number 5: past performance remains.**
31. Will the government accept previously completed CPARS/CCASS evaluations or previously completed NAVFAC/USACE Past Performance Questionnaires to satisfy Item 9.4.2 and 9.4.3 of the Proposal Volume Contents? If so, will the government allow these Past Performance documents to be included in the proposal submission documents and not counted in the page limitation; or be faxed or emailed to the government from the Offeror (not direct from the client)? **No. Please complete the attached past performance questionnaire. See 9.4.4 for submission requirements.**
32. Item 9.4 of the Proposal Volume Contents requires the submittal of Subcontractor Information Consent Forms (Attachment B). Please confirm these Subcontractor Information Consent Forms will not be included in the 10 page (double sided) limitation of the Past Performance Volume. **Subcontractor Information Consent Forms will not be included in the 10 page (double sided) limitation of the Past Performance Volume.**
33. Currently, the bid date is the day after a holiday weekend. Please consider extending the bid date to allow for maximum subcontractor participation. **The proposal due date will not change at this time.**