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Request for Bid Information Response

Request Date: 08/30/13

Response Date: 08/30/13

VA Project No.: 646-373

M-R Project No.: 1-0499-0004

Project Name: Pittsburgh VAMC – AE – University Drive Research Building Addition

Items 1-11, and 52 are per the meeting minutes from the contractor's pre-bid conference;

1. If existing Building 6 does not get demolished, will the equipment intended for relocation still be moved to the new facility?
 - Yes
2. The documents indicate that certain materials are “presumed” positive. Will testing be required for verification?
 - In lieu of exploratory survey, several suspect materials identified in the building are presumed to be ACM. The Contractor shall provide all material, manpower and equipment to access all assumed ACM for sampling by the Owner's Environmental Consultant at no additional cost to the Owner. Materials deemed to be non-ACM through bulk sample analysis conducted by the Owner's Environmental Consultant, shall be credited to the Owner for the abatement that is not performed. The Contractor must provide separate lump sum fees for the removal of all confirmed ACM. In addition, Contractor must provide unit rate/total cost for the removal of each assumed ACM. Any payments or credits for the removal of the presumed materials will be in accordance with unit rate schedule provided with the contractor's bid.
3. Can the quantity of fireproofing be identified for potential abatement?
 - The quantity of fireproofing for the abatement will be approximately 1250 SF (i.e., 50 LF Horizontal x 25 LF vertical).
4. What are the working hours required?
 - It is anticipated that normal working hours will be observed. There may also be situations where utility shutdown or ICRA barrier construction must be coordinated with normal operation of the facility and work hour modifications made accordingly.
5. What is the plan for the existing duct bank identified along the northwest corner of the building?
 - This duct bank is a concrete encased 4160 volt feeder to the Fisher House that must be relocated outside the building envelope. Please refer to Question #12.
6. What is the extent of commissioning required under specification section 070800?
 - Please refer to Question #35.
7. Is there poured in place concrete on floors other than the basement?
 - No. Details of adjacent wall construction are included within the documents.

8. What is the means of access to the addition?
 - Service elevators immediately adjacent to the addition may be used. For larger equipment items the areaway that opens into the ROB basement may be used.
9. Will any equipment be removed from Building 6?
 - Fixed equipment that is to be relocated is identified in the documents. Moveable equipment will be relocated by the user group. All other fixed equipment in place at time of demolition is to be removed and disposed of by the contractor as a part of this contract.
10. What treatment is required on the exposed building section left once Building 6 is demolished?
 - The insulated metal panel elements currently utilized for exterior cladding on the adjacent building will be extended to cover any exposed exterior surface.
11. Will the north drive be allowed to remain within the construction fence line during the duration of construction?
 - No. The fence location shown on the plan will be in place only for the excavation of the basement, which is requested to be accomplished expeditiously. Once excavation is complete the fence shall be relocated to allow for protection of site elements, yet still allow vehicular access along the north drive to the dock area.
12. CD-101: states to relocate existing conduit banks (see MEP plans for details). There are no details on the duct bank. We need to know what size conduit, how many conduits, and what kind of wire is to be relocated. Also, where the duct bank is to be relocated to.
 - The existing conduit duct bank consists of four (4) 5" conduits encased in concrete. Two (2) of the conduits each contain three (3) 500KCMIL, 5kV, shielded, and one (1) 4/0, 600V, ground conductor. The remaining two (2) conduits are spare. Intercept the existing duct bank west of the new addition and north of the new addition. In each location provide a new man hole for splicing new section of cable into the existing cable. Please refer to Sketch SKEP1.01B-01 for rerouting of the electrical duct bank.
13. There is a rack of conduit that runs along the side of the back building #6. These conduits go into a large junction box and then conduits into the ground. What are we to do with these conduits and junction box?
 - The junction box on west end of Building 6 is to remain in place. Leave incoming conductors from the ground as is. Remove conductors, conduit, equipment, etc. to the east of junction box. Coordinate junction box support with retaining wall and security fence.
14. CD-101: states we are to remove existing utilities on the building #6. Is this a true statement? Please detail this note.
 - Yes. Please refer to Question #13. Remove conduit attached to the southern face of Building 6 from the junction box to the east. The 480volt ATS outside of Building 6 has its normal power fed from Panel SR1/breaker #4 in the switchgear room of bldg. #1. Emergency power comes from EMDP-3 on the second floor of Building 10 (gen. room). The 208volt ATS outside of Building 6 has its normal power fed from Building 31 4160volt gear through 4160/208 volt transformer #5 which is right beside the ATS.
15. CD-101: note states to protect and maintain existing junction box. Leave incoming conductors intact. Which conductors are the incoming, the ones that go into the ground, or along the wall?
 - Please refer to Question #13. The incoming conductors for the junction box are the ones that enter the ground.

16. CD-101: can you describe better the note that says, "Existing electrical utilities above ground to be removed"? Not sure what all is to be removed with this note.
- Please refer to questions #13 and #14.
 - Existing 480 volt ATS
 - Existing 208 volt ATS
 - Existing 4160/208 volt transformer #5
17. Not sure of the cat walk plans. Are they an alternate? Are the cat walks all alternates? Are the catwalks above the ceilings? Which alternate are they to come under?
- The "catwalks" (identified as mechanical equipment maintenance platforms) are located above the ceilings on all floors to the extent shown on the drawings. They are included in Bid Item #5.
18. Bid item #6 not clear what this is? Which AHU and Chiller are to be part of this item? Is this part to be a shell space only on the first floor?
- Since Bid Item #6 includes removal of all items from previous bid items 1-5, the shelling of the first floor to the extent described in the documents, would be included in Bid Item #6, since it was included in Bid Item #5, as well as the removal of AHU 30-RTU-1, the removal of Chiller 30-CH-2, and the additional items described in Bid Item #6.
19. There is work that needs to be done in the existing B-30 for feeders and fire alarm to the new space. Can all of this work be done during normal work hours?
- VA to confirm.
20. How much time will the VA need to move the people out of B-6 before we can start demolition of the Building 6?
- VA to confirm.
21. Can you show the locations of the utilities that feed the B-6 so that we know where to cut and cap them?
- The underground utilities are shown to the extent that we could plot them. The storm and sanitary pipes are shown based upon visual evidence of the pipes in manholes and inlets. The other utilities were shown based upon plans that we were provided and utility markout done by others. In the areas around building #6 there were no utility markings other than what we have plotted already. There was some water line marked out on the south side of the building but nothing else around building #6.
 - Cut and cap utilities along the building line.
22. There is extensive excavation required on the project and a soils report has not been provided. We understand that rock elevation maybe at or above elevation 1151 which will require a significant amount of rock excavation. Please provide a soils report. If a soils report is not available, please provide a top of rock elevation.
- The "soils report" in this question refers to the existing Geotechnical Report prepared by others for the Building #30 project. VA to provide.
23. There is a sill angle indicated on details 6 & 8 on AS4.10. Is this required?
- Answer to follow.
24. Equipment Schedule AS10.01 – "RH – Fume Hood" does not have designation of supply & install. Please specify who provides and who installs.
- "RH – Fume Hood" to match designation of "FH – Fume Hood"
25. Equipment Schedule AS10.01 – States for the contractor to relocate the Autoclave from Building 6. Are we to relocate the Autoclave regardless of any alternate Bid Items?
- Yes.

26. Note 1 – AS10.01, 2, 3, and 4 – states to see section 10.28.00 for along the wall. Is this note to read spec section 10.26.00 – Wall protection?
- **Keynote #1 refers to wall protection. Refer to spec section 102600.**
27. Are all Toilet & Bath Accessories to be supplied and installed by the contractor? If not, please specify who supplies and installs each.
- **Yes.**
28. Note 7 on SS1.01 – This states to see Architectural drawings for ALL dimensions. Normally the structural drawing dimensions take precedence. Please confirm that we are to ignore the dimensions on the structural drawings and only use the Architectural drawing dimensions.
- **As indicated on the referenced drawing, the dimensions noted on the structural drawings are for convenience and are to be coordinated with the architectural documents. Any dimensional discrepancies are to be coordinated with the architect.**
29. Note 13 on SS1.01 states that all earthwork to be under the supervision of the Project Geotechnical Engineer. Who is providing the Project Geotechnical Engineer?
- **Please refer to Question #49. Contractor to provide Project Geotechnical Engineer.**
30. SS1.05 – Chain Link Fence is shown. There is not a Chain Link Fence specification in the manual. Is this work by the Contractor? If so, please provide a specification for the Chain Link Fencing.
- **Please see attached spec section 323113.**
31. 3/SS3.01 indicates a Dock Bumper. There is no specification provided for the Dock Bumper. Is this by the Contractor? If so, please provide specification for the Dock Bumper.
- **Dock Bumper shall be 4.5" X 10" of resilient rubber meeting the following minimum specifications:**
 - **Resilient rubber material of bumpers shall be sourced from truck tires cut to uniform size pads and punched to receive 3/4" supporting rods.**
 - **All bumpers compressed under approximately 1,500 lbs of pressure, galvanized steel angles secured by 1/4" steel rods passing through tire sections.**
 - **The anchor leg of the angle extends a minimum of 3" beyond the rubber surface at either end and contains 13/16" anchor bolt holes as required.**
32. Bid Item 6 states to install EIFS on the entire exterior of the structure. Please provide a specification for the EIFS as it is not included in the TOC or in the spec book.
- **Please see attached spec section 072400.**
33. Will reinforced EIFS be required on the lower portion? If so, to what height?
- **EIFS shall be installed per the manufacturer's specification.**
34. In Bid Item 6, is the EIFS to be on the entire wall(s) from grade to the roof? If not from grade, provide details from grade to the EIFS.
- **Yes. EIFS to be installed on entire wall from grade to roof.**
35. Please explain the requirements of what testing is required to fulfill the 07 08 00 Exterior Closure Commissioning spec. The specs explain what is to be commissioned but not what tests are to be conducted, especially on items listed such as roof flashing.
- **Tests required to be provided by commissioning agent.**
36. The drawings indicate to relocate the existing U/G duct bank however do not indicate where to relocate it to. Please provide new routing (location) of the relocated duct bank.
- **Please refer to Question #12.**
37. Please confirm that Bid Items 2 thru 6 exclude ALL work associated with Building 6.
- **Yes.**

38. What is the expected amount of time that there will be between the turn-over of the ROB Addition and the available start of demo of Building 6? Is this amount of time included in the 532 days of construction stated in the Solicitation?
- VA to confirm.
39. Please confirm that the existing exposed earth condition will be the state of the area north of the building and south of the perimeter road.
- VA to confirm.
40. There are several existing conduits on the lower south face of Building 6. Are these conduits servicing Building 6 only? If not, what is to be done with the pull boxes/conduits during & after demo?
- Please refer to Question #13.
41. The present drawings indicate the construction fence to be place on the north side of the perimeter road allowing the Contractor sole use of that section of roadway. During the pre-bid it was stated that the roadway must remain open. The meeting notes state it can be closed during excavation which should be excavated. The excavation will require several days or more and the road will also need to be closed for much of the concrete, back-fill and utility work. Please confirm that the contractor will be able to close the roadway for extended periods of time.
- Please refer to Question #11.
42. Building 6 and the cooling tower building are attached in some manner. When Building 6 is removed, what will be required of the Contractor to do with the face of the cooling tower building? During the pre-bid it was noted that metal panel system(s) may be required. Please clarify.
- Please refer to Question #10.
43. Spec 0540000 Cold Formed Metal Framing is listed in the TOC but not included in the manual. Please provide or otherwise clarify.
- Please refer to Question #51.
44. Are there any U.L. design No's for the sprayed fire-proofing? Also the 1, 2 and 3 hour assemblies apply where? (floors, roofs and columns).
- Answer to follow.
45. Who is the manufacturer of the existing Intercom System in GA100?
- VA to confirm.
46. On ET 6.01 Telecom Riser plan there are intercom Area of Refuge devices shown in the stair towers and the elevator lobbies. We do not see any devices on the 1st and 2nd floors on the plans at the elevator lobbies. Are these to be there?
- Yes. Provide intercom devices on the 1st and 2nd floor at the elevator lobbies in accordance with drawing ET6.01 Telecom Riser.
47. Please provide a site plan that shows the routing of the feeder from the EM paralleling gear in B-1 2nd floor electrical room to the ATS then to the MDS in B-30 expansion.
- Refer to attached Sketch SKEP1.01B-01 for routing of the feeder from the EM paralleling gear in B-1 2nd floor electrical room to the ATS in the B-30 expansion.
48. Please provide the location of room BA002 in the existing B-30. This is the location of the ATS-MDS.
- Refer to drawing EP1.01B for location of room BA002. Note that the match line shows the rooms location relative to the new addition. Also, note that ATS-MDP-1 on the drawing should read ATS-MDS per the single line drawing.

49. Specification 31 20 00 Paragraph 3.2.A.5 requires that the Contractor hires a Professional Geotechnical Engineer to provide inspection of excavations and soil/groundwater conditions throughout construction.

A. Is it the intent of the Government to have the Contractor install groundwater monitoring wells?

- No

B. At what elevation is the groundwater?

- Please verify with Geotechnical Report. Groundwater is assumed to be at a depth greater than 80 inches (6.67 feet) based on soil types.

C. Is a monthly report to be provided throughout the entire construction period of 532 days?

- A monthly report should be provided for the entire construction period.

D. Are monthly Geotechnical reports required during months where excavating is not performed?

- Yes. During these times the report will explain that excavation / backfill was not performed.

50. The drawings do not include a finish schedule. Please provide a finish schedule.

- Schedule to follow.

51. The following spec. sections are listed in the index but missing from the specs:

A. 05 12 00 – Structural Steel Framing

B. 05 31 00 – Steel Decking

C. 05 40 00 – Cold-Formed Metal Framing

Will these provided?

- Yes. Please see attached specification sections.

52. Per pre-bid conference notes; The COR indicated that revised standards for domestic water temperatures will require a modification to some elements within the plumbing scope of work. Details of these components will be posted as information to all bidders.

- VA to confirm.

Response by:

Mike Przybylski, PE
2013-08-30