



**Department of
Public Works**

Steven A Kolke, P.E.
City Engineer
Director

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June 23, 2014

City of Minneapolis Purchasing
David Schlueter, CPPB

Re: Acceptance of Bids for Public Impound Towing OP 7924

Mr. Schlueter:

The City of Minneapolis has solicited bids for public towing of vehicles for Public Works, Regulatory Services, and Police-related activities. The existing contracts for this service began in December 2008 and were extended twice for two year periods, expiring on June 30, 2014. The new contract term will begin on the closest date after full approval by the City.

The City advertised for bids for public towing services on February 26, 2014 and the bid opening was held on April 9, 2014. Ten (10) bids were received on Official Publication 7924 for Public Impound Towing. A tabulation of all ten (10) bids is attached. Subsequent to the bid tabulation, Bobby & Steve's Auto World rescinded their bid on April 15, 2014. In addition, in June, 2014 Schmit Towing Inc. declined the award of towing zones 1 and 2.

Public towing services in the City of Minneapolis are divided into two geographical categories: districts and zones. The City maintains two (2) towing districts separating the north and south halves of the City at the boundary of the I-94 freeway. These districts, identified as District A and District B on the attached map (Impound Towing Districts), are used for towing resulting from Police, Public Works, and Regulatory Services activities, accidents, and parking violations. In addition, the City maintains six (6) zones that are used for towing vehicles during snow emergencies and street sweeping operations. These zones are identified as Zones 1 through 6 on the attached map (Impound Towing Zones).

The towing bid specifications contain requirements on the number and combinations of Districts and Zones that can be awarded to one bidder. The purpose of these requirements is to maintain consistency in service providers and towing costs throughout the year as well to ensure that the City maintains sufficient resources to meet public towing needs. In brief, each bidder can only contract for one (1) District/Zone or a maximum of two (2) Zones. In addition, the bid specifications require that a District A bidder is required to perform towing services in Zone 3 at the District A bid price. In the same way, a District B bidder is required to perform towing services in Zone 5 at the District B bid price. The following District and Zone combination bids are recommended for award:



- District A, Zone 3: Wrecker Services Inc., the lowest qualified bidder at \$44.65 per tow
- District B, Zone 5: Rapid Recovery Inc., the lowest qualified bidder at \$58.94 per tow
- Zone 1: Corky's Towing Inc., the lowest qualified bidder at \$155.00 per tow
- Zone 2: Twin Cities Transport and Recovery Inc., the lowest qualified bidder at \$150.00 per tow
- Zone 4: Corky's Towing Inc., the lowest qualified bidder at \$130.00 per tow
- Zone 6: Williams Towing Inc., the lowest qualified bidder at \$143.00 per tow

Towing services for vehicles outside of the City limits is recommended for award to Wrecker Services, Inc. the lowest District bid, at \$1.80 per mile.

These bid prices are similar to past pricing with minor increases in zones A and B, increases in zones 1 and 2, and the same or slightly lower prices in zones 4 and 6. Overall, the bid prices represent estimated increases from the 2008 prices in the last contract. The new contract contains clauses for possible increases in the towing bid prices based on changes in the Consumer Price Index. In addition, Public Works will be reviewing existing towing and impound storage fees (\$138 and \$18 per day respectively) along with associated costs, and will report to the City Council if any changes in fees are warranted.

Attachments: District Map, Zone Map

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ellen Dossdall".

Ellen Dossdall, DPA
Impound Lot Supervisor
51 Colfax Avenue North
Minneapolis, MN 55405