

Addendum 6

Q/A and Expectations established by 10/7/2016

RFP General Information

7.6 Data collector management and support for 20 years concurrent with the buildout.

Attachment B Scope of Services

The City shall be responsible for:

1.6 All commercial meters

1.7 All residential meters other than 5/8" and 3/4" meters

1.8 All installations with requirements outside of the standard installations as determined by the City

Sec. 2.1 PREVIOUS SIMILAR EXPERIENCE: This section should clearly identify similar projects/contracts involving the Vendor, highlighting experience in Automatic Metering Infrastructure installation and support.

Vendor Questions:

1. Would the City consider a more aggressive installation schedule? 2 year installation schedule? 1 year installation schedule?

Answer: Yes.

2. Will the City accept Disabled Veteran owners/companies as a viable substitute for MBE/WBE participation?

Answer: No.

3. Door tags and customer notification letters: "must be multi-lingual to conform to City standards". Which languages?

Answer: English, Spanish, Somali, and Hmong

4. Regarding Section 16.8: Please specify which languages the City requires to be supported by the Call Center.

Answer: English, Spanish, Somali, and Hmong.

5. Question 17 asked if "door knocking" is allowed and the answer was "NO". Will the City reconsider this answer? With the installation vendor sending written letters notifying each customer of this project and leaving door hangers behind, door knocking/canvassing technique is very effective.

Answer: No. City policy is to contact the customer and have a pre-scheduled appointment. No door-knocking by vendor will be allowed. Properties that are non-responsive will be addressed by the City through standard procedures. The City will provide additional addresses to the Vendor to continue with the 17,000 installs.

6. On Page 102 of the RFP, Reference # 10.7 refers to a "remote shutoff meter", however on page 37

Endpoint Capital – Hardware Pricing Sheet Section b. calls for a "Remote Shutoff Valve - 5/8 Valve". Some manufactures have separate remote valve options and some have remote valves integrated into a single-body meter with a standard 7.5 inch lay length. Is it the city's preference to perform the additional installation/plumbing necessary for a separate meter and valve or

would the city prefer that the valve be integral to the meter with a single endpoint module, so as to fit into the existing standard meter setting?

Will the city be performing the installation of 500 remote disconnect valves and corresponding endpoint installations? If not, where should the vendor include the costing for this labor?

Answer: The City will be installing all “remote shutoff meters” or services with disconnecting valves. These will not be part of the Vendor’s 17,000 meter installations. Standard meter setting is preferred; however Vendors may propose other options.

7. On page 37 of the RFP under Endpoint Capital – Hardware section a. Endpoints, what is the total number of endpoints?

Answer: For the purpose of the pricing attachment, enter 17,000 endpoints. Ultimately, the City will purchase 100,000 endpoints over eight years.

8. On page 37 of the RFP under Endpoint Capital - Installation, please clarify what is being requested under the following items:

What is intended by “*Endpoint installation with cell phone*” and what quantities intend to be installed? Please clarify what is intended to be included in line item “a. Endpoint Installation with cell phone” as well as an estimated quantity for the project.

Answer: “Endpoint installation with cell phone” should be deleted. All Vendor installations will be standard endpoint and meter replacement, which may or may include a cell phone based system depending on the AMI solution selected. Any non-standard installations will be addressed by the City.

9. What is intended by “*Endpoint Installation with small meter change out*” and what quantities are intended to be installed?

Answer: “Endpoint Installation with small meter change out” is refers to the 17,000 residential meters and endpoints that will be installed by the Vendor for this project. The City will provide the meters.

10. What is the estimated number of remote disconnect valves that will be needed over the entire 8 year deployment period?

Answer: The project proposes 500 remote disconnect valves for the test indicated in the RFP. The City would install these.

11. Please confirm the MS SQL DBMS version owned by the city is Enterprise edition.

Answer: In almost all cases the City is using Standard edition. The Enterprise edition would be considered if it's warranted.

12. On page 12 of the RFP there is the following reference to missing forms. “Vendors must thoroughly document their efforts to solicit to and include MBEs/WBEs participation. Please completely and accurately fill out the attached forms”. How can we obtain these forms?

Answer: Vendors are to present the requested information in a format they deem fit. There are no forms provided.

13. On page 2 of the RFP, Section 5. Evaluation of Proposals – Vendor Selections subsection 5.7 Cost of services proposed – Since this is a multi-phase project, will the City be evaluating proposals based upon the total value of the project and scope for 101,584 endpoints delivered over 8 years and a 20 year total cost of ownership?

Answer: Both the eight year project cost and the 20-year total cost of ownership will be considered.

14. Does the City of Minneapolis own street light poles? If not, who does own them?

Answer: Some light poles are owned by the City and some are owned by Xcel. Lights on wooden poles are owned by Xcel; the remainder are City owned.

15. If the city does own street light poles:

- a. Can we use LCU (photocell) repeaters on them?

Answer: Vendors should propose their solution for the City's review.

- b. OR, can we hang external Omni antennas with repeaters on them?

Answer: Vendors should propose their solution for the City's review.

16. If I send a short list of tower locations we'd like to use, can we get mounting heights for those locations only? This is needed for the propagation study so that we can show the signal strength of each base station. Signal strength changes depending on the height at which base station is mounted.

Answer: The City does not have building heights available.

17. Are there any restrictions we should be aware of for hardware placement (Base Stations or Repeaters) in the downtown area (height restrictions, inability to use light poles, etc.)?

Answer: Vendors should propose their solution for the City's review.

18. Are meters located in meter pits or basement settings? What is they average depth of residential meter installations? What are the average and the deepest depths for commercial meter installations?

Answer: All residential meters installed as part of this project are located in basement or crawl space settings. Typical depth of residential installations is 8 ft with the existing endpoint mounted in the rafters. Commercial meters will not be part of the Vendor's 17,000 meter installations.

19. How will the AMI endpoints be connected and mounted in consideration of the meters all being located indoors?

Answer: Vendors should propose their solution for the City's review.

20. Will the endpoint be located outdoors?

Answer: Vendors should propose their solution for the City's review. Systems that use indoor and/or outdoor endpoint installations will be considered. If outdoors, the endpoint must be affixed to the premise.

21. Please clarify the quantities of meters to be exchanged by the installer in each phase of the project and the associated time frames for them. The information provided in the RFP document and what was stated verbally during the Pre-Bid Conference seem to conflict. Is it the City's intention to install meters beyond the 17,000 identified or utilize the installer to do so?

Answer: The Vendor is expected to install 17,000 meters and endpoints, as well as the data collectors during the first three years of the project. The City will perform the remaining meter and endpoint installations.

22. Regarding Section 16.2: Please verify the expectations of the installer regarding customer outreach. Specifically, is the installer expected to produce and mail items such as advance customer notices (i.e., post cards)? Are there other expectations for the installer in terms of customer outreach?

Answer: During the project initiation, the City will lead a communication plan with vendor participation

23. Is the Installer expected to print door hangers for delivery at customer locations during meter exchanges?

Answer: During the project initiation, the City will lead a communication plan with vendor participation.

24. Does the City want the AMI supplier to offer an option to procure meters or, as stated in the RFP, will the City prefer to supply all meters and encoders to be installed?

Answer: The City will supply all meters with encoders.. Please see Addendum 5, #43.

25. Can the City provide the list of approved meters and encoders to be installed? Has the City standardized on a specific meter vendor?

Answer: Please see Addendum 5, #43.

26. Does the City want to see options for both hosted and on premise deployed AMI Head End System (HES) Software?

Answer: Please see Addendum 5, #49.

27. Can the City provide a shape file of GIS latitudes and longitudes of the meter and tower asset locations?

Answer: This information is not available at this time. Vendors should propose their solution for the City's review.

28. Do MBE/WBE partnerships need to be in place prior to the award?

Answer: Yes, if the Vendor plans on utilizing MBE/WBE programs to meet MBE/WBE project goals as specified in the RFP Attachment A, Item 28; page 11.

29. Which types of meters and encoders are currently installed in the City of Minneapolis? What manufacturer and models are they?

Answer: Most existing residential meters in the City are Neptune and Badger. The City anticipates that the Vendor will replace existing residential meters at the time of endpoint installation. The replacement meter brand and model have not been determined.

30. The City indicates that 17,000 meters/encoders will be installed in the first three year phase of project. Will the remaining 83,000 meters in the 8 year phase require only MTUs?

Answer: Under this contract, yes.

31. Which certifications are required for installation?

Answer: Vendors should perform their own research.

32. When are these certifications due?

Answer: Vendors should perform their own research.

33. Are there existing touchpads on the side of the home?

Answer: No. The existing system utilizes endpoints mounted in the resident's basement. Monthly readings are obtained with a drive-by vehicle mounted collector or land line MIU.

34. If so, will the meter installation contractor be required to remove existing touchpads?

Answer: The City does not have any existing touchpads.

35. If there is an existing touchpad on the side of the home, can the existing wire be used? Or will the contractor be required to run new wire?

Answer: The City does not have any existing touchpads.

36. If running new wire, should contractor assume running new wire at each location? Or just a percentage?

Answer: Vendor is expected to do what is required to achieve the RSR (Read Success Rate)

37. If new wire needs to be run, should the contractor assume the City will provide the wire?

Answer: No. The contractor is expected to provide the wire. Existing wiring shall not be re-used.

38. Will the meter installation contractor be required to change out remote shutoff valves?

Answer: No. Shutoff Valve installation will be performed by the City. Working with the City, the Vendor will be responsible for establishing the installation standards for the remote shutoff valves and for end to end testing.

39. P. 6, 3.2 Insurance, Commercial General Liability: Since it appears the project will exceed \$2,000,000.00 what insurance coverage amounts on the General Liability is the City looking to have in place?

Answer: Please refer to Page 6 of the RFP.

40. What are the target areas and number of meter/endpoint installations to be done in the Proof of Concept Phase in each area for the project?

Answer: The locations of the meter/endpoint/data collector locations for the startup and proof of concepts phases will be determined in project planning. The number of meters/endpoints/data collectors have not been determined, but will need to be sufficient to conduct end to end testing.

41. What are the target areas and number of meter/endpoint installations to be done in the Production Phase in each area for the project?

Answer: The locations of the meter/endpoint/data collector locations will be determined in project planning. The number of meters/endpoints the Vendor will be responsible for will be 17,000 inclusive of all phases with vendor installations.

42. Can we assume that for the two meter installation phases identified that we will be released to install the targeted meters as quickly as practical or do we need to assume that we will have field management and installers present during the entire targeted duration of each phase?

Answer: The timing of the meter/endpoint/data collector installations will be determined in project planning but there is no driver to install the meters/endpoints slowly.

43. Regarding Section 15.7: Can the City provide an estimate on the percentage of customer data which is inaccurate? For example, is GPS data available and if so, is it expected to be at least 90% accurate? Are customer phone numbers expected to be at least 95% accurate? etc.

Answer: GPS data is unavailable. The City estimates the customer phone numbers are at least 90% accurate.

44. Regarding Section 16.2: Please clarify the expectations of the installation company regarding customer outreach. It is assumed that the installer is expected to produce and mail items such as advance customer notices (i.e., post cards) as well as print

door hangers for delivery at customer locations during meter exchanges. Are there other expectations for the installer in terms of customer outreach?

Answer: During the project initiation, the City will develop a communication plan with vendor participation

45. Please specify which languages the City requires on printed customer notices.

Answer: English, Spanish, Somali, and Hmong

46. Remote Shut off Valves Attachment F, Page 37 Endpoint Capital – Hardware, Item B

Please confirm the Vendor is to provide the shut off valves and the City will install. The shut off valves were not listed on the Endpoint Capital- Installation

Answer: The Vendor is to provide the shut off valves and the City will install. The Vendor and the City will work collaboratively to establish installation standards. The Vendor will be responsible for end to end testing.

Item	Description	Estimated Quantity
Endpoint Capital - Hardware		
a.	Endpoints - Vendor must provide an eight (8) year price guarantee.	
b.	Remote Shutoff Valve - 5/8" Valve	500

47. Meter Inventory and Installation Data Management, Page 23 Item 15.10

Vendor shall supply all installers (including City installers) with a digital handheld data collector for installation and work order completion. Would the City staff have city-provided Android cell phones available to download the Vendor's installation app, in lieu of the vendor providing handheld data collectors? If the vendor must provide handheld data collectors, how many will be required?

Answer: If an Android application is all that is required for all aspects of endpoint installation and verification, the City will provide the phone to its crews. If any other handheld device is required for any aspect of installation and verification, the Vendor will provide twelve (12) handheld devices.

48. Prevailing Wage Classification Addendum 5 Item 33

The addendum directs the bidder to <http://www.dli.mn.gov/ls/prevwage.asp>.

After accessing the website, it is still unclear as to the wages classifications that should be used.

Would the City of Minneapolis confirm with the Minnesota Department of Labor the classifications that should be used on this project? It is especially important to confirm the wage classification for the installation of the meters and the endpoints, the most labor intensive portion of the project. Confirmed wage classifications will provide for equal opportunity among bidders (eliminate wage cutting), protect the local labor market, and ensure a skilled labor force is working on this project.

Answer: Both living wage and prevailing wage should apply. Please follow link for more information

http://www.minneapolismn.gov/cped/ba/cped_living_wage

<http://wdol.gov/dba.aspx>

49. Addendum #5, Question 33, asked if this project falls under the State of MN prevailing wage umbrella, and the answer was “yes”. The RFP document, page 8, sec 15 – “Living Wage Ordinance”, states” any City contract for services valued at \$100,000 or more or any City financial assistance or subsidy valued at \$100,000 or more will be subject to the Ordinance’s requirement that the vender and its subcontractor pay their employees a “living wage” as defined and provided for in the Ordinance”. Do we need to comply with the requirements of the “Living Wage Ordinance” or the prevailing wage??

Answer: Both living wage and prevailing wage apply, and the higher of the two will have to be paid. Please follow link for more information http://www.minneapolismn.gov/cped/ba/cped_living_wage

<http://wdol.gov/dba.aspx>

50. Question 31 in Addendum 5 asks “will any federal, state and/or municipal licenses, permits, and/or fees be required for the installation of meters, endpoints, and gateways”? The City answered “YES” but when we visited www.dli.mn.gov , we found no requirements for licenses or permits needed to perform this work. Please advise.

Answer: Vendors should perform their own research.

51. If a question should come up due to an answer to a submitted question, will the City respond?

Answer: Not until after proposals have been accepted and reviewed. 6 Addendums have been posted in addition to the RFP. The City views this as sufficient information for vendors to provide a proposal.

52. Addendum 5, Item 16 discusses the number of attempts to contact end customers before returning the account to the City. Does the approved number of attempts (2) include the multi-lingual letter, or is the letter not considered an attempt?

Answer: During the project initiation, the City will develop a communication plan with vendor participation.

53. Also, just to confirm, absolutely no bonding (bid bond, performance bonds, payment bonds, etc.) are required as a part of this RFP?

Answer: Please see addendum 5, #62.