



CITY OF HOUSTON

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Strategic Procurement Division

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May 4, 2016

Subject: Letter of Clarification No. 1: - S63-C25769: Concrete Panel Replacement for City Streets for the Department of Public Works and Engineering

To: All Prospective Bidders:

This letter of Clarification is being issued for the following reason:

- To respond to questions posed by perspective bidders.
1. The following questions and the City of Houston responses are hereby incorporated and made part of the Invitation to Bid:

Question No. 1: "We want to know how the permits are going to be issued on this Contract. Are they going to be a blanket permit as before or they going to be by work order? Will the Contractor pay for the permits as noted in Section 4.1 of the Project Summary?"

Answer: **The permits will need to be requested by each contractor via the Street Cut Permits System. The contractor will be responsible for paying for each permit as stated in Section 4.1 of the Project Summary.**

Question No. 2: "Please confirm that if a bidder doesn't bid all items for all 5 years (4 + 1 option) for a given quadrant, their bid will be rejected as non-responsive?"

Answer: **Yes, bidder is required to bid all 5 years (including the option year) for each quadrant the contractor selects to submit a bid for. If the bidder omits any year for each quadrant the contractor selects to submit a bid for, the bidder will be deemed non-responsive and will not be considered for that quadrant award.**

Question No. 3: "Where in the proposal document is the MWBE goals broken down? All we've seen is an overall 34% MWBE goal; however, in the pre-bid meeting OBO stated the goal was 21% MBE and 13% WBE. Please clarify."

Answer: **The MWBE Goal is to be distributed as follows: 23% MBE and 11% WBE**

Question No. 4: “Does the City (OBO) have a favorable or unfavorable view of General Contractors requiring bonds (performance, payment, surface correction, etc.) from MWBE subcontractors? Given the overall size (contract as a whole) and the long contract term, a GC can potentially be on the hook for several million dollars for a MWBE subcontractor(s) that fails to perform or uphold their contract obligations.”

Answer: **This project is governed by Document 00700 - General Conditions: therefore any alterations as it pertains to this agreement would have to be handled by the prime and sub. The City requires that the contractor return retainage once a Subcontractor or Supplier completes performance (Doc 00700, Article 5, Section 5.2). If the prime and sub agree to a different arrangement then OBO will only enforce what is agreed upon by both parties.**

Question No. 5 “With this contract as a whole being broken into up to 4 different pieces, geographically & budget, is the City restricting or reserving the right for either budget dollars to move from one quadrant to another OR for contractors to move from one quadrant to another in order to perform the work.”

Answer: **No, each quadrant will have an estimated /awarded budget. Contractors will not move from one quadrant to another.**

Question No. 6 “Do I have to submit a bid for all 4 quadrants?”

Answer: **No, you can submit a bid for a single quadrant, multiple quadrants, and/or all quadrants. Note: for the quadrants you choose not to bid, you must click “No Bid” on the electronic bid form.**

Note: Quadrant quantities shall remain as advertised. No further questions will be accepted after the publication of this Letter of Clarification.

When issued, Letter(s) of Clarification shall automatically become a part of the solicitation documents and shall supersede any previous specification(s) and/or provision(s) in conflict with the Letter(s) of Clarification. All revisions, responses, and answers incorporated into the

Letter(s) of Clarification are collaboratively from both the Strategic Procurement Division and the applicable City Department(s). It is the responsibility of the bidder/respondent to ensure that it has obtained all such letter(s). By submitting a bid on this project, bidders/respondents shall be deemed to have received all Letter(s) of Clarification and to have incorporated them into this solicitation and resulting bid.

Furthermore, it is the responsibility of each Contractor to obtain any previous Letter of Clarification associated with this solicitation.

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