



CITY OF HOUSTON

Strategic Purchasing Division

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Mayor

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March 5, 2013

Subject: Letter of Clarification No.3
Bell 412 Series Twin-Engine Helicopter Component Overhaul/Exchange and
Repair Services for the Police Department

Reference: Invitation to Bid (ITB) No.: S21-S24425

To All Prospective Bidders:

This Letter of Clarification is issued for the following reason:

- To revise the above referenced solicitation as follows:
 - In Section A, pages 3, 4 and 5 of 18 shall be replaced with attached pages 3, 4 and 5 of 18 marked revised March 5, 2013.

This Letter of Clarification will be considered part of the solicitation referenced above. All revisions, responses, and answers incorporated into the Letter(s) of Clarification are collaboratively from both the Strategic Purchasing Division and the applicable City Department(s).

Furthermore, it is the responsibility of each BIDDER to obtain any previous Letter(s) of Clarification associated with this solicitation.

Laura A. Guthrie, Procurement Specialist
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LG:DRH:lg

Partnering to better serve Houston

Council Members: Helena Brown Jerry Davis Ellen Cohen Wanda Adams Dave Martin Al Hoang Oliver Pennington Edward Gonzalez
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Jack Christie **Controller:** Ronald C. Green

PROTEST

A protest shall comply with and be resolved, according to the City of Houston Procurement Manual http://purchasing.houstontx.gov/docs/Procurement_Manual.pdf and rules adopted thereunder. Protests shall be submitted in writing and filed with both, the City Attorney and the Solicitation contact person. A pre-award protest of the ITB shall be received five (5) days prior to the solicitation due date and a post-award protest shall be filed within five (5) days after City Council approval of the contract award.

A protest shall include the following:

- The name, address, e-mail, and telephone number of the protester;
- The signature of the protester or its representative who has the delegated authority to legally bind its company;
- Identification of the ITB description and the ITB or contract number;
- A detailed written statement of the legal and factual grounds of the protest, including copies of relevant documents, etc.; and
- The desired form of relief or outcome, which the protester is seeking

QUIET PERIOD/NO CONTACT:

Starting on the date proposals to an RFP (or bids to an ITB) are due and expiring on the date the City Secretary publicly posts notice of any City Council agenda containing the applicable award ("Quiet Period"), actual and prospective respondents or bidders (including their representatives or persons acting on their behalf) are prohibited from contacting members of City Council or any City employees other than the contracting officer, in any manner regarding the issued RFP or ITB. Actual and prospective respondents or bidders include those respondents or bidders who have received notice that they have not been chosen as finalists for any solicitation. Actual and prospective respondents or bidders (including their representatives or persons acting on their behalf) are expressly prohibited from offering, presenting or promising gratuities, favors, or anything of value to any member of an evaluation committee or any appointed or elected official or employee of the City of Houston, their families or staff members.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the following types of communication only are exempt and shall be permitted by respondents and bidders during the Quiet Period:

- Respondent's formal response to the RFP;
- Communications publically made during the official pre-bid conference;
- Written requests for clarification during the period officially designated for such purpose by the contracting officer; and
- Communications during an oral interview, scheduled at the request of and for the benefit of the City's evaluation committee, if any.

During the Quiet Period, the solicitation contact person shall serve as the sole point of contact for any actual or prospective respondents. Nothing in this section shall prevent the respondent from making public statements to the City Council after the Quiet Period.

As part of their bid or RFP responses, respondents or bidders shall attest that they understand and agree not to contact any members of City Council or City employees—other than the solicitation contact person—during the Quiet Period and acknowledge that any such contact shall be grounds for disqualification from the bid or RFP process

SECTION A. OFFICIAL BID FORM FOR BELL 412 SERIES TWIN-ENGINE HELICOPTER COMPONENT OVERHAUL / EXCHANGE AND REPAIR SERVICES FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, CONTINUED:

HIRE HOUSTON FIRST:

THIS PROCUREMENT IS SUBJECT TO THE HIRE HOUSTON FIRST PROGRAM, WHICH GIVES A PREFERENCE TO CERTAIN LOCAL BIDDERS IN AWARD OF THE PROCUREMENT. FOR MORE INFORMATION, GO TO:

<http://www.houstontx.gov/onestop/hirehoustonfirstaffidavit.pdf>

Designation as a City Business or Local Business

To be designated as a City or Local Business for the purposes of the Hire Houston First Program, as set out in Article XI of Chapter 15 of the Houston City Code, a bidder or proposer must submit the **Hire Houston First Application and Affidavit ("HHF Affidavit")** to the Director of the Office of Business Opportunity and receive notice that the submission has been approved prior to award of a contract. Bidders are encouraged to secure a designation prior to submission of a bid or proposal if at all possible.

Download the HHF Affidavit from the Office of Business Opportunities Webpage at the City of Houston e-Government Website at the following location:

<http://www.houstontx.gov/hbsc/hirehoustonfirstaffidavit.pdf>

Submit the completed application forms to: Office of Business Opportunity, Houston Business Solutions Center (HBSC), 611 Walker, Level, Houston, TX 77002 or Applications may be submitted via e-mail to HoustonBSC@houstontx.gov or faxed to 832.393.0952.

Award of a Procurement of \$100,000 or More for Purchase of Goods:

THE CITY WILL AWARD THIS PROCUREMENT TO A "CITY BUSINESS," AS THAT TERM IS DEFINED IN SECTION 15-176 OF THE CITY OF HOUSTON CODE OF ORDINANCES ("THE CODE")

- IF THE BID OF THE CITY BUSINESS IS THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BID OR IS WITHIN 3% OF THE LOWEST BID RECEIVED, AND
- UNLESS THE USER DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT SUCH AN AWARD WOULD UNDULY INTERFERE WITH CONTRACT NEEDS, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 15-181 OF THE CODE.

IF THERE IS NO BID OF A CITY BUSINESS THAT MEETS THESE CRITERIA, THE CITY WILL AWARD THE PROCUREMENT TO THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BIDDER.

Award of Procurement under \$100,000 for Purchase of Goods:

THE CITY WILL AWARD THIS PROCUREMENT TO A "CITY BUSINESS," AS THAT TERM IS DEFINED IN SECTION 15-176 OF THE CITY OF HOUSTON CODE OF ORDINANCES ("THE CODE")

- IF THE BID OF THE CITY BUSINESS IS THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BID OR IS WITHIN 5% OF THE LOWEST BID RECEIVED, AND
- UNLESS THE USER DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT SUCH AN AWARD WOULD UNDULY INTERFERE WITH CONTRACT NEEDS, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 15-181 OF THE CODE.

IF THERE IS NO BID OF A CITY BUSINESS THAT MEETS THESE CRITERIA, THE CITY WILL AWARD THE PROCUREMENT TO THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BIDDER

Award of Procurement that may be More or Less than \$100,000 for Purchase of Goods:

THE CITY WILL AWARD THIS PROCUREMENT TO A "CITY BUSINESS," AS THAT TERM IS DEFINED IN SECTION 15-176 OF THE CITY OF HOUSTON CODE OF ORDINANCES ("THE CODE")

- IF THE BID OF THE CITY BUSINESS IS LESS THAN \$100,000 AND IS THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BID OR IS WITHIN 5% OF THE LOWEST BID RECEIVED, OR

SECTION A. OFFICIAL BID FORM FOR BELL 412 SERIES TWIN-ENGINE HELICOPTER COMPONENT OVERHAUL / EXCHANGE AND REPAIR SERVICES FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, CONTINUED:

Award of Procurement that may be More or Less than \$100,000 for Purchase of Goods (CONTINUED):

- IF THE BID OF THE CITY BUSINESS IS MORE THAN \$100,000 AND IS THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BID OR IS WITHIN 3% OF THE LOWEST BID RECEIVED, AND
- UNLESS THE USER DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT SUCH AN AWARD WOULD UNDULY INTERFERE WITH CONTRACT NEEDS, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 15-181 OF THE CODE.

IF THERE IS NO BID OF A CITY BUSINESS THAT MEETS THESE CRITERIA, THE CITY WILL AWARD THE PROCUREMENT TO THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BIDDER.

Documents/forms must be downloaded from the City's Website <https://houstontx.gov/purchasing/index.html>

Additional Required Forms to be Included with this Bid:

In addition to the electronic Bid Form and the Official Signature Page, the Forms listed in Table 1 **must be completed and submitted to the Office of the City Secretary on or before the date and time the bid is due:**

Table 1
<u>Affidavit of Ownership</u>
<u>Fair Campaign Ordinance</u>
<u>Statement of Residency</u>
<u>Conflict of Interest Questionnaire</u>
<u>Bidders Attachments Supply</u>
<u>Location of Bidders Inventory</u>

Table 2 lists other documents and forms that should be viewed/downloaded from the City's website, but are not required to be submitted with the bid. The City will request these forms, as applicable, to be completed and submitted to the City by the recommended/successful bidder:

Table 2
<u>Sample Insurance Over \$50000</u>
<u>Formal Instructions for Price List Bidders</u>
<u>Formal Instructions for Bid Terms</u>
<u>EEOC</u>