

**ADVERTISEMENT
REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
FOR
WIRELESS NETWORK UPGRADE
CITY OF GRAND ISLAND**

Sealed qualifications will be received by the **City Clerk's Office**, 100 E. First Street, Grand Island, NE 68801 or P.O. Box 1968, Grand Island, NE 68802 until **4:00P.M. (local time) on June 20, 2012 for Wireless Network Upgrade for the City of Grand Island, NE.** Qualifications received after the specified time will be returned unopened to sender. Qualifications must be based on the City's Request for Qualifications. Contact Robyn Splattstoesser, Information Technology Manager, at (308) 385-5444, extension 188 for further information.

Qualifications will be evaluated based upon professional qualifications necessary for satisfactory performance, specialized experience and technical competence in the type of work required, past performance on contracts with government agencies and private industry, and the proposed timeline. Qualifications shall remain firm for a period of ninety (90) days after due date. The City of Grand Island reserves the right to refuse any or all qualifications and to waive technicalities in order to accept qualifications that may be in the best interest of the City of Grand Island, at its sole discretion.

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR WIRELESS NETWORK UPGRADE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA

PROPOSED WORK

The City of Grand Island Information Technology Division is requesting contract statements of qualification (RFQ) to replace the existing 2.4 GHz, 11mbps radio wireless network with an updated system to connect many of its remote sites to the network equipment located at City Hall (100 E. 1st St, Grand Island, Nebraska). The City will select one (1) consultant based on committee evaluation to enter into an agreement for services. The City desires practical solutions while incorporating innovative and cost effective methods.

BACKGROUND

The existing radio network was installed in 2000 and while it continues to function the equipment is both obsolete and facing more problems as it ages. This network equipment provides computer network connectivity (primarily TCP/IP) between sites that are too far to be connected cost effectively to the City's existing fiber infrastructure. The connections currently support network communications including: file & print sharing, internet access, e-mail access, remote desktop sessions, and remote maintenance tools. In addition to the current network traffic, the proposed solution also will need to support multiple VLANS, live video streaming, VoIP telephones, video conferencing, and long distance learning tools.

OUR CURRENT SETUP AND EQUIPMENT

- Currently we have in operation one (1) Wireless bridge at City Hall
 - This unit connects into the core of the City's network
 - The radio is 2.4ghz, 802.11b equipment
 - Cisco model BR500e
 - This radio is in the basement equipment room with a coax cable up the monopole tower
 - We are using an omni-directional 2.4 GHz antenna on monopole tower, roughly 50' above the ground
 - There is currently an un-used attachment location near the top of the monopole tower behind City Hall on the south side at approximately 138' above the ground (use of this spot would likely require a new coax cable run)
- Currently we have in operation five (5) remote sites connected directly to City Hall Tower
 - We are currently using a Cisco BR500e at four sites
 - We are currently using a Cisco BR350e at one site
 - Each site has a directional 2.4 GHz antenna mounted either on the roof of the building, on a roof mounted mast, or on a utility pole with coax running inside to the wireless bridge.

- Currently we have in operation one (1) remote site which uses a relay station
 - When setup this site could not reach the City Hall tower directly so it was set to relay through the Platte Generating Station (the city owned power plant also known as PGS)
 - PGS is approximately five miles from City Hall
 - PGS is approximately 3.5 miles from Fire Station 3
 - The current system uses two directional antennas on the side of the PGS building. One pointing towards Fire Station 3 and the other pointing towards City Hall.
 - These antennas are wall mounted, however there is a flat roof which allows you to walk up to them and allows the antennas to be serviced without a ladder
 - On the other side of the concrete wall, inside the non-climate controlled building, there is an equipment cabinet with power where the wireless bridge radios currently sit
- The mandatory site addresses are as follows:
 - Fire Station 1 - 409 E Fonner Park Rd
 - Fire Station 2 - 1720 N Broadwell
 - Fire Station 3 - 2310 S Webb Rd
 - Fire Station 4 - 3690 W State Street
 - Cemetery - 3168 W. Stolley Park Road
 - Parks & Rec – 1707 W Oklahoma
- Additional sites we'd like to see connected :
 - Golf course - 2800 N Shady Bend Road
 - Street/Sign/Signal Department - 2124 W Old Lincoln Hwy
 - Phelps (standby backup link) – 700 Bisheld St
 - Line/Underground (backup link) – 1116 W North Front

QUALIFICATIONS SHALL INCLUDE

SUBMISSION DATE: June 20, 2012

(Statements of qualification received after **4:00p.m.** on this date **WILL NOT** be considered.)

If interested, submit four (4) copies of the required information to the City Clerk, City Hall, 100 East First Street, Grand Island, NE 68801 or P.O. Box 1968, Grand Island, NE 68802-1968

If the firm has any questions or request clarification of the Request for Qualification specifications, please contact Robyn Splattstoesser at (308) 385-5444, extension 188, or robyns@grand-island.com.

The statement of qualification must contain the following information:

- 1) Resumes of key technical personnel who will actually be assigned to the project
- 2) A list of similar services completed by the firm and the firm's personnel to be assigned to this project. The list shall include the name of the client/contact person and a telephone number for each reference project.

- 3) A list of any sub-consultants that are to be used on this project, indicate the type of work to be completed by each sub-consultant and the percentage of the total project work to be completed by each sub-consultant.
- 4) Vendor responsiveness. (Callback response time, onsite availability for critical outages).
- 5) Outlines of proposed plan(s) with rough cost estimates.
- 6) Proposed project schedule and completion date.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Proposals will be evaluated with the following considerations, along with the weight percentages assigned to each element which will be used to rank and evaluate the proposals:

- Firm experience with similar work (20%)
- How well the proposed solution meets the overall scope (20%)
- Proposed installation and completion date (20%)
- Response times of vendor (20%)
- Costs for proposed solutions within the current budget constraints (20%)

CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

The evaluation committee will rank the qualifications. Robyn Splattstoesser, IT Manager, will then try to negotiate a contract with the highest ranked proposer. If a satisfactory contract cannot be negotiated with the highest ranked proposer, then an attempt will be made to negotiate a contract with the next highest ranked proposer.

GRATUITIES AND KICKBACKS

City Code states that it is unethical for any person to offer, give or agree to give any City employee or former City employee, or for any City employee or former City employee to solicit, demand, accept, or agree to accept from another person, a gratuity or an offer of employment in connection with any decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, or preparation of any part of a program requirement or a purchase request, influencing the content of any specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, auditing, or in any other advisory capacity in any proceeding or application, request for ruling, determination, claim or controversy, or other particular matter, pertaining to any program requirement or a contract or subcontract, or to any solicitation or proposal therefore. It shall be unethical for any payment, gratuity, or offer of employment to be made by or on behalf of a subcontractor under a contract to the prime contractor or higher tier subcontractor or any person associated therewith, as an inducement for the award of a subcontract or order.

INSURANCE COVERAGE

The proposer shall purchase and maintain at his expense as a minimum insurance coverage of such types and in such amounts as are specified herein to protect proposer and the interest of Owner and others from claims which may arise out of or result from proposer's operations under the Contract Documents, whether such operations be by proposer or by any Subcontractor or anyone directly or indirectly employed by any of them or for whose acts any of them may be legally liable. Failure of proposer to maintain proper insurance coverage shall not relieve him of any contractual responsibility or obligation.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYER'S LIABILITY

1. "Worker's Compensation and Employer's Liability." This insurance shall protect the Contractor against all claims under applicable State worker's compensation laws. This insurance shall provide coverage in every state in which work for this project might be conducted. The Contractor shall also be protected against claims for injury, disease, or death of employees which, for any reason, may not fall within the provisions of a worker's compensation law. This policy shall include an "all states" endorsement. The liability limits shall be not less than the following:

Worker's Compensation	Statutory Limits
Employer's Liability	\$100,000 each accident
	\$100,000 each employee
	\$500,000 policy limit

2. "Business Automobile Liability." This insurance shall be written in comprehensive form and shall protect the Contractor, Contractor's employees, or subcontractors from claims due to the ownership, maintenance, or use of a motor vehicle. The liability limits shall be not less than the following:

Bodily Injury & Property Damage	\$500,000 Combined Single Limit
---------------------------------	---------------------------------

3. "Comprehensive General Liability." The comprehensive general liability coverage shall contain no exclusion relative to explosion, collapse, or underground property. The liability limits shall be not less than the following:

Bodily Injury & Property Damage	\$500,000 each occurrence
	\$1,000,000 aggregate

4. "Umbrella Liability Insurance." This insurance shall protect the Contractor against claims in excess of the limits provided under employer's liability, comprehensive automobile liability, and commercial general liability policies. The umbrella policy shall follow the form of the primary insurance, including the application of the primary limits. The liability limits shall not be less than the following:

Bodily Injury & Property Damage \$1,000,000 each occurrence
\$1,000,000 general aggregate

5. Additional Requirements. The City may require insurance covering a Contractor or Subcontractor more or less than the standard requirements set forth herein depending upon the character and extent of the work to be performed by such Contractor or Subcontractor.

Insurance as herein required shall be maintained in force until the City releases the Contractor of all obligations under the contract.

The Contractor shall provide and carry any additional insurance as may be required by special provisions of these specifications.

6. Certificate of Insurance. Satisfactory certificates of insurance shall be filed with the City prior to starting any work on this contract. The certificates shall show the City as an additional insured on all coverage except Workers Compensation. The certificate shall state that thirty (30) days written notice shall be given to the City before any policy is cancelled (strike the "endeavor to" wording often shown on certificate forms). If the Contractor cannot have the "endeavor to" language stricken, the Contractor may elect to provide a new certificate of insurance every thirty (30) days during the contract. The Contractor shall immediately notify the City if there is any reduction of coverage because of revised limits or claims paid which affect the aggregate of any policy.

7. The Contractor agrees to comply with all applicable State fair labor standards in the execution of this contract as required by Section 73-102, R.R.S. 1943. The Contractor further agrees to comply with the provisions of Section 48-657, R.R.S. 1943, pertaining to contributions to the Unemployment Compensation Fund of the State of Nebraska. During the performance of this contract, the contractor and all subcontractors agree not to discriminate in hiring or any other employment practice on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or disability. The Contractor agrees to comply with all applicable Local, State and Federal rules and regulations. Every public contractor and his, her or its subcontractors who are awarded a contract by the City for the physical performance of services within the State of Nebraska shall

register with and use a federal immigration verification system to determine the work eligibility status of new employees physically performing services within the state of Nebraska.

FISCAL YEARS

The City of Grand Island, Nebraska operates on a fiscal year beginning October 1st and ending on the following September 30th. It is understood and agreed that any portion of this agreement which will be performed in a future fiscal year is contingent upon the City Council adopting budget statements and appropriations sufficient to fund such performance.

PROPOSAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The City will not pay any costs incurred by the firm in preparing or submitting the proposal. The City reserves the right to modify or cancel, in part or in its entirety, this RFP. The City reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive defects or informalities, and to offer to contract with any firm in response to any RFP. This RFP does not constitute any form of offer to contract.