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CITY OF WACO

Date: 05/28/2021
 RFI No: **2021-024**
 Commodity: **Community Broadband Internet Pilot Request for Information**
 Purchasing Agent: **Mr. Tim Cubos**

Closing Time: 2:00 P.M. CST, Friday, June 18, 2021
Opening Time: 2:01 P.M. CST, Friday, June 18, 2021

RFI Opening Location: City of Waco Operations Center, Conference Room, 1415 N. 4th St., Waco, TX 76707

Addendum No: 1

The above-mentioned RFI invitation has been changed in the following manner. **Sign and return addendum to the Purchasing Office by the closing time and date with your RFI response.** Returning this page signed by your authorized agent will serve to acknowledge this change. All other requirements of the invitation remain unchanged. If you have any questions, please call or stop by the Purchasing Office at the above address.

- 1. The following page has answers to questions raised during and after the pre-submittal meeting, and clarifications to submission requirements. Please review.**

Firm: _____

Address _____

Signature of Person
 Authorized to Sign Bid: _____

Signor's Name and Title
 (Print or type): _____

E-mail Address: _____

Date: _____ Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Addendum No: 1
Community Broadband Internet Pilot Request for Information
Response to Questions.

1. Based on this RFI Section 1.02, D. (demographics) - Are you looking for an FTTX type project? (or) a wide project to create diversity for other carriers to lease and provide services to this target market?
We are seeking information based on the services you provide and the solutions that meet our goals – as outline in the RFI
2. Is the solution the city looking for one of the following: A. City owned B. City/Solutions Provider Partnership C. Lease back from Solutions Provider
This will be determined based on the solutions submitted and our evaluation of these proposals.
3. When looking for something scalable... Is the city looking at infrastructure for a Smart City or NextGen Technologies ie. edge computing, data center/cloud, etc.
If you offer solutions to support Smart Cities or NextGen Technologies, you can include within your response. We are seeking information based on the scope of specifications of the RFI.
4. Should Solutions Provider expect that this solution can be offered to the rest of the city?
Dependent on the solutions selected and the success of the pilot project, it may be expanded to other parts of the City.
5. Is there a contact that can give additional information on current technologies (replacement or scalable)
There will be a Pre-submittal meeting on May 14th at 10:00 am to answer these questions.
6. Is any of this project a Rip and Replace type of project.
No, there is currently not a citywide connectivity infrastructure in place; this project is intended to establish the foundation for that for the City of Waco.
7. What is the estimated capex for the pilot?
The CAPEX will be determined after the proposals have been reviewed and a determination has been made on the overall plan to move forward
8. Are Waco officials weighing a private capital investment of some sort? What is the difference between public and private financing?
This will be based on the direction that the City sets after reviewing the proposals
9. When I see the word “pilot,” I think it could eventually turn into something larger. Is this the case here? If all goes well, would Waco look to expand and build on this network? What specifics can you provide?
After reviewing the proposals and conducting a pilot, we will determine what our next steps are.
10. Do you happen to have a document with the heights of the townships sites mentioned in the RFP?
Our GIS Department is working on this now. We will post that information to the bid site when

it becomes available.

11. We heard on the May 14 call that fiber at the East Waco Library is owned by the City of Waco. Can you please confirm:
 - a. Is that correct? **Yes, this is correct.**
 - b. What is the bandwidth of the fiber link (1 Gbps, 10 Gbps, etc.)? **The link is currently running at 1 Gbps.**

12. Google Earth does not seem to show a substation at the 1027 Delano Avenue address specified in the RFI. Is the address of the Estella Maxey substation correct?
That address is correct

13. What is the bandwidth of leased fiber (1 Gbps, 10 Gbps, etc.) at the other city facilities (Multi-purpose Facility, Estella Maxey substation, etc.)? Is fiber available at the three Waco park sites?
The bandwidth of the leased lines range from 50 Mbps to 250 Mbps circuits. Fiber is not currently available at these locations.

14. Is the City open to allowing construction of communication towers at their facilities as may be required to provide coverage?
Yes, the City of Waco is open to this. Please provide all details within your proposal

15. Upon a successful Pilot, does the city plan to extend coverage beyond the boundaries of the Pilot?
This will be based on the success of the pilot program and the feasibility of each proposal.

16. What feedback can RFI respondents expect from the city?
The City of Waco Purchasing Department will keep everyone up to date throughout this process

17. Will the city select a subset of RFI respondents for response to the eventual RFP or will the RFP (when issued) be open to all?
If and when the City of Waco issues an RFP, submissions from all qualified respondents will be accepted.

18. How many pairs of “dark fiber” are available at each of the Waco facilities?
Within the defined area of the RFI, only one facility is connected to City of Waco fiber, and that is the East Waco Library with 2-pair.

19. Are all facilities connected on the same City of Waco fiber network? (would determine if fiber or microwave is suitable for backhaul).
Within the defined area of the RFI, only one facility is connected to City of Waco fiber, and that is the East Waco Library with 2-pair.

20. Is it possible to get the list of residential addresses mentioned in the RFI?
No, not during the RFI process.

21. Will we have access to the 8 facilities in the pilot area?
We will review each proposal that requires access to City of Waco facilities and make decisions based on the type of access required. Please provide all details for requiring access to the City of Waco facilities in your proposal.

22. Does the City of Waco provide free access for equipment installation and/or power?
Please include all access and power requirements for your proposed solution(s).
23. Are we to capitalize the household connections?
 - a. If so, over a certain period of time? 1 year, 2 years, etc?
Please include your recommendations within your proposal related to this
24. Is the RFI going to be weighted depending on the connection speed or connection type?
The City will evaluate each proposal based on the goals from within the RFI. If your firm can provide optional connection speeds and types, please list those as options within your proposal.
25. What is the take rate of the pilot area?
That information has not been collected at this time.
26. Will we be able to utilize existing utility and/or city poles to mount radios?
The City of Waco will evaluate access to facilities/poles, if applicable, and determine if access is required and/or feasible.
27. Would the City be able to expedite permitting for pole utilization?
The City of Waco will not be able to expedite permitting for pole utilization.
28. For the minimum bandwidth requirements of 25-Mbps/3-Mbps, how many concurrent users are expected to use this bandwidth at same time for the approximately 2800 locations (residences plus businesses)?
Please use the demographics described in section 1.02 item D.
29. Are there different bandwidth requirements for each category of users defined in RFI Section 1, subsection 1.02, item C?
Not at this time. Please use the bandwidth requirements outlined in section 1.02 item E.
30. When serving tourist and visitors is it expected to have Wi-Fi coverage across the entire pilot area, or only in targeted locations, such as parks? And if so, which locations?
In the entire pilot area described in the RFI.
31. Is the respondent required to provide end-user support for underserved users directly? Is support expected to be provided to the end user, or the customer, which in this case is city? Who is doing this and to what extent?
Please address contractor support requests as described in section 1.04.
32. Will you be wanting to manage this yourselves or are you looking for a managed service offering?
Please address contractor support requests as described in section 1.04.
33. The RFI lists city facilities outside of the target area and separately lists inside. Can any City of Waco facilities listed in Pilot area be used to support infrastructure for a project?
Yes, this is possible. All recommendations will have to be reviewed and approved.
34. Is the "Wilbert Austin, Sr. Park" listed in the request misnamed? It's not in the pilot area according to google maps.

Also known as East Waco Park, 401 Hood Street, Waco, Texas 76704

35. Can the IT datacenter be used for a tower location?

Yes, this is possible. All recommendations will have to be reviewed and approved.

36. What are the existing broadband connections at the sites in the target area? Is it leased or owned?

For City facilities in the target area, 7 of the 8 facilities are leased lines and the East Waco Library is fiber that's owned by the City of Waco.

37. What is the "SCHROEDER TOWER" address? 6200 Service Center Dr is not pulling up in google maps

This address should be 6200 Schroeder Drive, Waco, Texas.