

Town of Amherst  
Invitation For Bid #2024-05  
Addendum #7

1. Is the proposer and installation contractor to provide evidence in their proposal of being a licensed contractor in the Commonwealth of Virginia?

Yes. Please.

2. Is a certified propagation study from the AMI system manufacturer to be provided by the Proposer in the proposal?

Yes. Stated in RFP Proposal Requirements, #6.

3. Is the proposer to provide the propagation study based on guaranteed coverage of 100% of the Town's water meters?

Please provide study based on what you are able to offer. It does not have to 100%. We will look at this as part of the evaluations.

4. Is the propagation study to show a minimum of 80% double redundancy to protect the Town when a Base Station, Gateway, Repeater or Data Collector(s) is off-line and/or damaged?

Please provide what you are able to offer. We will look at this as part of the evaluations of the RFP's.

5. For the billing Interface is the proposer responsible for working with the Town's CIS system (Edmunds) provider in completing the AMI side AND the Town's CIS side of the interface? If so, are the costs to complete the AMI side and the CIS side of the interface to be included in the proposer pricing proposal?

The proposer should have knowledge of if your system is compatible with Edmunds which should already be reflected in the RFP.

6. Is the proposer to complete a Meter Site survey and Meter Lid Survey of all installations to confirm meter sizes and meter lid sizes prior to placing orders, so that when the water meters and pit lids are ordered, it's correct the first time? Should that cost be included in the submitters pricing proposal?

The proposer should have this information prior to order, however, it is expected that this be part of the vendor's responsibility and not a cost to the Town.

7. Is the proposer responsible for establishing and providing the setup and subsequently the annual cellular backhaul fees for all base stations, gateways repeaters and/or collectors? Are these fees to be included in the submitters pricing proposal?

Yes

8. During the replacement of the water meters, the CIS will need to be updated to reflect the new water meters and endpoints that have been installed. This process can be automated instead of manually having to update 1,210 +/- accounts. The automation takes place by creating a Meter Exchange / Installation file interface. Is the proposer responsible to create this interface and include that cost in the proposer pricing proposal?

If there is a cost to this, this can be handled manually.

9. Are the costs for Project Management and Professional services to be listed and included in the proposer pricing proposal?

Anything that will have a cost to the Town should be included in the proposal.

10. If a monopole(s) for heights greater than 30 feet are required at location(s) beyond the Town asset location(s), is it the proposer's responsibility to list and include in their Pricing Proposal **the cost to purchase and install the monopoles**?

Yes.

11. If a monopole(s) is required at location(s) beyond the Town asset location(s), is it the proposer's responsibility to list in their proposal in their Pricing Proposal **the cost to purchase property sites and/or site leases** for the location of monopoles over the entire life of the project (twenty (20) years)?

Yes.

12. If the Town's assets, including water tanks, are being considered for use for the installation of AMI equipment, shall the proposer list and include in their Pricing Proposal the costs for Project Management, Professional Services, Engineering, Engineering Certifications, Structural Analysis, Site Preparation, Mounting Hardware, Permitting, Welding & Drawings to mount the AMI equipment to the Town's owned water tower assets?

Yes

13. Are all Data Collector Units to be fully warranted, including batteries over the life of the system and the costs to provide this service be included in the proposers Price Proposal?

Warranty information and what will be provided should be included in the proposal. There is no specific requirement. All of this will be evaluated with the proposals.

14. Is the proposer responsible to include in their proposal, the costs to provide the resources, equipment, labor and parts to field replace Base stations, Gateways, Repeaters and/or Data Collectors for a minimum of 15 years and the costs to provide this service be included in their pricing proposal as part of the Towns annual fees?

YES

15. If a technology upgrade of the Data Collector(s) is required, is the cost over the life of the system for a minimum of fifteen (15) years the responsibility of the proposer and the costs to provide this service to be included in their Pricing Proposal?

Yes

16. If software upgrades are required, are the costs for these upgrades over the life of the system; minimum fifteen (15) years, the responsibility of the proposer and the costs to provide this service be included in the Pricing Proposal?

Yes

17. Are polymer-bodied water meters with polymer threads acceptable?

Yes.

18. If polymer threads are acceptable, and the stripping of the polymer threads are not covered under a full water meter replacement warranty, does the Town require the proposer to instead provide a metal-bodied water meter with metal threads?

Yes.

19. There currently is a wide range of delivery dates for water meters. Shall the proposer provide the

official lead times for the supply of their water meters in their proposal?

Yes

20. Should the proposer provide as part of the maintenance program - Daily Monitoring with notifications to identify critical and severe end-customer consumption events? The notifications will be 365 days a year via email and contain Customer Account #, type of event, meter description, and description of event severity in gallons, percentage, duration, etc. as applicable?

This question is too system based and could possibly disqualify other vendors, therefore, we have chosen to answer.

21. Is the proposer required to provide daily (24/7/365) email notifications of critical water usage events to the Town?

This question is too system based and could possibly disqualify other vendors, therefore, we have chosen not to answer.

22. Is the proposer responsible to provide the field labor and resources with performance guarantee to maintain the Town' water meters at a minimum of a 98.5% read rate over a three-day period for a minimum of fifteen (15) years using the proposer resources? Is the cost to provide this service be included in the proposers Pricing Proposal?

This question is too system based and could possibly disqualify other vendors, therefore, we have chosen not to answer.

23. Is the AMI system to have the two-way capability to operate a remote shutoff valve from ¾ to 2”?

Remote shutoff is not necessary to reduce costs.

24. Does the AMI system have the two-way capability for on-demand meter reads to handle re-read, move-in and move-out services.

This question is too system based and could possibly disqualify other vendors, therefore, we have chosen not to answer.

25. Does the AMI system solution proposed need to have the current or future capability to read gas and electric water meters under the network.

No

26. Can the Town provide a list of all proposer's questions with the Town's responses?

We have done that. Emails were sent out to known proposers of the additional information posted to the Town website.

27. Can the Town provide clarification on your preference 1?

“Current AMI meter. If acoustic leak detection capability is available, capability should already be assembled for if the Town desires to implement at a future date.”

Is the town referring to leak detection within the meter or the capability to do standalone leak detection, in example, Acoustic Leak Logger?

We are referring to the ability to find leaks on the Town's side of the meter. If this is a feature with extra ongoing costs, then we would like the ability to be there but not necessarily turned on so that we may use it in the future.