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Birmingham, AL 35204
Capital Projects Office
Special Projects
(205) 581-3014

November 6, 2020

TO ALL PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS

**SUBJECT: RESPONSES TO INQUIRIES No.03
 WEST TERMINUS CONSTRUCTION
 INVITATION FOR BID (IFB) NUMBER 3771**

The City of Birmingham offers the following responses to inquiries during the inquiry period.

QUESTION #1:

I apologize if I'm missing something, but Article 1.05B of the Instructions to Bidders says direct requests for clarifications to the City Architect and Article 1.06B of the Instructions to Bidders says direct requests for clarifications to the Architect. Accordingly, I addressed my letter to Mr. Oglesby and copied you. Please let me know if there are other guidelines regarding requests for clarifications.

RESPONSE #1:

In the Bidding Requirements, Instructions to Bidders section, defined for the purposes of bidding, the City Architect in 1.05B is the same role also referred to as the Architect referenced in 1.06B

QUESTION #2:

Proposed Substitution: Manufacturer: Versico Roofing Systems; Versico 60 Mil PVC Fully Adhered Roofing System.

RESPONSE #2:

Substitution is approved pending successful Buy America form submission.

QUESTION #3:

Proposed Substitution: Abrams Architectural Products; Rain Screen 4 MM Composite Aluminum Model Number: AAP-100; Reason for not providing specified item: Cheaper and equal product. Manufactured in Georgia so freight will be less expensive.

RESPONSE #3:

Substitution is approved pending successful Buy America form submission.

QUESTION #4:

Drawing S50I - Detail I6/S50I entitled Typical Framing Elevation at Wall Opening indicates HSS 8x8x¼ steel members around the openings where there is storefront on the exterior wall. Some of these wall openings are located near building columns which are HSS 6x6x¾ steel members, such as at Columns B-1, C-1, C-3 and B-4. While it be acceptable to utilize the building columns to create the steel framing shown in Detail I 6/S50I?

RESPONSE #4:

The proposed alterations to the framing is not acceptable.

QUESTION #5:

Contract Form - The Project Manual includes AIA Document AIOI-1997 Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Contractor, however, there is also a single page in the Project Manual entitled Contract BX Birmingham Xpress Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) West Terminus Station Contract. Will the AIA AIOI contract form be used, or will there be another contract form. If there is another contract form will be utilized, please provide the complete contract form.

RESPONSE #5:

Contractor will be required to execute the Execution Contract Form. The AIA contract signature page will not be required to be executed but the AIA Contract will be included as part of the overall contract documents. The successful responsive and responsible bidder will be required to execute the Contract Form that's located right after the FTA Terms and Conditions last page, after the receiving Notice of Award.

QUESTION #6:

Specification Section 014100 - Structural Test and Special Inspections -Article 4.2 indicates the Schedule of Special Inspections is attached; however, the Schedule of Special Inspections is not included in the Project Manual. Please provide the Schedule of Special Inspections.

RESPONSE #6:

Schedule of special inspections will be issued in Addendum 3.

QUESTION #7:

Quantities for the shrubbery don't line up with what the numbers show. Is there an updated set of drawings from the Architect or someone I can contact about these discrepancies? The issue is the Plant Schedule shows quantities of 25 and 17 for the Inkberry and Winterberry Holly respectively. The drawings on the other hand shows 7 Inkberry and 36 Winterberry. Any help on this would be appreciated.

RESPONSE #7:

The plant schedule quantities are correct. REVISE the plant label for the (19) IVE near the existing parking area to read "IG". Please see revised L401 (revision C) in Addendum 3

QUESTION #8:

Bid Bond Language – Invitation to Bid notes that the bond should be a maximum of \$10,000 equal to 5% of the bid. Please clarify.

RESPONSE #8:

You multiply your bid total times 5% for the bid bond amount. If it's less than 10k, then you would submit your bid bond for that amount. If your bid total comes out more than 10k, based on 5% of your bid total, then you only pay the maximum 10k for the bid bond.

QUESTION #9:

Bid Form – The documents, Instruction to Bidders, notes lump sum. However, there is a unit price bid form to be used as back up that asks for unit prices with a Unit Price Adj. Factor. Typically, the factor would be utilized for a Job Order Contracting or Task Order Contracting submissions based on a pricing book. There is not price book for this project. Is this a Task Order or Job Order Contracting project?

RESPONSE #9:

No, this is not a Job Order or Task Order Contract. This is a lump sum bid. As explained in note C on the Bid Form, the potential bidder shall provide unit prices inclusive of costs identified in Note C. The potential bidder shall provide unit prices as listed in the Bid Form to identify each work item and its appropriate unit designation for purposes of cost identification for any additive or deductive amounts to the Base Bid amounts. Unit prices shall be the same for additive or deductive amounts. Also, see response 12 for additional clarification.

QUESTION #10:

Bid Form / Unit Price Form – Note “A” indicates that the bid will be evaluated based upon the “Total Bid Price”, the sum of lines 1 through 6. Is this a lump sum project or a unit price contract?

RESPONSE #10:

As identified in the first paragraph of the Invitation To Bid Letter and again on the Bid Form, Note A, this is a Firm Fixed Price, Lump Sum Contract and not a Unit Price Contract.

QUESTION #11:

Bid Form / Unit Price Form – Note “C” indicates that the unit prices are to be included but are not a part of the Base Bid. So, are they for additions in scope?

RESPONSE #11:

The unit prices are requested for unforeseen conditions and the unit prices will not be evaluated as part of the Base Bid. However, we want the ability to review competitive unit prices for items that may be encountered during construction that may not specifically be included in the design documents. However, any factors and rates like overhead and General & Administrative costs used as part of your unit price are auditable as per FTA requirements.

QUESTION #12:

List of Subcontractors – Documents note that the list is to be submitted 48 hours after bid. Instructions to bidders note that the list is to be submitted with the bid. Which one is correct?

RESPONSE #12:

This must be submitted with the Instructions to Bidders and will be corrected in an upcoming addendum.

QUESTION #13:

Procore – Documents note that we are to utilize Procore. Are we to pay for the license / hosting of Procore or use the license from the CM Team?

RESPONSE #13:

No license is required by the Contractor. Access will be granted through the project with instructions for use.

QUESTION #14:

Water & gas services enter at NW corner of the building. The service lines run South then West to tie into existing services at 47th street. In addition, all utility services (comms, water, sewer, gas) run through the construction entrance.

Once utility work in this area begins it will shut off access to the site. To use this as main construction entrance at time of work can become a safety hazard with congestion of equipment, material and labor performing work in area.

This will be an issue whether Contractor waits to install utilities in location or start them immediately during initial sitework. Is it possible to temporarily have an entrance along Ave W during site utility installation at required construction entrance area? Or is it possible to move the required entrance to Avenue West permanently in lieu of 47th Street?

RESPONSE #14:

The contractor will be allowed to use Ave W. as a construction entrance on a temporary basis while utility work is going on, but it needs to be for a defined amount of time. The contractor will be required to provide a "Site utilization Plan" as required in the Contract, in the Owners Supplemental Conditions, Section 2.0 which will show your construction entrance and indicate if you plan to use another area for a temporary construction entrance.

QUESTION #15:

After review of structural drawings there is no reference to Detail 6 / S301 in plans. Please confirm there are no structural walls requiring use of typical concrete wall detail 6 / S301.

RESPONSE #15:

Structural walls are not required at building foundation.

QUESTION #16:

Per reflected ceiling plan on A6.1 there is to be an exposed ceiling at the Mechanical, Electrical, Demarc / IT, and Supply / L & F. The ceiling legend calls for recessed LED lighting in these areas. A recessed light fixture cannot be installed at an exposed ceiling. The electrical plans call for light SW4 and SW8 in these areas which are pendant or surface mounted light fixtures per Luminaire Schedule. Please confirm lighting fixtures are not to be recessed and per Luminaire Schedule.

RESPONSE #16:

Lighting fixtures are to be pendant in exposed ceiling areas per Luminaire Schedule.

QUESTION #17:

Per Drawings there is to be a standing seam metal roof at the BRT and Micro Transit Canopies. Per Detail 5 / A2.6 there is metal fascia and SMACNA metal gutter system. There is no underlayment or insulation shown between the steel deck and metal roof system. Typically, there would be some type of insulation / underlayment to prevent condensation. Please confirm there is to be no insulation or underlayment at standing seam metal roof system.

RESPONSE #17:

Roofing system is to be 2" standing seam on self-adhering membrane underlayment on 5/8" exterior grade plywood on 1 1/2" metal deck. Spec to be issued in upcoming addendum.

QUESTION #18:

During Pre – Bid Conference City of Birmingham stated they would provide a list of Prime Contractors, Trade Contractors and DBE Contractors who planned to bid to those in attendance for conference meeting. Can this be provided?

RESPONSE #18:

The list was provided to all attendees who registered with email addresses. It has been uploaded to the City of Birmingham's official Plan Room and can be obtained by clicking Addendum #1 at the following Alabama Graphics website: <http://birminghambids.algraphics.com/View/Default.aspx>

QUESTION #19:

Is the Contractor to include pricing for utility fees in bid or is this being handled by the City of Birmingham?

RESPONSE #19:

There is an Allowance in the Bid Form, Line 6 for Miscellaneous Utility Relocation.

QUESTION #20:

Proposed Substitution: Manufacturer: Dudick Inc. Trade Name: Steri-Crete SL and Sealer 30

RESPONSE #20:

Substitution is approved pending successful Buy America form submission.

QUESTION #21:

Drawing C4.0 – There is a note pertaining to the BRT Platform which states, "Reqd. Concrete Pad. See Structural Plans (Width Varies)"; however, the structural drawings do not include a plan of the BRT Platform. Please provide a structural plan of the BRT Platform.

RESPONSE #21:

See keyplan on sheet S102 from an upcoming addendum.

QUESTION #22:

Drawing C7.0 – Water Distribution Note 5 indicates that all services lines below roadways shall be encased and Drawing C9.0 includes a detail indicating steel encasement piping. The 8" water main extension indicates the use of steel casing pipe; however, the domestic water service and fire water service indicates the casing pipe shall be SDR-21 plastic piping. Is the encasement piping for the domestic water service and fire water service SDR-21 plastic piping rather than steel piping?

RESPONSE #22:

See revised sheet C7.0 issued in upcoming addendum.

QUESTION #23:

Drawing C8.0 – The Typical Heavy-Duty Concrete Paving detail indicates the concrete shall have compressive strength of 4,000 PSI; however, the Concrete & Reinforcing Notes on Drawing S001 indicates the compressive strength of exterior concrete slabs shall be 5,000 PSI. Please clarify this discrepancy.

RESPONSE #23:

Concrete paving covered under the civil scope shall have a minimum compressive strength of 4,000 psi. S001 is referring to the concrete items indicated on the civil plans as "see structural plans" to be issued in upcoming addendum.

QUESTION #24:

Drawing C8.0 – The Typical Concrete Sidewalk / Pad Detail indicates the concrete shall have compressive strength of 4,000 PSI; however, the Concrete & Reinforcing Notes on Drawing S001 indicates the compressive strength of exterior concrete slabs shall be 5,000 PSI. Please clarify this discrepancy.

RESPONSE #24:

Concrete paving covered under the civil scope shall have a minimum compressive strength of 4,000 psi. S001 is referring to the concrete items indicated on the civil plans as “see structural plans.

QUESTION #25:

Drawing A2.4 – Detail 6 depicts the Bus Arrival Indicator Pylon Plan and includes a note regarding construction of the pylon that references, “Detail 8 on this sheet”; however, there isn’t a Detail 8 on Drawing A2.4. Please provide Detail 8 to show the heavy-duty box trusses for the Bus Arrival Indicator Pylon.

RESPONSE #25:

The detail should reference 7/A2.4. See revised drawing 6/A2.4 will be updated in upcoming addendum.

QUESTION #26:

Drawings A2.5 and A2.6 – The roofing material on the Fixed Route and Micro Transit Canopies is indicated to be standing seam metal; however, the Project Manual does not include a specification for standing seam metal roofing. Please provide a specification for standing seam metal roofing.

RESPONSE #26:

See Metal Roof specification to be issued in upcoming addendum.

QUESTION #27:

Drawing A2.6 – Section 5 depicts the Fixed Route and Micro Transit Canopies. This section seems to imply the conduit for the LED light fixtures is to be installed inside the steel members which are hollow structural steel type members. Article 3.1A in Specification Section 260533 – Raceways and Boxes for Electrical Systems indicates that concealed conduit in outdoor applications shall be galvanized rigid steel conduit (GRC). It would be nearly impossible to install GRC inside the hollow steel members. If the intent is to conceal the conduit for the light fixtures inside the hollow structural steel members, would it be acceptable to install liquid-tight flexible non-metal conduit? If not, please provide a workable solution to providing a concealed conduit for the canopy light fixtures.

RESPONSE #27:

Conduit to be exposed and installed tight to the structure. Provide high performance coating to all exposed conduit, boxes, and hangers.

QUESTION #28:

Drawing A2.6 – Section 5 depicts the Fixed Route and Micro Transit Canopies. This section includes a note indicating there is a metal fascia on the front of the canopy and it seems the intent may be to also provide a metal fascia on the back side of the canopy. It also appears the height of the metal fascia is based on the size of the HSS steel member which is 12”. Section 4/S102 depicts the structural details of the canopies; however, this section does show a metal fascia. Please state the material to be used to construct the metal fascia, the size of the metal fascia and clarify the extent of the metal fascia at the canopies.

RESPONSE #28:

The fascia should be .040 aluminum and +/-8” vertical on the front and two sides of the canopy. The fascia should be .040 aluminum and +/-6” vertical on the rear side of the canopy. See revised drawing to be issued in upcoming addendum.

QUESTION #29:

Drawing A5.1 – Elevation 16 indicates an undercounter refrigerator in the Driver Break Room; however, the Project Manual does not include a specification for the undercounter refrigerator. Please provide a specification for the undercounter refrigerator.

RESPONSE #29:

Undercounter refrigerator is provided under another contract and should be removed from this bid and will be indicated in upcoming addendum.

QUESTION #30:

Drawing A6.1 – The Reflected Ceiling Plan indicates two (2) access doors in the gypsum board ceiling and includes a note to, “See Plumbing”; however, neither the plumbing drawings nor the plumbing specifications contain any information about the access doors. Please provide a specification for the access doors.

RESPONSE #30:

See basis of design information on revised A6.1 sheet to be issued in upcoming addendum.

QUESTION #31:

Drawing A6.1 – The Reflected Ceiling Plan seems to indicate, but not label an access door in the gypsum board ceiling in Men 113. Should the gypsum board ceiling in Men 113 have the same access doors as required in Women 111?

RESPONSE #31:

Yes, see revised A6.1 sheet to be issued in upcoming addendum.

QUESTION #32:

Drawing A6.1 – The Reflected Ceiling Plan seems to indicate, but not label an access door in the gypsum board ceiling in Janitor 112. Is an access door required in the gypsum board ceiling in Janitor 112? If so, please provide the size of the access door.

RESPONSE #32:

Yes, the access door in Janitor 112 is 8x8 as shown in Women 111 (near exterior wall). See revised A6.1 sheet to be issued in upcoming addendum.

QUESTION #33:

Drawing S102 – Section 6 is cut through the edge of the BRT Platform and includes a note which indicates the BRT Platform slab thickness is indicated on the BRT Platform Plan; however, the structural drawings do not include a plan of the BRT Platform. What is the thickness of the BRT Platform concrete slab?

RESPONSE #33:

See revised detail 6/S102 to be issued in upcoming addendum.

QUESTION #34:

Drawing S301 – 5/S301 is entitled Typical Pier Detail and includes a note which indicates concrete piers are required at the perimeter building columns; however, the Foundation Plan on Drawing S101 does not indicate concrete piers at the perimeter building columns. Please clarify this discrepancy.

RESPONSE #34:

Piers are not required at the perimeter building columns.

QUESTION #35:

Drawing S301 – Detail 8 shows the typical turndown slab edge for the building and no reinforcing steel is indicated; however, Section 6/S102 indicates the turndown slab edge at the BRT Platform and this detail indicates reinforcing steel is required. Does the turndown slab edge at the building require any reinforcing steel?

RESPONSE #35:

See revised detail 8/S301 to be issued in upcoming addendum.

QUESTION #36:

Electrical Drawings – The electrical drawings indicate there is a public address & sound system included in the scope of work; however, the Project Manual does not include a specification section for the public address & sound system. Please provide a specification for the public address & sound system.

RESPONSE #36:

In addendum, electrical drawings will be revised to clarify that conduit, Wire, and Boxes are to be by contractor. Devices are provided by owner.

QUESTION #37:

Davis-Bacon Wage Rates – Article 17.0 of the FTA Clauses in the Project Manual requires minimum wage rates be paid to all workers on the project based on the classification of work being performed. The Project Manual also includes Wage Determination General Decision Number: AL20200107 dated January 3, 2020 which is applicable to heavy construction projects rather than building construction projects; therefore, many of the work classification required to construct the project are not included in the Wage Determination. These work classifications which are required to construct the project, but not included in the Wage Determination include, but are not limited to plumbers, ironworkers, glaziers, painters, roofers, sheet metal workers, sprinkler fitters and tile setters. Please provide the wage rates for each of these work classifications

RESPONSE #37:

The Wage Determination for Building will be added to upcoming Addendum.

QUESTION #38:

Project Manual – The Table of Contents includes Specification Section 265600 – Exterior Lighting; however, this specification section is not included in the Project Manual. Please provide Specification Section 265600 – Exterior Lighting.

RESPONSE #38:

This specification section was issued under Addendum 01.

QUESTION #39:

Proposed Substitution: Specification Section L.401 Manufacturer: DuMor Inc. Model Number: Custom

RESPONSE #39:

This was previously answered under question #7, in Responses to Inquiries No. 02, dated October 26, 2020.

QUESTION #40:

The specifications indicate there is to be steel edging around some of the vegetation, but it is not indicated on the Landscape Drawing L401. Where will this be located if needed?

RESPONSE #40:

The landscape edging is to be installed between lawns and shrub planting beds. Edging is not required around individual trees within the lawn areas.

QUESTION #41:

There is also a mention of having a seeded lawn area on the L401 drawing but I could not find what the seed mixture needs to be. Do you know where I might find this information?

RESPONSE #41:

Specifications indicate Bermuda grass sod. Sod was removed from project. In lieu of sod provide a commercially available seed mix blend of improved turf type Bermuda grass seed to include Blackjack, Maya, and Transcontinental varieties. Sow seed at a rate of 3 lbs. per 1,000 square feet, or per label instructions.

QUESTION #42:

On C4.0, on each side of the BRT Platform, there is an 18" retaining wall. The amendment shows a new detail 9 on sheet S301 that could be for this retaining wall, but we can't be certain that this is it as there is no cut through the Platform area. Please confirm or provide the cut.

RESPONSE #42:

See BRT Platform Keyplan with typical sections issued in upcoming addendum, Structural Drawing S102.

QUESTION #43:

The curb & gutter, concrete paving, and sidewalk details call for 4,000 psi concrete to be used. The Table listed in Spec Section 03 3000, Item 2.13, item H lists Pavements, sidewalks and curbs to be 5,000 psi concrete with 0.40 w/c ratio. Which is correct?

RESPONSE #43:

Utilize section 033000 for building related concrete and BRT platform. Specification section 32 13 13-Concrete Paving addresses curbs, sidewalks and driveways.

QUESTION #44:

On C4.0, at the island south of the building there is a note "reqd tactile warning strip" but it is not indicated in the island to be sidewalk. Is there to be sidewalk in the island? L401 seems to indicate it is.

RESPONSE #44:

Question is unclear. Provide tactile warning strips per Civil and landscape drawings. Both C4.0 and L401 call for the same thing.

QUESTION #45:

On L4.01, at the circular sod lawn east of the building there are five trees indicated in a darker hatch. Note 15 points to the inner & outer circles of this hatched area indicated 30" structural soil. On C4.0, this area is indicated as sidewalk. Which is correct?

RESPONSE #45:

Structural soil is to be installed as the base course for the concrete pavement above. In this hatched area the section is compacted subgrade, 30" depth structural soil, very thin course of #57 stone for leveling, then the concrete pavement.

QUESTION #46:

On L4.01, at the circular sod lawn east of the building there is also Note 13 which seems to be pointing a small band around the trees and an area toward the building. Is that the exposed aggregate sidewalk?

RESPONSE #46:

Correct. The exposed aggregate finish goes from the inner circle of sod lawn to the edge of the outer band (score joint).

QUESTION #47:

On L4.01 - Two circular areas indicate what appears to be bands. Are those just score joints?

RESPONSE #47:

Correct. The circular bands are to be score joints.

QUESTION #48:

Section 5/S301 indicates a footing pedestal and foundation wall. The section indicates to see the plan or schedule for reinforcing but we cannot find either. Since all the footings are at -2'0" FF, is there a perimeter foundation wall and pedestals? If so, please provide details of sizes and reinforcing.

RESPONSE #48:

There are no perimeter column piers as shown in 5/S301. Exterior columns will bear directly on footings similar to the interior Columns. See revised detail 8/S301 for additional information.

QUESTION #49:

Section 8/S301 - Is any reinforcing required in the turndown?

RESPONSE #49:

Please see revised detail to be issued in upcoming addendum.

QUESTION #50:

Section 5/S102 - Where is this section cut?

RESPONSE #50:

See civil plans for location and extent of BRT platform. Section 5/S102 is a typical cross section through the BRT platform.

QUESTION #51:

Section 6/S102 - notes to see plan for slab thickness. We do not find it on the plan. Can you provide?

RESPONSE #51:

Please see revised details 5/S101 & 6/S101 to be issued in upcoming addendum.

QUESTION #52:

Sections 9&10/S301 - Where are these cut?

RESPONSE #52:

Section 9/S301 is a cross section through the BRT platform ramp and curb. Section 10/S301 is a foundation for the bus arrival indicator pylon referenced in the architectural drawings.

QUESTION #53:

C4.0 - At the BRT Platform, the civil note says to see structural, but on S001 or S102 or S301 there are no indications of thickness, etc. Also, the legend on C4 and hatching for this indicates it is sidewalk.

RESPONSE #53:

See BRT Platform Keyplan on 10/S102 to reference associated typical details. Hatching will be corrected on C4.0 to more accurately depict the platform.

QUESTION #54:

Sheet A8.0 – The Door Schedule indicates Door Opening 106 has a painted hollow metal door frame, but it references Elevation S8 which is shown as, “Interior ALUM Transaction Window”. Please clarify this discrepancy.

RESPONSE #54:

S8 should be F1 and will be corrected in upcoming addendum.

QUESTION #55:

Sheet A8.0 – The Door Schedule indicates Door Opening 107 has a type F1 frame which is a painted hollow metal frame, but the door frame material is indicated to be prefinished aluminum. Please clarify this discrepancy.

RESPONSE #55:

F1 should be S7 and will be corrected in upcoming addendum.

QUESTION #56:

Sheet A8.0 – The Door Schedule indicates the size of Door Opening 115 is 3-0 x 7-0, but the Floor Plan on Sheet A2.1 depicts Door Opening 115 as a pair of doors. The Door Schedule also references Door Frame F1 which is a single door and Door Elevation D which doesn't exist. Please clarify these discrepancies.

RESPONSE #56:

Door 115 is a pair of doors 6-0x7-0. Schedule has been revised and will be issued in upcoming.

QUESTION #57:

Sheet A8.0 – The Door Schedule indicates the size of Door Opening 116 is 3-0 x 7-0, but the Floor Plan on Sheet A2.1 depicts Door Opening 116 as a pair of doors. Please clarify this discrepancy.

RESPONSE #57:

Door 116 is a pair of doors, 6-0x7-0. Schedule has been revised and will be issued in upcoming addendum.

QUESTION #58:

Sheet E502 – The Single Line Diagram indicates conduit size(s) based on the Feeder Size Schedule which are different than the conduit sizes shown on the Electrical Site Plan on Sheet E101. Please clarify these discrepancies.

RESPONSE #58:

Conduit Sizes to be determined by feeder schedule. A revised drawing will be issued to clarify in upcoming addendum.

The City of Birmingham appreciates your interest in this procurement.

Sincerely,

Denise Bell

Denise Bell
Director of Capital Projects

cc: File