



City Of New London

Department of Finance-Purchasing Agent
13 Masonic Street • New London, CT 06320 • Phone (860) 447-5215 • Fax (860) 447-5297

Request for Proposals

ADDENDUM 4

Proposal No.: 2023-03

Addendum No.: 4

Date Issued: 10/31/2022

Broadband Feasibility Study

Opening Date and Time: November 29, 2022 at 2:00PM

Bidders Notes: This addendum is issued to provide all potential bidders with answers to questions submitted.

All other terms and conditions remain the same.

This Addendum cover page must be signed and returned with your bid.

Authorized Signature of Bidder

Company Name

Return Bid To:

Joshua Montague, Accounting Purchasing Agent
City of New London
13 Masonic Street
New London, CT 06320

Bids cannot be accepted after the Bid Opening Date and Time indicated above.

ADDENDUM 4

Broadband Feasibility Study

RE: 2023-03
FROM: Joshua Montague, Accounting Purchasing Agent
TO: Prospective bidders

This Addendum shall be part of the Contract Documents and modifies the original bidding documents. This Addendum is to be acknowledged by the bidders on the Bid Form. Failure to do so may subject the bidder to disqualification.

Changes to prior Addenda:

- No changes to addendum #1, 2, or 3.

Q&A:

Q1. Can you share if this initiative is being ARPA or Middle-Mile Grant funded?

A1. This project will be funded through ARPA.

Q2. Page 4 of the RFP outlines the need for a bid bond in the amount of ten percent (10%) and a performance bond in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the total bid price. Since this is atypical for a services contract, can you confirm that this is required for this project?

A2. A bid bond and performance bond is not required for this work as this is a professional service contract. The bond requirements apply only to contract services and public works/construction projects.

Q3. Does New London have an anticipated budget for this project?

A3. The City has funding allocated for this project, but is looking to a consultant to evaluate the need, potential solutions, and estimated budgets. Then a decision will be made whether to move forward or not.

Q4. Please advise if a contract needs to be referenced on our bid/quote to the City of New London. For example, NASPO, OMNIA, etc.

A4. Reference to a contract may be included.

Q5. Would the award of the Feasibility Study, Proposal 2023-03, preclude the awarded vendor from participating in any subsequent opportunities regarding this solution?

A5. No. After the consultant completes the review, should the City decide to move forward with the work, it will be publicly bid.

Q6. Is Proposal 2023-03 considered a renovation or new construction project?

A6. New construction. At this point the City is simply looking for a consultant to evaluate the need, potential solutions, and estimated budgets. No construction will be awarded as part of this RFQ/P.

Q7. We understand the project is ARPA funded,

a. Can you confirm if there is a deadline to spend the funds allocated?

A7(a). ARPA funds must be spent by December 31, 2026.

i. Is this deadline when the project must be completed, or the decision made and the initial billing received.

A7 (i). The consulting work is expected to be completed within three (3) to six (6) months after contract award.

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- b. ARPA funding usually requires full payment upfront, including any ongoing maintenance charges – is that the intent of the City for this project?

A7 (b). The City will make progress payments- payment will not be made upfront.

Q8. Are the specific City Assets/Buildings/locations by specific address that you want to insure the Broadband network includes/passes? If yes, can you please provide a list of those addresses.

A8. The City would like the possibility to extend Broadband to every building in the City, residential or commercial. This includes any City buildings.

Q9. The RFP indicates a potential desire for Public WiFi at certain locations. Can you provide a building name/address, or location name/address so we can insure we include an explanation of how we plan to cover them in our response?

A9. Bank Street and State Streets are the main city areas that could most benefit from having Public Wi-Fi availability, from at least 289 Bank Street (Fire HQ) to State Street going right up to the New London Public Library at the corner of State and Huntington.

Q10. Does the City have any specific need for Dark Fiber, or Lit Fiber Ethernet solutions for the City's business network? If so, can you articulate in greater detail so again, we can insure we can accommodate them in our response.

A10. The City only has dark fiber between a few buildings, and fiber would be very useful between all of them, but that is not part of this project. This project deals with getting broadband to residents and businesses. If the City could also benefit from the solution, that is a bonus.

Q11. As stated above, Frontier has already made a significant investment in Fiber Broadband in New London. Would the City consider a joint-partnership if we can identify those areas where Frontier has not built, but the City requires coverage? Frontier maintains network ownership and maintenance, and the City of New London contributes funding to defray the build costs?

A11. The City is open to joint partnerships.

Q12. What is the time frame for completion of any type of build, public, private or shared, that the City is anticipating?

A12. The consulting work is to be completed within three (3) to six (6) months after contract award. The timeframe for construction, should the City move forward after completing its review, will depend upon the solution chosen.

Q13. Does New London see Smart City features as part of its future to improve the community? Features such as smart traffic management, air and water quality, and pollution monitoring will need a considerable numbers of remote sensing devices, and a municipal wide network to make the data available to the city's leadership . There appears to be no requirement currently within the RFP/Q to include this. Please clarify.

A13. The City definitely sees Smart City features being important to the community. It is not essential, but would be greatly valued in any proposal.

General Items:

2023-03