

PART B

BIDDING PROCEDURES

PART B - BIDDING PROCEDURES

B1. PROJECT TITLE

B1.1 PROVISION OF AN ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AUDIT

B2. SUBMISSION DEADLINE

B2.1 The Submission Deadline is 4:00 p.m. Winnipeg time, August 31, 2004.

B2.2 Proposal Submissions determined by the Manager of Materials to have been received later than the Submission Deadline will not be accepted and will be returned upon request.

B2.3 The Contract Administrator or the Manager of Materials may extend the Submission Deadline by issuing an addendum at any time prior to the time and date specified in B2.1.

B3. ENQUIRIES

B3.1 All enquiries shall be directed to the Contract Administrator identified in D5.1.

B3.2 If the Bidder finds errors, discrepancies or omissions in the Request for Proposal, or is unsure of the meaning or intent of any provision therein, the Bidder shall notify the Contract Administrator of the error, discrepancy or omission, or request a clarification as to the meaning or intent of the provision at least five (5) Business Days prior to the Submission Deadline.

B3.3 Responses to enquiries which, in the sole judgment of the Contract Administrator, require a correction to or a clarification of the Request for Proposal will be provided by the Contract Administrator to all Bidders by issuing an addendum.

B3.4 Responses to enquiries which, in the sole judgment of the Contract Administrator, do not require a correction to or a clarification of the Request for Proposal will be provided by the Contract Administrator only to the Bidder who made the enquiry.

B3.5 The Bidder shall not be entitled to rely on any response or interpretation received pursuant to B3 unless that response or interpretation is provided by the Contract Administrator in writing.

B4. CONFIDENTIALITY

B4.1 Information provided to an Bidder by the City or acquired by an Bidder by way of further enquiries or through investigation is confidential. Such information shall not be used or disclosed in any way without the prior written authorization of the Contract Administrator.

B4.2 The Bidder shall not make any statement of fact or opinion regarding any aspect of the Request for Proposals to the media or any member of the public without the prior written authorization of the Contract Administrator.

B5. ADDENDA

B5.1 The Contract Administrator may, at any time prior to the Submission Deadline, issue addenda correcting errors, discrepancies or omissions in the Request for Proposal, or clarifying the meaning or intent of any provision therein.

B5.2 The Contract Administrator will issue each addendum at least three (3) Business Days prior to the Submission Deadline, or provide at least three (3) Business Days by extending the Submission Deadline.

- B5.2.1 Addenda will be available in Adobe Acrobat (pdf) format on the Bid Opportunities page at The City of Winnipeg, Corporate Finance, Materials Management Division internet site at <http://www.winnipeg.ca/matmgt>.
- B5.2.2 The Bidder is responsible for ensuring that he has received all addenda and is advised to check the Materials Management Division internet site for addenda shortly before submitting his Proposal.
- B5.3 The Bidder shall acknowledge receipt of each addendum in Paragraph 9 of Form A: Proposal. Failure to acknowledge receipt of an addendum may render a Proposal non-responsive.

B6. SUBSTITUTES

- B6.1 The Work is based on the Plant, Materials and methods specified in the Request for Proposal.
- B6.2 Substitutions shall not be allowed unless application has been made to and prior approval has been granted by the Contract Administrator in writing.
- B6.3 Requests for approval of a substitute will not be considered unless received in writing by the Contract Administrator at least five (5) Business Days prior to the Submission Deadline.
- B6.4 The Bidder shall ensure that any and all requests for approval of a substitute:
- (a) provide sufficient information and details to enable the Contract Administrator to determine the acceptability of the Plant, Material or method as either an approved equal or alternative;
 - (b) identify any and all changes required in the applicable Work, and all changes to any other Work, which would become necessary to accommodate the substitute;
 - (c) identify any anticipated cost or time savings that may be associated with the substitute;
 - (d) certify that, in the case of a request for approval as an approved equal, the substitute will fully perform the functions called for by the general design, be of equal or superior substance to that specified, is suited to the same use and capable of performing the same function as that specified and can be incorporated into the Work, strictly in accordance with the proposed work schedule and the dates specified in the Supplemental Conditions for Substantial Performance and Total Performance;
 - (e) certify that, in the case of a request for approval as an approved alternative, the substitute will adequately perform the functions called for by the general design, be similar in substance to that specified, is suited to the same use and capable of performing the same function as that specified and can be incorporated into the Work, strictly in accordance with the proposed work schedule and the dates specified in the Supplemental Conditions for Substantial Performance and Total Performance.
- B6.5 The Contract Administrator, after assessing the request for approval of a substitute, may at his sole discretion grant approval for the use of a substitute as an “approved equal” or as an “approved alternative”, or may refuse to grant approval of the substitute.
- B6.6 The Contract Administrator will provide a response in writing, at least three (3) Business Days prior to the Submission Deadline, only to the Bidder who requested approval of the substitute.
- B6.6.1 The Bidder requesting and obtaining the approval of a substitute shall be entirely responsible for disseminating information regarding the approval to any person or persons he wishes to inform.
- B6.7 If the Contract Administrator approves a substitute as an “approved equal”, the Bidder may use the approved equal in place of the specified item.

B6.8 If the Contract Administrator approves a substitute as an “approved alternative”, the Bidder shall base his Total Bid Price upon the specified item but may indicate an alternative price based upon the approved alternative. Such alternatives will be evaluated in accordance with B14.

B6.9 No later claim by the Contractor for an addition to the Total Bid Price because of any other changes in the Work necessitated by the use of an approved equal or an approved alternative will be considered.

B7. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

B7.1 The Proposal Submission consists of the following components:

- (a) Form A: Proposal;
- (b) Form B: Prices;
- (c) Form C: Qualification;
- (d) Resumes of the persons who will perform the work including their Supervisor; and
- (e) Description of your methodology/approach for the accounts payable audit.

B7.2 All components of the Proposal Submission shall be fully completed or provided, and submitted by the Bidder no later than the Submission Deadline, with all required entries made clearly and completely in ink, to constitute a responsive Proposal.

B7.3 The Proposal Submission shall be submitted enclosed and sealed in an envelope clearly marked with the RFP number and the Bidder's name and address.

B7.3.1 Samples or other components of the Proposal Submission which cannot reasonably be enclosed in the envelope may be packaged separately, but shall be clearly marked with the RFP number, the Bidder's name and address, and an indication that the contents are part of the Bidder's Proposal Submission.

B7.4 Proposal Submissions submitted by facsimile transmission (fax) or internet electronic mail (e-mail) will not be accepted.

B7.5 Proposal Submissions shall be submitted to:

The City of Winnipeg
Corporate Finance Department
Materials Management Division
185 King Street, Main Floor
Winnipeg MB R3B 1J1

B8. PROPOSAL

B8.1 The Bidder shall complete Form A: Proposal, making all required entries.

B8.2 Paragraph 2 of Form A: Proposal shall be completed in accordance with the following requirements:

- (a) if the Bidder is a sole proprietor carrying on business in his own name, his name shall be inserted;
- (b) if the Bidder is a partnership, the full name of the partnership shall be inserted;
- (c) if the Bidder is a corporation, the full name of the corporation shall be inserted;
- (d) if the Bidder is carrying on business under a name other than his own, the business name and the name of every partner or corporation who is the owner of such business name shall be inserted.

- B8.2.1 If a Proposal is submitted jointly by two or more persons, each and all such persons shall identify themselves in accordance with B8.2.
- B8.3 In Paragraph 3 of Form A: Proposal, the Bidder shall identify a contact person who is authorized to represent the Bidder for purposes of the Proposal.
- B8.4 Paragraph 11 of Form A: Proposal shall be signed in accordance with the following requirements:
- (a) if the Bidder is a sole proprietor carrying on business in his own name, it shall be signed by the Bidder;
 - (b) if the Bidder is a partnership, it shall be signed by the partner or partners who have authority to sign for the partnership;
 - (c) if the Bidder is a corporation, it shall be signed by its duly authorized officer or officers and the corporate seal, if the corporation has one, should be affixed;
 - (d) if the Bidder is carrying on business under a name other than his own, it shall be signed by the registered owner of the business name, or by the registered owner's authorized officials if the owner is a partnership or a corporation.
- B8.4.1 The name and official capacity of all individuals signing Form A: Proposal shall be printed below such signatures.
- B8.4.2 All signatures shall be original and shall be witnessed except where a corporate seal has been affixed.
- B8.5 If a Proposal is submitted jointly by two or more persons, the word "Bidder" shall mean each and all such persons, and the undertakings, covenants and obligations of such joint Bidders in the Proposal Submission and the Contract, when awarded, shall be both joint and several.

B9. PRICES

- B9.1 The Bidder shall state a price (as a percent) in Canadian funds for each item of the Work identified on Form B: Prices.
- B9.1.1 Notwithstanding GC.9.01(1), Prices on Form B: Prices shall not include the Goods and Services Tax (GST) or Manitoba Retail Sales Tax (MRST, also known as PST), which shall be extra where applicable.
- B9.2 The quantities listed on Form B: Prices are to be considered approximate only. The City will use said quantities for the purpose of comparing Proposals.
- B9.3 The quantities for which payment will be made to the Contractor are to be determined by the Work actually performed and completed by the Contractor, to be measured as specified in the applicable Specifications.

B10. QUALIFICATION

- B10.1 The Bidder shall:
- (a) undertake to be in good standing under The Corporations Act (Manitoba), or properly registered under The Business Names Registration Act (Manitoba), or otherwise properly registered, licensed or permitted by law to carry on business in Manitoba, or if the Bidder does not carry on business in Manitoba, in the jurisdiction where the Bidder does carry on business;
 - (b) be responsible and not be suspended, debarred or in default of any obligation to the City;
 - (c) be financially capable of carrying out the terms of the Contract;

- (d) have all the necessary experience, capital, organization, and equipment to perform the Work in strict accordance with the terms and provisions of the Contract;
- (e) have successfully carried out work, similar in nature, scope and value to the Work;
- (f) employ only Subcontractors who:
 - (i) are responsible and not suspended, debarred or in default of any obligation to the City (a list of suspended or debarred individuals and companies is available on the Information Connection page at The City of Winnipeg, Corporate Finance, Materials Management Division internet site at <http://www.winnipeg.ca/matmgt>); and
 - (ii) have successfully carried out work similar in nature, scope and value to the portion of the Work proposed to be subcontracted to them, and are fully capable of performing the Work required to be done in accordance with the terms of the Contract;
- (g) have a written workplace safety and health program in accordance with The Workplace Safety and Health Act (Manitoba).

B10.2 The Bidder shall complete Form C: Qualification giving a list of previously completed work, similar in nature, scope and value to the Work, in sufficient detail to demonstrate the Bidder's qualification to undertake the Work.

B10.3 The Bidder shall provide, in his Proposal Submission resumes for all employees who are proposed to perform the Work under this Contract.

B10.4 The Bidder shall be prepared to submit, within three (3) Business Days of a request by the Contract Administrator, proof satisfactory to the Contract Administrator of the qualifications of the Bidder and of any proposed Subcontractor.

B10.5 The Bidder shall provide, on the request of the Contract Administrator, full access to any of the Bidder's equipment and facilities to confirm, to the Contract Administrator's satisfaction, that the Bidder's equipment and facilities are adequate to perform the Work.

B11. OPENING OF PROPOSALS AND RELEASE OF INFORMATION

B11.1 Proposal Submissions will not be opened publicly.

B11.2 After award of Contract, the name(s) of the successful Bidder(s) and the Contract Amount(s) will be available on the Closed Bid Opportunities page at The City of Winnipeg, Corporate Finance, Materials Management Division internet site at <http://www.winnipeg.ca/matmgt>.

B11.3 To the extent permitted, the City shall treat all Proposal Submissions as confidential, however the Bidder is advised that any information contained in any Proposal Submission may be released if required by City policy or procedures, or by other authorities having jurisdiction.

B12. IRREVOCABLE OFFER

B12.1 The Proposal(s) submitted by the Bidder shall be irrevocable for the time period specified in Paragraph 10 of Form A: Proposal.

B12.2 The acceptance by the City of any Proposal shall not release the Proposals of the next two lowest evaluated responsive Bidders and these Bidders shall be bound by their offers on such Work until a Contract for the Work has been duly executed and the performance security furnished as herein provided, but any offer shall be deemed to have lapsed unless accepted within the time period specified in Paragraph 10 of Form A: Proposal.

B13. WITHDRAWAL OF OFFERS

- B13.1 A Bidder may withdraw his Proposal without penalty by giving written notice to the Manager of Materials at any time prior to the Submission Deadline.
- B13.1.1 Notwithstanding GC.7.06(2), the time and date of receipt of any notice withdrawing a Proposal shall be the time and date of receipt as determined by the Manager of Materials.
- B13.1.2 The City will assume that any one of the contact persons named in Paragraph 3 of Form A: Proposal or the Bidder's authorized representatives named in Paragraph 11 of Form A: Proposal, and only such person, has authority to give notice of withdrawal.
- B13.1.3 If a Bidder gives notice of withdrawal prior to the Submission Deadline, the Manager of Materials shall:
- (a) retain the Proposal Submission until after the Submission Deadline has elapsed;
 - (b) open the Proposal Submission to identify the contact person named in Paragraph 3 of Form A: Proposal and the Bidder's authorized representatives named in Paragraph 11 of Form A: Proposal; and
 - (c) if the notice has been given by any one of the persons specified in B13.1.3(b), declare the Proposal withdrawn.
- B13.2 A Bidder who withdraws his Proposal after the Submission Deadline but before his offer has been released or has lapsed as provided for in B12.2 shall be liable for such damages as are imposed upon the Bidder by law and subject to such sanctions as the Award Authority considers appropriate in the circumstances. The City, in such event, shall be entitled to all rights and remedies available to it at law, including the right to retain the Bidder's bid security.

B14. INTERVIEWS

- B14.1 The Contract Administrator may, at his/her sole discretion, interview Bidders during the evaluation process.

B15. NEGOTIATIONS

- B15.1 The City reserves the right to negotiate details of the Contract with Bidders.
- B15.2 Negotiations, if any, are intended to address administrative and technical details of the Contract. The Bidder is advised to present his/her best offer, not a starting position for negotiations, in his/her Proposal Submission; the City will not necessarily pursue negotiations with any Bidder.
- B15.3 If, in the course of negotiations pursuant to B15.2 or otherwise, the Bidder amends or modifies a Proposal after the Submission Deadline, the City may consider any amended Proposal as an alternative to the Proposal as originally submitted without releasing the Bidder from the Proposal as originally submitted.

B16. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS

- B16.1 Award of the Contract shall be based on the following evaluation criteria:
- (a) compliance by the Bidder with the requirements of the Request for Proposal (pass/fail);
 - (b) qualifications of the Bidder and the Subcontractors, if any, pursuant to B10 (30%);
 - (c) methodology/approach of review (20%);
 - (d) Total Bid Price (50%);
 - (e) economic analysis of any approved alternative pursuant to B6.

- B16.2 Further to B16.1(a), the Award Authority may reject a Proposal as being non-responsive if the Proposal Submission is incomplete, obscure or conditional, or contains additions, deletions, alterations or other irregularities. The Award Authority may reject all or any part of any Proposal, or waive technical requirements if the interests of the City so require.
- B16.3 Further to B16.1(b), the Award Authority shall reject any Proposal submitted by a Bidder who does not demonstrate, in his Proposal Submission or in other information required to be submitted, that he is responsible and qualified. The Bidder who is considered to be the most qualified will receive full marks and everyone else will be prorated accordingly.
- B16.4 Further to B16.1(c), the methodology/approach to the accounts payable audit will be evaluated considering the Bidder's Proposal or in other information required to be submitted. The Bidder who submits the best overall approach to the review will receive full marks with everyone else being prorated accordingly.
- B16.5 Further to B16.1(d), the Total Bid Price shall be the sum of the quantities multiplied by the unit prices for each item shown on Form B: Prices.
- B16.6 This Contract will be awarded as a whole.

B17. AWARD OF CONTRACT

- B17.1 The Award Authority will give notice of the award of the Contract by way of a letter of intent, or will give notice that no award will be made.
- B17.2 The City will have no obligation to award a Contract to a Bidder, even though one or all of the Bidders are determined to be responsible and qualified, and the Proposals are determined to be responsive.
- B17.2.1 Without limiting the generality of B17.2, the City will have no obligation to award a Contract where:
- (a) the prices exceed the available City funds for the Work;
 - (b) the prices are materially in excess of the prices received for similar work in the past;
 - (c) the prices are materially in excess of the City's cost to perform the Work, or a significant portion thereof, with its own forces;
 - (d) only one Proposal is received; or
 - (e) in the judgment of the Award Authority, the interests of the City would best be served by not awarding a Contract.
- B17.3 Where an award of Contract is made by the City, the award shall be made to the responsible and qualified Bidder submitting the most advantageous offer.