



## **OFFICE OF COUNTY MAYOR GLENN JACOBS**

Procurement Division, 1000 N. Central Street, Suite 100, Knoxville, TN 37917

**Knox County Procurement Division  
Addendum I to Invitation to Bid #2934  
Public Safety Radio Benchmarking**

**Addendum Date:** March 18, 2020

**Buyer:** Christina Davin

**Opening Date:** April 1, 2020 at 2:00 pm

**Total Page(s):** Two (2)

**The following is for Clarification:**

**Question 1:** What access will be provided for the testing;

- Timeframe
- Days of the week
- Times Of Day
- Escorts

**Answer 1:** Knox County Schools would prefer work to be completed during the school week (Monday – Friday). Schedule will be between 7:00am – 5:00pm. Escort(s) will be provided to facilitate access across the building. After-hours work can be arranged at the request of the vendor, but will not be required.

**Question 2:** Is there a maximum timeframe for the testing?

- One Month
- Two Months
- Three Months

**Answer 2:** Per Section 4.4, vendor to provide their estimated timeline to complete all facilities. Knox County Schools would prefer the shortest reasonable time frame this project can be executed by the vendor. Knox County Schools reserve the right to request services through the life of the contract.

**Question 3:** What information is available for each school;

- Floor Plans
- Square Feet

**Answer 3:** Floor plans are available for project execution, but are of varying quality and many lack a scale. We do have estimated square footage available for each location.

**Question 4:** Will all schools be awarded to one bidder or will Knox County select multiple bidders?

**Answer 4:** The intent is to award to a single vendor if that vendor is able to execute the entire project scope in a reasonable time period.

**Question 5:** Is it acceptable to submit our bid only in an electronic format and not submit hardcopies at all?

**Answer 5:** Yes, please see Section 1.12 and 1.13.

**Question 6:** In order for us to make sure we have the right equipment to perform the test, what frequency band(s) need to be tested?

**Answer 6:** Various frequencies are used and successful vendor should coordinate with the AJH for specific frequencies. They are all in the 700 and 800 MHz spectrum.

**Question 7:** To perform the test compliant to IFC 2018-Section 510.5.3, we need radios operating on Knox County network. Will the County provide radios programmed to operate on Knox County network?

**Answer 7:** Yes, we can coordinate the use of a programmed radio for testing.



## OFFICE OF COUNTY MAYOR GLENN JACOBS

Procurement Division, 1000 N. Central Street, Suite 100, Knoxville, TN 37917

**Question 8:** Is the radio system to be tested a trunked system or a conventional system?

**Answer 8:** The system is a 700/800 MHz P25 digital trunking system.

**Question 9:** In reference to section 4.3.5, you have eluded to Section 510.5.30 of the 2018 IFC and asked to generate "heat map". Are you asking for the Received Signal Strength Indicator (RSSI) or Delivered Audio Quality (DAQ)?

**Answer 9:** RSSI measurements are sufficient for the benchmarking test.

**Question 10:** Again subsection 4.3.5 states, "The benchmarking site survey shall be based on the acceptance testing in Section 510.5.3 of the 2018 International Fire Code and be completed using an RF Spectrum Analyzer to generate "heat maps" showing signal coverage levels within the building." Does the County want the contractor to only use a spectrum analyzer or can they use equipment authorized by the 2018 International Fire Code which states in Section 510.5.3 Acceptance Test Procedure, Item # 7 "As part of the installation, a spectrum analyzer or other suitable test equipment shall be utilized to ensure spurious oscillations are not being generated by the subject signal booster?"

**Answer 10:** The preferred method is to use a spectrum analyzer and generate a graphical depiction of the existing P25 radio coverage inside the building.

**Question 11:** Are you asking for the bidder to quote what it would take to go through each school and take the readings throughout the building of the RF in every area of the school. Then determine whether the school would need a BDA system for the fire department radios to communicate in all areas of the school. My understanding is that the quote should consist of cost of performing the tests, cost of installing the BDA in the school along with the amount of the BDA system in each school.

**Answer 11:** The cost proposal should only consist of the cost of performing the tests. Installation and Design of a BDA/DAS system will be performed at a later date and those costs should not be included at this time.

**Question 12:** Please let us know if using IBFLEX PCTE Scanner is OK on this project.

**Answer 12:** A spectrum analyzer is the preferred method of testing. If alternate technologies are able to provide heat maps and RSSI levels for the required frequencies, they will be reviewed for consideration.

End of Addendum #1.

Addendum must be acknowledged in your submittal.

Christina Davin, Senior Buyer, Knox County Procurement