



VICTOR VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

representing the communities of Apple Valley, Adelanto, Hesperia, Victorville and San Bernardino County

Web-Based Application, Database and Reporting for the San Bernardino Regional Vanpool Program RFP # 2012-03 Addendum No. 2

September 6, 2012

**RESPONSES TO SECONDARY Q & A
PERIOD MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER
THAN 3:00 P.M, LOCAL TIME
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 11, 2012
17150 Smoketree Street
Hesperia, CA 92345**

Addendum 2

Responses to Questions for RFP #2012-03 Web-Based Application, Database and Reporting for the San Bernardino Regional Vanpool Program

This document serves as Addendum No. 2 to Victor Valley Transit Authority's (VVTA) Request for Proposal (RFP) No. 2012-03, and was created in order to respond to questions received in relation to Addendum No. 1. VVTA would also like to inform all potential bidders that an additional period of Q&A will be opened with a deadline of September 11, 2012 with responses to these questions to be posted by September 15. The responses to this secondary Q & A period must be received no later than 3:00 pm, local time (Hesperia, CA), Tuesday September 11, 2012.

1. Is VVTA seeking to engage a firm which has expertise and experience in implementing web-based data collection and reporting systems, irrespective of whether those systems involved a regional vanpool program, or when the RFP uses the term "similar" is that meant to connote that such expertise and experience must also encompass software for vanpool programs?

Response: VVTA is seeking a firm that has experience in implementing a web-based data collection and reporting system. Proposers are not required to have system development experience in vanpooling/ridesharing/transit.

2. In Section 3, the proposer is requested to provide five (5) samples of previous work of a similar nature and purpose, with the recommendation that such samples be submitted as links to the web sites. If the web sites are of a restricted nature, how would you recommend we address this section of the RFP?

Response: If previous work of similar nature is at a restricted website or on an internal intranet/portal, and if the owner of the website does not provide permission to Proposer and ultimately VVTA to view the website, then screen shots of the key features of the website, with explanations of the website and the functionality, is acceptable.

3. The technology requirements that were added to the RFP are, in their entirety, not standard in our experience. Are these requirements drawn from some other technology platform that VVTA views as a model for this system? If so, please provide more information.

Response: The technology requirements were added in order to provide more structure and greater clarification apropos VVTA's expectations in relation to the development of a web-based data collecting system for its regional vanpool program.

4. We have concerns about the stipulation of no third party libraries and “industry standard” report writers. For example, jQuery is a very common add-on library that we would typically use, and the restrictions on Javascript are not common. How should we handle exceptions to these “requirements” in a proposal?

Response: With respect to the question concerning the restriction on Javascript, it must be remembered that Javascript is not excluded completely, rather versions of Javascript used must be 1.8 or higher. This requirement has been made in order to ensure a high level of compatibility and functionality with respect to interface with the other web-based platforms used by VVTA. The only other requirement with respect to any usage of Javascript is that it be called out or noted in the proposal submitted. The same is true in relation to the usage of third-party libraries. A caveat is included with the restriction on their usage which states that if the proposal submitted includes the usage of third-party software these exceptions “must be noted.”

5. Is VVTA intending to purchase licenses for SQL Server and a report writer separately from this proposal, or does the cost of such licenses need to be included in the cost proposal?

Response: Any anticipated cost related to software licensing should be included in a firm’s proposal and budget.

6. Is the mapping capability needed for the application simply for visual display purposes? (for vanpool routes, rider locations, etc.) Or is true GIS capability required? If the latter, does VVTA have a GIS system that can be used for this purpose?

Response: The mapping capability is primarily for visual display purposes only and the intent is for interested vanpool participants to better understand a specific vanpool route. In addition, VVTA would also like the mileage calculated from the route, to compare against what the user provides.

7. It is inferred in the RFP that a mapping solution based upon Google Maps is acceptable. Is this correct?

Response: Yes.

8. Does VVTA anticipate that any licensing of Google Maps will be necessary if that particular mapping platform is used? (Google does nominally require a license if a web site is password protected, but apparently is only concerned about true commercial usage in terms of enforcing this requirement.) If so, will VVTA be responsible for such costs?

Response: VVTA does not anticipate that any licensing of Google Maps will be necessary.

9. If Bing Maps are used, will VVTA be responsible for the on-going costs of usage of this platform, or would such costs need to be included in this proposal?

Response: Whatever costs are incurred should be included in the Proposer's budget, which is not to exceed the price ceiling of \$130,000 for the contract. Any cost in excess must be absorbed by the Proposer.

10. Can VVTA please clarify whether Year 1 is for a 12-month period and will include support, maintenance, and hosting after the system is accepted for the remainder of Year 1?

Response: Year 1 is for a 12-month period and the Proposer should anticipate that once the System has been tested and accepted, the Proposer shall support, host and maintain the System for the remainder of that Year.

11. Is the \$130,000 budget a firm limit for the entire 3 year period and any firm that cannot meet this budget for the entire 3 year period should not even submit a proposal as it will be rejected? Or can the cost proposal exceed \$130,000?

Response: The \$130,000 is the amount VVTA has budgeted for the three years, to develop, implement and maintain this project. VVTA will review Proposals that are above the targeted amount; however, keep in mind that one of the four evaluation criteria is cost-effectiveness.

12. Can you provide guidance on budget parameters for the 3 year option period. Will we need to include option pricing?

Response: Yes, VVTA recommends option pricing is included but it should be accounted for separately, by line item.

13. Starting on page 31 of the RFP: Are these optional modules covered in the \$130,000 contract amount or would the cost of these additional modules come from a separate budget?

Response: The \$130,000 is the amount VVTA has budgeted for the three years, to develop, implement and maintain this project, including all options. VVTA will review Proposals that are above the targeted amount; however, keep in mind that one evaluation criteria component is cost-effectiveness.

14. Does the VVTA have a preference to host the application in-house or hosted in an outside environment? Can you provide a bit more information on the VVTA's hosting infrastructure and internal application environment?

Response: VVTA is open to both solutions and will ultimately Contract with a Firm that proposes a System that meets the RFP requirements, is cost-effective and best serves the user groups. The VVTA hosting infrastructure and internal application environment are all currently handled by the VVTA website and so any database developed by the proposer should be compatible.

15. Can you please provide a brief description of VVTA in-house IT resources and the technical skillset of the project team VVTA would assign to this project?

Response: The IT department at VVTA is well attuned and experienced with the major software components and advancements necessary to maintain the functional operations of a transit organization. In addition, the in-house IT department at VVTA is flexible and able to learn new software components given adequate time. This cognitive elasticity with respect to software developments and technological advancement is one of the main components that has allowed the technical sophistication of VVTA to develop as needed.

16. Does the contract include the responsibilities of hosting and maintenance for year?

Response: Yes, Proposers should include costs and responsibilities for hosting, maintenance and support, for the first year beyond testing and implementation, and for years 2 and 3.

17. Is any estimate done on the potential cost of the required support hours?

Response: VVTA has not performed estimates on required support hours. VVTA seeks guidance and recommendations from Proposers for potential costs and options.

18. Does the work of the potential contractor have to be performed 100% on-site or can it be done off-site from the vendor's location with onsite travel as required?

Response: VVTA will not require that Contractor perform work 100% at VVTA; however, maintenance and support and how work will be accomplished based on Proposers System and solution must be addressed within the Proposal.

19. What kind of reporting software do you use and can the licenses of said software be extended?

Response: All reporting software used in conjunction with the operations of VVTA is maintained outside of VVTA, by companies that have developed reporting software specific to Transit needs (i.e. TransTrack and AVAIL). VVTA has been given access to the software components and databases provide by said companies in order to input data. No reporting software is currently used in house.

20. Does the application need to support multiple languages?

Response: Yes. Refer to the RFP Page 27, Section D.c.

21. If a firm is unable to participate in the interview process that takes place on October 3rd due to commitments that were made prior to the publication of VVTA's RFP, will they be able to interview on a different date?

Response: The RFP process does have a tight timeline, between Proposal Submittal and VVTA Board review (October 15, 2012). Should a firm be interested in submitting a Proposal and performing the work, the aforementioned firm should ensure adequate representation for the interview date.