

County of Perry PA



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) For Broadband Internet, Dark Fiber & Lit Services ADDENDUM #1

RFP Addendum Issue Date: Monday, June 7, 2021

RFP RESPONSE DUE DATE: FRIDAY, June 25, 2021, BY 3:00 P.M. EASTERN

SUBMIT TO: County of Perry
25 West Main Street
PO Box 37
New Bloomfield, PA 17068

Attention:
Brenda Watson – Perry County Commissioner
c/o Shannon Hines – Perry County Chief Clerk

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1. RFP CLARIFICATIONS

The following shall serve to add language to the original RFP as it pertains to the Interim Final Rule governing the use of State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds authorized by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA). The regulations published by U.S. Treasury Department are an Interim Final Rule, which means that while Treasury is actively seeking public comment, it is the controlling rule governing the use of the funds until a revised rule is implemented. As such, it is the responsibility of the proposer to closely monitor the status of the Final Rule.

Section 4.1 Broadband Internet Service

- 4.1.5. Under the Interim Final Rule governing the use of State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds authorized by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, eligible projects are expected to focus on locations that are unserved or underserved. The interim final rule treats users as being unserved or underserved if they lack access to a wireline connection capable of reliably delivering at least minimum speeds of 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload as households and businesses lacking this level of access are generally not viewed as being able to originate and receive high-quality voice, data, graphics, and video telecommunications. This threshold is consistent with the FCC's benchmark for an "advanced telecommunications capability."¹
- 4.1.6. The Interim Final Rule requires eligible projects to reliably deliver minimum speeds of 100 Mbps download and 100 Mbps upload. In cases where it is impracticable due to geography, topography, or financial cost to meet those standards, projects must reliably deliver at least 100 Mbps download speed, at least 20 Mbps upload speed, and be scalable to a minimum of 100 Mbps download speed and 100 Mbps Upload speed.
- 4.1.7. Projects must also be designed to serve unserved or underserved households and businesses, as defined as those that are not currently served by a wireline connection capable of reliably delivering at least minimum speeds of 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload speed.

¹ Section 905(d)(4) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021.

2. PROPOSER SUBMITTED QUESTIONS

	Question	County Response
1.	Would we be able to submit three different bids? We would structure it as a small, medium, and large bid and then allow you to choose which would offer the best value for the county.	Please submit a single proposal, outlining each proposal option and the associated price point.
2.	Does the funding source or sources require compliance with Davis Bacon Act or any other prevailing wage compliance?	Federal funding may potentially be utilized for the project. As such, proposers should include appropriate language to address the Davis Bacon Act.
3.	If Davis Bacon and/or prevailing wage is required, can you share what the wage determination is?	This information can be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry website. https://www.dli.pa.gov/Individuals/Labor-Management-Relations/llc/prevailing-wage/Pages/default.aspx
4.	Does the funding source or sources require compliance with any state or federal procurement acts or require sourcing materials from the US?	Pennsylvania Prevailing Wage will apply. US Sources should be utilized first before any imported goods, when applicable.
5.	Can shape files (townships and boroughs) and KML files (tower locations, government, community, schools, etc.) be provided?	Shape Files and KMLs files are available. Please email Jason Malloy for a zip file to be emailed to you. Email: Jasonmalloy@missioncriticalpartners.com
6.	Has a recent structural analysis (TIA-222 standard, Revision H, 2018, Risk Category III) been performed on the Perry County Towers? If not, is that a required task for the prospective Provider or does the County assume that obligation?	The Newport Tower was newly constructed in 2016, so no structure analysis required. The New Bloomfield Tower site just had a structure analysis completed earlier this year, due to the findings within that report; The New Bloomfield Tower is NOT available for consideration for additional hardware installation, at this time. All other sites where the County leases space from the tower owners, the proposer would need to contact the tower owners directly.

<p>7. Section 1.5.3: A specific Proposal file format seems to be required as stated here: "Proposals must be submitted in the format described in this RFP". However, that format does not seem to be described elsewhere. Is .pdf format an acceptable submittal format for the Proposal? [(1.5.9) Note that for Proposal Cost information the file format is specified as "All costs shall be submitted in MS Excel".]</p>	<p>A PDF is acceptable for the overall proposal, with all cost information provided in an Excel spreadsheet, either on CD or USB thumb drive.</p>
<p>8. Section 1.5.6: Which list of questions is being referred to in the statement: "When asked, Proposers also must include their answers to the questions listed in this RFP, using the same answering sequence as put forth in the RFP."?</p>	<p>This Addendum and any additional addendums is the list of questions being referred to.</p>
<p>9. Section 3.4.1: Table 4 lists the Perry County Government facilities. Do the stringent test and support requirements (Sections 5 and 6) apply only to proposed builds for Perry County 911/EMA facilities (with commercial practice sufficient for other County facilities) or for ALL County facilities? [Similar applicable scope question in section titles 5.4 ("Fiber Cabling Requirements – County Facilities Only") and 6.8 ("Help Desk Response Time – County Facilities Only").]</p>	<p>911/EMA, Prison and the Veterans Memorial Building will require the support requirements as listed, all others standard commercial practices are acceptable.</p>
<p>10. Section 4.2.1 (PBX Bullet): Can the PBX bullets be clarified? It appears that "external calls" (sub bullet 1 and 3) conflict. It appears that "internal calls" (sub bullet 2 and 4) are redundant.</p>	<p>No conflict exists – for a location with 25 stations the first two bullets apply, for a location with 50 stations or more the last two bullets apply</p>
<p>11. Section 5.3.1: Just verifying that 10 mb is the required Bandwidth as stated here: "Dark and/or lit services to the two LMR sites are envisioned to be either dark fiber or 10 megabit (mb) virtual routed network."</p>	<p>Correct</p>

12.	<p>How much latitude does a prospective Proposer have in defining its activity schedule to be both responsive and realistic? Reference the following two RFP sections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 7.1.4: This statement seems to call for schedule realism: “A Proposer should include a time schedule based on best- and worst-case scenarios for design, permitting, and construction of the fiber.” It seems to emphasize realism (best and worst case) with an end date which falls out naturally from task sequencing. • Section 8.1.3: This statement seems to call for a calendar time-boxed end date: “The County requires that all installation and/or construction be completed within nine months after contract signing”? The statement requires a “date certain” end date, which could either become a significant cost driver or cause a Proposer to limit the scope of a response due to the “date certain” constraint. 	<p>Some funding sources have already been identified for the project which have a finite end date, thus driving the nine-month end date. The proposer shall identify via a calendar schedule with a start date of August 2, 2021, what work they can complete in three, six, nine and twelve months, as well as any work beyond twelve months.</p>
13.	<p>Can prospective proposers receive specifications as to what is on each County-owned tower?</p>	<p>Neither of the County owned towers (New Bloomfield and Newport) are currently available for additional hardware installation. As stated in question 6 above the New Bloomfield Tower requires some modifications before anything additional can be added, and the Newport Tower will require a land lease agreement modification, as it is currently restricted to Public Safety use only. The Mt. Patrick site is currently in legal, and is not currently owned by the County. The County leases tower space on all other towers.</p>
14.	<p>Within the RFP there are multiple references to the schedule, but 1 reference is specific to the project being complete within nine months. What is the date that proposers should use within their proposal for a projected timeline?</p>	<p>Answered in question 12 above.</p>
15.	<p>Is there any basis for single versus multimode fiber?</p>	<p>It is based on Transportation distance; single mode allows for a greater distance. The vendor should specify any areas that they would wish to utilize multi-mode fiber and the estimated distance of that installation as part of their response.</p>