City of Franklin Instructions for Bidders

Purchasing Office Solicitation No.: 2015-001

1. Solicitation identified: These instructions apply to the following procurement:

   a minimum of two (2) new and unused fire pumper ladder trucks

   Purchasing Office Solicitation No.: 2015-001

2. Solicitation packet component documents: These Instructions for Bidders accompany the following documents which, in total, represent the complete solicitation packet:

   a. Notice to Bidders;
   b. City of Franklin Instructions for Bidders (this document);
   c. City of Franklin Instructions to Specifications
   d. City of Franklin Specifications;
   e. City of Franklin Bid Submittal Form;
   f. City of Franklin Affidavit of Non-Collusion;
   g. City of Franklin Affidavit of Title VI Compliance;
   h. City of Franklin Affidavit of Drug-Free Workplace;
   i. City of Franklin Standard Procurement Terms and Conditions;
   j. City of Franklin Indemnification Agreement; and
   k. City of Franklin Procurement Agreement form.

3. Location of bid opening: Bid opening will be held in the City of Franklin Purchasing Office (see address below, under "Delivery of bids"), or at another location within the City of Franklin City Hall. If the location of the bid opening is other than at the Purchasing Office, such location shall be posted on the front door of the Purchasing Office at least five (5) minutes prior to the appointed time of bid opening.

4. Who may attend bid openings: City of Franklin bid openings are open to the public. Bidders are specifically welcome to attend.

5. Withdrawal of bids; expiration of submittal validity (see also "Errors and omissions" below):

   a. Prior to the bid submittal deadline, submitted bids may be withdrawn upon the request of the submitting party. At the request of the submitting party, withdrawn bids may be returned unopened to the submitting party but only at the submitting party's expense. Such a request to withdraw a bid and such a request to return a withdrawn bid must be in writing, shall be addressed to the Purchasing Office, must be received by the Purchasing Office prior to the bid submittal deadline, and may be submitted via either e-mail (purchasing@franklintn.gov) or fax (615/550-0079).

   b. After the bid submittal deadline, submitted bids may not be withdrawn.

   c. Prior to award, all bids and associated pricing as submitted shall be considered valid and may be accepted by the City at least through September 30, 2014 and until the date indicated on the bidder's Bid Submittal Form as the "last date that bid and associated pricing is valid and may be accepted by the City."

   d. Upon award, the accepted bid and associated pricing shall be considered valid until the specified item has been supplied and delivered to the satisfaction of the City of

Franklin. However, quoted bid prices are to be offered by the bidder on a per unit basis for potential future orders at least through September 30, 2014 and until the date indicated on the bidder's Bid Submittal Form as the "last date that bid price on a per unit basis is valid for potential future orders."

6. Submittal timing: Bids are to be delivered *no earlier than* five (5) City of Franklin business days before the submittal deadline. Bids delivered either more than five (5) City of Franklin business days before the submittal deadline or at any time after the submittal deadline shall be rejected and not evaluated.

7. Submittals rejected on account of timing: Submitters of bids rejected on account of timing shall be notified by the City of such rejection as soon as practicable. Bids rejected on account of timing may be retrieved by the submitter at the submitter's expense. The City shall promptly cause to be destroyed and discarded any and all bids rejected on account of timing and not retrieved by the submitter within five (5) City of Franklin business days of the submitter being notified of the rejection.

8. Bid to be sealed: Each bid shall be submitted inside one (1) or more sealed container(s).

9. Submittal to include one (1) set of original documents plus two (2) complete duplicate sets: Please submit one (1) set of bid documents with original signatures plus two (2) complete duplicate sets.

10. Bid submittal contents: Included with the bid are to be the following:

    a. City of Franklin Bid Submittal Form, executed in full;
    b. Detailed vendor-supplied description of bid apparatus, including a set of bidder's construction specifications;
    c. Bid surety that meets or exceeds City specifications;
    d. A letter stating successful completion of the two required tests, to be conducted by a certified independent third-party testing institution, on the brand of cab being supplied;
    e. A copy of the seat belt certification letter;
    f. Proof of a corrosion policy or, if a formal policy is not in place, an explanation of how your firm shall take the necessary steps for corrosion reduction;
    g. A copy of a recent test showing proof of testing corrosion reduction processes to ASTMB117;
    h. A copy of the product brochure and/or description of the primer to be used on the chassis frame rails;
    i. The name, address, telephone number(s) and contact person for the service center that meets or exceeds City specifications;
    j. Detailed vendor-supplied identification, listing and description of any exceptions to the City's specifications as per the instructions thereto;
    k. Contact information for minimum of three references (see below);
    l. City of Franklin Standard Procurement Terms and Conditions, with the vendor's contact information inserted;

m. Vendor's proposed terms and conditions, if any, that are not inconsistent with the City's Standard Procurement Terms and Conditions;
n. City of Franklin Affidavit of Non-Collusion, executed in full;
o. City of Franklin Affidavit of Title VI Compliance, executed in full; and
p. If the bidder employs five (5) or more employees, then City of Franklin Affidavit of Drug-Free Workplace, executed in full.

11. Bid container label: The outside face of the bid container(s) must be labeled with the following information:

    a. the bidder's name and address; and

    b. the following text:

SEALED BID
City of Franklin solicitation no.
2015-001 (fire apparatus)
NOT TO BE OPENED EXCEPT AT
BID OPENING **July 22, 2014, 2:00**
p.m. Central Time

12. Delivery of bids:

    a. Bids are to be addressed and delivered to:

City of Franklin Purchasing Office
Franklin City Hall, Suite 107
109 3rd Ave. South
Franklin, TN 37064

    b. Bids must be printed on paper and signed. A bid may be mailed via U.S. Mail or shipped or hand-delivered via courier. Bids submitted to the City electronically (e.g., via e-mail or fax) are not permitted and shall be rejected.

    c. A bid is not considered delivered unless and until it has been received by the City of Franklin Purchasing Office at the physical location listed above. A bid that is en route via U.S. Mail or courier, or delivery of a bid to another City office or location, does not in and of itself constitute delivery of that bid to the City of Franklin Purchasing Office.

    d. The Purchasing Office shall exclusively determine whether a bid was received by the submittal deadline, and shall use the most accurate time piece available in its office as an aide to doing so.

13. Reference request: Bidders must provide three references for similar goods or products sold within the last twelve months. Information to be provided shall include: client name, client address, description of good or product sold, contact name and title, and contact telephone number.

14. Selection criteria: Selection of the lowest and best responsive and responsible bid shall be based upon a combination of some or all of the following factors: the quoted purchase costs and/or life-cycle costs to the City of bids that are responsive to the solicitation; compliance with the City's instructions, specifications and standard procurement terms and conditions; any terms and conditions stated by the bidder in the bid; anticipated timeliness of delivery of the bid item(s); the character, integrity and reputation of the bidder; the results of any reference checks; and any prior experience of the City of Franklin with the bidder and/or the bid item(s) and/or any component thereof.

15. Bid tabulation; notice of intent to award: The tabulation of bids received, as prepared by the City, may also indicate a recommendation as to the selection of the lowest and best responsive and responsible bid, in which case the tabulation of bids received also functions as the City's notice of intent to award. Bidders may request a copy of the tabulation of bids received by contacting the City's Purchasing Office (see contact information below) at any time on or after the tentative date of release of the City's tabulation of bids received and notice of intent to award (see Specifications).

16. Awards to be made by BOMA: Purchases shall be awarded by the City of Franklin's Board of Mayor and Aldermen. See Specifications for tentative date of award. Purchases shall be awarded to the bidder who submits the lowest and best responsive and responsible bid. The awards shall be memorialized in writing, using the City's Procurement Agreement form.

17. Other documents to be required of successful bidder: Prior to award of the procurement by the City, the successful bidder (that is, the vendor who is recommended be awarded the purchase) shall provide the following documents:

    a. Vendor-supplied agreement or contract, if any, by and between the City and the bidder to be awarded the procurement, the final terms and conditions of which are mutually acceptable to both parties, executed for the vendor;
    b. City of Franklin Indemnification Agreement, executed in full;
    c. Certificate of Insurance that meets or exceeds the City's Insurance Requirements;
    d. City of Franklin Procurement Agreement, executed for the vendor; and
    e. If the vendor prefers to be paid by direct deposit (such as "ACH" or "Electronic Funds Transfer") as opposed to credit card, and if the vendor has not been paid by the City by means of direct deposit within the last two (2) years, then the vendor shall submit a completed City of Franklin Vendor Information Form and IRS Form W-9 (both of which forms are available upon request from the Purchasing Office).

18. City's right to reject bids, waive formalities: The City of Franklin reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and to waive formalities.

19. Errors and omissions (see also "Withdrawal of bids; expiration of submittal validity" above):

    a. Errors made by the bidder on the Bid Submittal Form or elsewhere in the bidder's submittal packet that are discovered by the bidder prior to submittal shall be corrected

by the bidder. If such a correction results in altering but not replacing one or more documents, then the bidder's representative shall initial each such correction in non-erasable ink.

b. Errors made by the bidder on the Bid Submittal Form or elsewhere in the bidder's submittal packet that are discovered by the bidder after submittal but prior to the bid submittal deadline may be corrected by the bidder but only by submitting such replacement documents as necessary to make the correction. Such a submittal of replacement documents shall be labeled "SEALED AMENDED BID" and shall otherwise be submitted pursuant to the same instructions above as for the submittal of the original bid documents. Such a submittal of replacement documents shall not be submitted electronically, and shall not be submitted after the bid submittal deadline.

c. Uncorrected errors made by the bidder on the Bid Submittal Form or elsewhere in the bidder's submittal packet shall be considered on a case-by-case basis by the City. Uncorrected errors made by the bidder may be deemed by the City to be so severe as to make the bid non-responsive. At the discretion of the City, bidders may be permitted to clarify a submitted bid, but no bid shall be altered or amended by the bidder after submittal. In the case of a discrepancy between the bidder's unit price for a particular line item as quoted in the bid and the unit price calculated by dividing the bidder's extension price for that same line item by the quantity indicated for that same line item, then the bidder's unit price for that line item as quoted in the bid shall prevail.

d. Omissions from a bidder's submittal packet shall be considered on a case-by-case basis by the City. Omissions may be deemed by the City to be so severe as to make the bid non-responsive. At the discretion of the City, bidders may be permitted to clarify a submitted bid, but no bid shall be altered or amended by the bidder after submittal.

20. Questions, requests for clarifications, and requests to revise the procurement solicitation; addenda: To ask questions, to request clarifications about any aspect of this procurement solicitation, or to request revisions to the procurement solicitation prior to the deadline for optional submittal in writing of questions seeking to revise or clarify any aspect of the procurement solicitation, please contact:

City of Franklin Purchasing Office (see address above)
purchasing@franklintn.gov
Tel: 615/550-6692
Fax: 615/550-0079

Depending upon the inquiry, the City may request that the question, request for clarification, or request for revision be submitted in writing, whereupon the City may make all vendors known or thought to be interested in the solicitation aware of the inquiry and of the City's response thereto.

Addenda to this procurement solicitation may be issued. Prior to submitting its response, it is the responsibility of each respondent to confirm whether any addenda to this

procurement solicitation have in fact been issued by the City. To do so, please contact the City's Purchasing Office (see contact information above).

21. Communication with City during procurement phase: Any questions about either the content of or the procurement process pertaining to this procurement solicitation should be addressed as described above. Until the procurement award has been made, vendors shall not communicate about either the content of or the procurement process pertaining to this procurement solicitation with any official, employee or other representative of the City except through the City's Purchasing Office. The City reserves the right to disqualify any vendor that initiates unauthorized communication with the City during the procurement phase.

22. Vendor protest: A vendor who feels the need to object to either a deficiency of this procurement solicitation or a proposed award pertaining to this procurement solicitation are encouraged, as soon as possible, to express their concerns to and seek remedy from the Purchasing Manager (see contact information above). Vendors who are not satisfied with, or who choose not to pursue, such an informal resolution of their concerns and who feel compelled to lodge a formal protest about some aspect of a City procurement not pertaining to new construction shall do so pursuant to the City's Vendor Protest Procedure for City procurements not pertaining to new construction, a mandatory administrative procedure which all aggrieved actual or prospective vendors must utilize and exhaust prior to seeking judicial review or remedy. For a copy of the City's Vendor Protest Procedure for City of Franklin procurements not pertaining to new construction, please contact the City's Purchasing Office (see contact information above) or click on the following link: http://www.franklintn.gov/index.aspx?page=806.