Accelerate Progress for Students

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DATE: 9/16/2021
RFP NUMBER: 22-024 NMM
RFP TITLE: Transportation Routing and Planning Software
ADDENDUM NUMBER: 1

See Attached Question and Answers

ACKNOWLEDGE ADDENDUM WITH SUBMITTED PROPOSAL:
Addenda not signed and returned may consider the RFP non-responsive and may be rejected.

COMPANY/FIRM NAME

SIGNATURE

DATE

6.15.2020

1. Page 14 the opening paragraph states APS is looking for a "hosted" solution. Item 1 under requirements states the system must have the ability to be "self-hosted". Please clarify if APS requests a hosted (SaaS) or self-hosted (school district network) solution from bidders.

We want a self-hosted school district solution, on our servers in our data center.

2. Can the District please confirm that verified e-signatures will be acceptable for this submission?

yes

3. Does APS conduct school bus operations in house or through contractor(s)? If through contractors, how many different operators does the District work with?

Both, please see https://www.aps.edu/student-transportation-services

4. Can APS please state its three most important goals in issuing this RFP?

APS Student Transportation is looking for a "hosted" solution for bus routing and planning.

Meet Operating System & Technology and Routing Algorithms and Routing functionality

Customer Service, Training, Data Reporting and Safety

5. Can the District please share with potential Offerors their expected annual budget or a range the District anticipates they will spend on the technology for this procurement? Providing Offerors with a clear estimate of the budget will benefit the public by allowing for the most competitive procurement process, as Offerors will compete to provide the greatest value for APS's money.

Please provide your best costs.

6. Is the District interested in routing solutions that can incorporate real-time information (traffic information, late-coming student absences, etc.) into its routing decisions? We have found that this capability drives efficiency gains and generally reduces vehicle miles traveled.

Submit this option in your proposal for consideration.

7 .It is understood that the District has been using SEON Route Builder software for several years now. Therefore, why is it seeking a replacement? Are there deficiencies in the current system? Is the District dissatisfied with the level of service provided? Are the current annual costs too high?

Requirements of the State of New Mexico Procurement Code.

8. We understand APS currently leverages Zonar GPS and requests proposers "automatically provide transportation data seamlessly to the Zonar GPS solution." Is

APS open to proposals in which the contractor would instead use their own proprietary GPS software? Working with a single routing and GPS provider could streamline operations, centralize accountability with a single contractor, and reduce costs.

Submit this option in your proposal for consideration.

9. We understand the District requests a secure parent portal. Is the District interested in a mobile application for parents? Such a mobile application could, for example, show real-time school bus locations, reveal student boarding information (whether and the time at which a student has boarded a bus), allow a parent to indicate that their child will not be riding the bus on a particular day, allow a parent to alter their home address (if the District wished), etc.?

Submit this option in your proposal for consideration.

10. Similarly, is the District interested in a mobile application for students? Such a mobile application could, for example, show real-time school bus locations, ensure that the correct student boarded the correct bus, ensure that students were not waiting outside for longer than necessary but yet didn't miss the bus, etc.

Not at this time.

11. Is the District interested in detailed student attendance monitoring? Our student attendance monitoring / tracking software uses QR codes to ensure that the correct student gets on the correct vehicle. We also have the potential to communicate this real-time information to parents / caregivers and to the District.

Not at this time.

12.   Can the District state its anticipated contract award date and its desired implementation date?

Depending on how many offers we receive, no anticipated or desired date.

13.   In many of our school bus deployments that ask for several software applications, we have found that taking a phased approach to implementation ensures that each software component is fully tailored, properly implemented, and easily understood by its user group. Would the District be amenable to a phased rollout such as this that avoids a "rip and replace" structure from existing technologies and ensures a smooth transition?

Submit this option in your proposal for consideration.

14.   Does the District currently own and / or utilize any equipment, such as tablets, for its pupil transportation services? If so, would the District be open leveraging its existing tablets for service? Leveraging existing hardware can potentially reduce upfront hardware costs and streamline implementation.

We are currently in the process of securing tablets.

15.   Does the District have space (and electricity) available in proximity to the buses where devices can be stored and charged overnight?

Not at this time.

16.   Can you tell me approximately how many students you transport during a typical day?

We transport approximately 38,000 Regular Ed students and 2,000 Special Needs students

17.   Can you tell me approximately how many vehicles you use for transport?

420

18.   Since the RFP states that the routing software must integrate with the existing Zonar GPS solution, are we to assume you do not want any GPS hardware/software included in the proposal?

That is correct

19.   Does APS have any preference for the type(s) of training (onsite, online, combination) a vendor offers during the contract period?

No preference; submit information and costs for each type of training.

20.   Page 17 under training item 8 does APS have a minimum amount of desired training time the bidder should meet?

No, provide the options available

21. Would APS like to receive information and pricing from bidders for optional products/services offered outside the scope of this RFP?

No, this RFP is for APS Student Transportation is looking for a "hosted" solution for bus routing and planning **not** product/services outside of the scope of the RFP.

22. What is the preferred payment schedule (monthly, quarterly, annual, other) for APS during the contract period?

That will be negotiated with successful Offeror.

23. Can you provide an estimated timeline when this RFP would be awarded to a bidder?

It depends on how many proposals we received and the time it takes to evaluate each proposal. At this time we do not have an estimated timeline.

24. Page 15 under GIS mapping item 1 references on street map file. Item 2 references updating street maps. Please clarify if APS desires one map file of Bernalillo County or multiple counties?

Ability to use the existing street map which will be provided by the District in ArcGIS.shp file

    o This map will be provided by APS-Transportation

Ability to locally update street maps.

- This allows APS-Transportation staff the ability to make changes to the street layers of the map provided by APS-Transportation when changes are required.

25. Do the proposers need to provide the 'sandbox' link along with the technical proposal response itself? If yes, please provide the submission method.

Yes, please provide a link to your "sandbox", along with user ids and passwords as part of the technical review.

26. Page 20, in the evaluation criteria. It states that the proposers need to submit a detailed pricing information and it should be completed in the price proposal. The detail pricing breakdown is something additional to the price proposal format that the school is looking for?

Please refer to Page 22, under "PROPOSAL - DETAILED REQUIREMENTS", modular pricing can be included under that section, additionally, please follow the guidelines on Page 20.

27. Page17, Does the agency require previous 5 years function upgrade release schedule with the proposal itself?

Yes.

28. Page 27, Does the agency require any kind of API integration with Zonar?

YES

29. Is the school using any routing software currently? If yes, what are the main pain points of the software.

See Page 14 under Scope of Service. Please submit your best offer for consideration.

30. Is the school also looking for Onboard System like (Mobile Data Terminal) Tablets and mounting within this RFP?

No, currently we are looking for only what is outlined in the RFP.

APS Student Transportation is looking for a "self-hosted" solution for bus routing and planning

31. Page 15 Under Routing Algorithms & Routing Map Functionality: #3. Ability for bus stops to be able to be used to transfer students from one route to another without the need for user interaction. Please elaborate on this.

Albuquerque Public Schools serves a combination of urban and rural populations. For Instance, we transport students from the East Mountain area to schools in the city oftentimes that area utilizes transfer stops which combine students from multiple runs that are located throughout the East Mountain area to a single run that brings students into the city. The software should have the ability to automatically assign students to transfer stops and ultimately to the stop going to a particular school location without the need for manual assignment.

32. Page 17-18 Implementation, Customer Support, and Training: Pt #11 The vendor must provide unlimited refresher training and new employee user orientation with a minimum of online format. What is meant by Unlimited here... In terms of timeline or Number of times the training needs to be provided? And clarify what is meant by "Minimum of Online format". Is online training an acceptable form of training?

Unlimited means when we hire new personnel the successful vendor will provide training regarding the use of the software. These trainings can be scheduled so multiple users are present. If new features or functionality is added to the software, we request that the vendor provide training to our staff regarding new features if it is determined necessary by transportation staff.

Yes, online training is acceptable.