

**Complete RWIS services including; RWIS Central Management System, Pavement
Forecasting System & ESS maintenance
Requisition #985 QA4
9/24/2012**

GENERAL

1. Electronic Submission

- a. Proposals submitted for this project must be done “electronically.” This appears to be allowed through PDF format via e-mail submission. Does this mean that bidders will be allowed to manually sign all documents requiring signature, scan the documents as a PDF, and submit via e-mail? Are bidders required to either (1) have been registered with any alternative or additional website(s), through the State of Michigan or otherwise, or (2) be required to perform electronic signatures for the submission?

No, for the purpose of electronically submitting your proposal, you will not be required to either (1) have been registered with any alternative or additional website(s), through the State of Michigan or otherwise, or (2) be required to perform electronic signatures.

2. Terms and Conditions

- a. Upon review of all RFP documents, sample terms and conditions for the contract were not located. Please provide the intended terms and conditions for this contract as well as the process for negotiation of terms and conditions.

***You will find standard Contract Language, subcontract language and payment examples in the last four bullets under the Vendor/Consultant Contracts heading at the following link:
http://www.michigan.gov/mdot/0,4616,7-151-9625_21540---,00.html***

3. Selection Criteria

- a. What does the asterisk on “Proposal Cost Estimate*” mean?

The title should read “Proposal Cost Estimate” with no asterisk.

4. Proposal Due Date

- a. Due to the extent of questions and criticality of the answers to an accurate and comprehensive proposal, would an extension to the proposal due date be considered?

The Due Date has been extended to October 8, 2012.

RFP SPECIFICATIONS

1. RWIS Central Management System – Section 2)b)ii – Polling System

- a. Please confirm that all additional modems are to be supplied by contractor.

No, there are no additional modems supplied by the contractor within the scope of this contract

- b. Please supply the number of stations (if any) without existing communications.

None

- c. Please confirm that all communication costs are to continue to be paid directly by MDOT.

All existing communications costs will be paid by MDOT.

2. RWIS Central Management System – Section 2)c)i – RPU

- a. Please confirm that all sites currently have active IP based communications.

Yes all sites currently have active IP based communications.

- b. Please indicate if these IP addresses are private, or public (public = accessible on the internet)

The IP addresses are public.

- c. If the IP addresses are private, please provide the contact details of the communications provider, in order to coordinate access to the private network.

N/A

3. RWIS Central Management System – Section 2)c)ii – Traffic Data

- a. Please confirm which MIB in NTCIP is used for traffic.

The MIB is device specific and will be identified after project selection and kick-off.

4. RWIS Central Management System – Section 2)d)i – ATMS Data

- a. Please supply the required format for data export to MDOT ATMS.

Refer to 2)d)ii – 2)d)iii

5. RWIS Central Management System – Section 2)f)i –Data Collection

- a. Please define what is meant by "attempt to at least **block** 3 transmissions before aborting"

The section should read:

“Auto polling software must attempt at least 3 connections to the ESS modem with sufficient time allowed between attempts to reset the modem.”

- b. Please confirm that the ESS vendor will supply any custom NTCIP MIBs required to upload "historical" data ("data from missed periods").

MDOT will work with current ESS vendors to acquire any custom NTCIP MIBs required.

6. RWIS Central Management System – Section 2)f)ii –Data Collection

- a. Please confirm that all ESS stations will conform to a standard for communications. That is, those stations which are not owned by MDOT will be available using the same means as those which are owned by MDOT.

All ESS stations are owned by MDOT, conform to the same standard for communications and are NTCIP compliant. .

7. RWIS Central Management System – Section 2)f)v –Data Collection

- a. Please provide details as to the nature of the configuration data.

Configuration data refers to the configuration data including but not limited to network settings, data collection parameters and frequency, and firmware/software revisions.

8. RWIS Central Management System – Section 2)g)i –Cameras

- a. Please confirm that all images are uploaded via FTP.

The CMS must pull the RPU directly to obtain the camera images.

9. Consultant Responsibilities – Section 3)b)i – Technical Support

- a. Approximately how many MDOT personnel and contract personnel might call into the 24-hour toll free number? How many calls may be expected per day/week/month?

Currently there are approximately 60 maintenance facilities which may contact the 24-hour toll free number, however this number will vary based upon fluctuations in the weather.

10. Consultant Responsibilities – Section 3)b)ii – Technical Support

- a. How many Region RWIS coordinators are there?

Currently there are two Region RWIS coordinators however this may change throughout the length of the contract to include up to seven.

11. Consultant Responsibilities – Section 3)e – Forecast Inclusion

- a. Please expand upon the specific requirements for accuracy for all parameters listed in the table (temperature, pavement, probability, wind, visibility, etc.). Are there benchmark thresholds to be met (i.e., 85% for snowfall) and penalties associated with these parameters?

i.e. Pavement Temperature must be within $\pm \frac{1}{2}$ ° F for each device. This chart specifies device accuracy; refer to section 3)f) for verification parameters and penalty information.

12. Consultant Responsibilities – Section 3)f – Forecast Verification

- a. Please define specific locations to be considered for snowfall and ice verification.

Verify utilizing the ESS Stations in the affected forecast area or as alternately proposed in the vendor submittal.

13. Consultant Responsibilities – Section 3)f)i)1 and 2 – Forecast Verification

- a. Is the verification expected to be completed on only forecasts issued within 2 hours advance warning?

Yes, per section 3)e)iv – 3)e)v.

14. Consultant Responsibilities – Section 3)g)i – Forecast Discussion

- a. Are the four meetings to be held each year or throughout the life of the project? Can any of these meetings be held via an Internet communication service such as WebEx?

There are four meetings annually, which may be conducted through any medium determined to be the most effective.

15. ESS Infrastructure Maintenance - Section 4)a)iii and vii – Replacement Parts

- a. Please clarify the language in these Sections. Will the contractor be compensated for replenishment of the spare parts inventory as MDOT sensors fail and are replaced, with a 15% markup, as stated in Section 4)a)vii? Or is the contractor required to make an estimate

of all failures over the course of the contract and include that amount in the lump sum bid, as stated in 4)a)iii?

Per the bid sheet "The Lump Sum price shall be based on actual cost...and will not exceed that cost."

- b. It is vital to know the make/model, age, install date, last service date and current condition of the equipment installed, in order to estimate the failure rate. Please supply this information as well as the vendor's stated Mean Time Between Failure (MTBF) for the current RWIS/ESS equipment.

All RWIS devices have been installed since 2008(2008 – 4 RWIS; 2009 – 8 RWIS; Late 2010 – 12 RWIS; 2012 – 27 RWIS). The industry standard MTBF should be utilized for each including but not limited to environmental sensors, network equipment, RPU, and cameras.

- c. Please clarify how replacement parts pricing should be presented on the Bid Sheet. Which items should be included under the 8. Maintain Spare Parts Inventory monthly line item vs. the 9. Spare Parts Direct Cost lump sum line item?

Maintain Spare Parts Inventory refers to the cost of maintaining and storing the inventory while the Spare Parts Direct Cost refers to the actual devices themselves.

16. ESS Infrastructure Maintenance - Section 4)a)vi – Response Time

- a. Please clarify if the response time includes repair time, or if time will also be allowed for repair in addition to the initial 48 hour response time.

The 48 hours or 5 days, as determined by the time of year, is inclusive of repair time.

17. ESS Infrastructure Maintenance - Section 4)a)vii – IPP Surveillance System

- a. Please provide details about the IPP surveillance system.

**Refer to the special provision for SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SENSOR STATIONS (ESS) at:
<http://mdotwas1.mdot.state.mi.us/public/specprov/index.cfm?sy=487220#7d389baa-1cd9-49fa-9cee-944610263505>**

18. On Page 1 of the Bid Sheet, for Line Item 4, is this intended to be an Each unit item or a Monthly unit item? The units and the quantity do not match up.

Yes the pay item unit is intended to be monthly. The value of 1224 indicates a per site per month value, i.e. 51 sites for 24 months.