

RFQ #6100031141 – Wan Redundancy
Addendum 4 – Appendix G – Questions & Answers

1. **Question** – Would the Commonwealth consider a proposal that addresses the needs of some, but not all sites on the list?

Answer – Yes.

2. **Question** – Would the Commonwealth consider an alternate proposal whereby the redundant network paths are created by working with cooperating state agencies that have network infrastructure within reach of the PennDOT sites?

Answer – No.

3. **Question** – Would PennDOT consider a MPLS based solution? This solution would offer PennDOT with auto failover wireless backup? If so, would COS be required and if so, what percent would be real-time traffic?

Answer – No. PennDOT is seeking a wired solution.

4. **Question** – Would PennDOT consider a 3 week extension? Those respondents that are not the Local Exchange Company (LEC) at all locations in Pennsylvania must rely on 3rd party access providers to provide cost for last mile access. Another reason for the extension is that there is only one week from when the answers are due 4/16 to when the bid is due 4/23.

Answer – No. Refer to Addendum 1, 2, and 3 for current dates.

5. **Question** – Is the RFQ an all sites or nothing request or will the state look to utilize multiple providers for the redundant WAN?

Answer – PennDOT is seeking a Contractor who can provide the requested service at all sites as described in the Request for Quotes and all other supporting documentation.

6. **Question** – Is there and will the Department of Transportation share their current WAN configuration/provider for bidders to use in designing the Redundant WAN solution?

Answer – PennDOT currently uses the Verizon MPLS PIP network as the primary WAN connectivity.

7. **Question** – Is there and will the Department of Transportation share their required scope of diversity for the Redundant WAN?

Answer – The redundant solution must be provided as an Ethernet handoff to PennDOT owned CE router or switch. The redundant solution must NOT utilize any of the existing Verizon data network, as it would not be redundant since the Verizon MPLS network is the primary path already.

8. **Question** – The link labeled **Appendix E – Diverse Business Participation For Non-Federally Funded Projects** on the eMarketplace website has a heading within the pdf of Appendix F. Is this possibly just a typo, or is there another Appendix E document?

Answer – Refer to Addendum 4 where the original Appendix E is removed in its entirety and replaced with a revised Appendix E.

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9. **Question** – Of the locations indicated in Appendix C, are there any that would require the vendor to install an environmentally hardened and physically secure enclosure and electronics?

Answer – No. All of the facilities have a climate controlled environment to install the selected Contractor’s hardware with the existing PennDOT hardware.

10. **Question** – Would PennDOT accept Ethernet over Hybrid Fiber Coax (EoHFC) at sites reviewed with and approved by PennDOT? This service would have the ability to provide symmetrical Ethernet service up to 10Mbps. This service has certain limitations and would need to be discussed further with PennDOT.

Answer – Yes.

11. **Question** – Is PennDOT open to discussions to ensure all necessary vendor specific network architectural guidelines are adhered to in order to provide maximum network stability, reliability, flexibility, and scalability? This may require multiple sub-networks. Vendor will work with PennDOT to determine which hub location connections will be part of each of the sub-networks. This hub location will be the facility where PennDOT would route the sub-network traffic to allow for desired network connectivity between locations. The included sites in each sub-network would be reviewed with and approved by PennDOT.

Answer – PennDOT will work with the selected Contractor after award to address the project requirements. Potential Contractors are advised that all network traffic must end up back at the PennDOT data center located at 1 Technology Park Harrisburg PA.

12. **Question** – Do any locations with multiple network connections (Keystone or CTC) require diverse building entry?

Answer – No.

13. **Question** – If there are any sites that would either be cost prohibitive to service, or sites that we were unable to service, would PennDOT still consider us for those sites that we are able to service?

Answer – PennDOT is seeking a Contractor who can provide the requested service at all sites as described in the Request for Quotes and all other supporting documentation. However, potential Contractors should identify any sites, with details as to why service can’t be provided to in its Technical Submittal.

14. **Question** – Due to some of the site addresses being difficult to validate through various mapping sources, would PennDOT be able to supply Latitude Longitude coordinates or verifiable USPS address for all sites? If we have questions on any of the site addresses can we pose them outside of the questioning deadline of April 2, 2015?

Answer – Potential Contractors should identify specific locations where an address cannot be validated and submit the information to PennDOT’s Issuing Officer. The Issuing Officer will determine if additional information can be provided. If information is available, it will be posted to the eMarketplace website.

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15. Question – Would PennDOT provide a list of building owners or property managers for each facility so that we can verify that we have an acceptable Right of Entry agreement authorization?

Answer – PennDOT will work with the selected Contractor to ensure that a Right of Entry agreement is available for all Commonwealth owned and non-Commonwealth owned facilities.

16. Question – What happens when rebid happens with Verizon current WAN, how will this impact current WAN Verizon Services. Will we have change who we are using if a leased circuit?

Answer – No. PennDOT does not anticipate any impacts from the current Telecom contract to this contract.

17. Question – Will multiple contractors be used if one provider cannot fulfil diversity at all locations?

Answer – No.

18. Question – Would PENNDOT consider a meeting with the network design team prior to the bid due date to allow vendors to have a full understanding of the scope of the project?

Answer – No. PennDOT will work with the selected Contractor upon award.

19. Question – Would PENNDOT Consider a Layer 3 MPLS Connection?

Answer – Yes.

20. Question – Will Penn DOT allow a layer 3 MPLS solution?

Answer – Yes.

21. Question – Will PennDOT unlock the location tab on the excel document for mass upload into our quoting systems?

Answer – Yes. Refer to Addendum 4.

22. Question – What if there is no other last mile provider other than Verizon at a location, will you accept Verizon last mile?

Answer – No. Using the same last mile provider that PennDOT currently has would not meet the requirement for redundant WAN connection.

23. Question – Will 36 month term begin at P.O. issue or last circuit turn up?

Answer – PennDOT will establish a Validity Start and End date on the fully executed Purchase Order that will be issued to the selected Contractor.

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24. Question – Will attendees be provided a list of all attendees?

Answer – Yes. Refer to Addendum 4.

25. Question – Will PO cover all phases, or will each phase have a new PO?

Answer – PennDOT will determine the need for one (1) or more Purchase Orders at the time of award.

26. Question – What is the expected decision timeline once all BAFO’s have been received?

Answer – PennDOT anticipates a Notice to Proceed in July 2015.

27. Question – In light of answer to? Using Verizon network that currently exists as not being permitted, does this also include underlying ILEC last mile providers that may currently be used by Verizon?

Answer – Refer to question and answer #22.

28. Question – If ?#2 requires no ILEC similiarity than will you provide current ILEC last mile providers?

Answer – PennDOT does not have this information. Verizon is the current provider and is responsible for last mile connection.

29. Question – If vendor is not on ITQ, are they ineligible?

Answer – Refer to page 2 of the Request for Quotes document where it states:

“This is a restricted solicitation, only those contractors qualified in one (1) or more of the following service category(ies) under the Commonwealth’s Information Technology (IT) Services Invitation to Qualify (ITQ) Contract, 4400004480, prior to the bid opening date may respond.

- Consulting Services - Network Services & Telcom Services”

30. Question – If we have additional questions after this meeting can we send an email to PennDOT (Shirley Morales)?

Answer – Refer to Section I-6., *Questions and Answers*, of the RFQ.