

City of Weslaco

"The City on the Grow"



David Suarez, Mayor
Gerardo "Jerry" Tafolla, Mayor Pro-Tem, District 4
Leo Muñoz, Commissioner, District 1
Greg Kerr, Commissioner, District 2
Olga M. Noriega, Commissioner, District 3
Letty Lopez, Commissioner, District 5
Josh Pedraza, Commissioner, District 6

Mike R. Perez, City Manager

CITY OF WESLACO Request for Sealed Proposals

The City of Weslaco hereby requests sealed proposals for the following
E-Rate Internet Access / RFP No.: 2016-17-12

Sealed proposals addressed to Homer Rhodes, Purchasing Agent will be accepted at the Weslaco City Hall Purchasing Department, 255 S. Kansas Ave., Weslaco, Texas 78596, until **3:00 pm on February 15, 2017** at which time they will be opened and read aloud. **Please mark envelope, "Sealed Proposal – E-Rate Internet Access / RFP No.: 2016-17-12."**

Potential Respondents are advised that the proposal documents can be downloaded from the City of Weslaco web page address: www.weslacotx.gov, and may also be secured at the Weslaco City Hall Purchasing Office, 255 S. Kansas Ave., Weslaco, Texas 78596, or by calling (956) 447-2240. Be advised that if your company is contemplating on submitting a proposal you must submit an "Intent to submit form", so that any changes/additions via addendum form can be forwarded to your company. (Please include your company name, address, telephone and fax as well as contact person).

The City of Weslaco reserves the right to accept any and all proposals and to waive any informalities in the proposing or to accept the proposal to be the best and most advantageous to the City and to hold proposals for a period of forty-five (45) days from the date of the proposal opening without taking action for the purpose of reviewing the proposals and investigation of respondent's qualifications prior to proposal award. Proposals submitted past the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted.

City of Weslaco

Homer Rhodes

hrhodes@weslacotx.gov

Purchasing Agent



VENDOR'S NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL

If you intend to submit a proposal for E-Rate Internet Access for the Mayor Joe V. Sanchez Public Library with the City of Weslaco as outlined in the specifications, please indicate your intention by signing, dating, and returning this form to the address below prior to **February 7, 2017** so that you may receive any addendums to the specifications should the need arise.

Homer Rhodes
City of Weslaco
Purchasing Office, Finance Dept.
255 S. Kansas Avenue
Weslaco, Texas 78596
Phone: 956.447.2240
Fax: 956.969.8452
hrhodes@weslacotx.gov

Name: _____ Signature: _____

(print / contact person)

Title: _____ Company/Agency: _____

Mailing

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email Address: _____

ALL QUESTIONS MUST BE DIRECTED TO HOMER RHODES AND WILL BE ANSWERED VIA ADDENDA

Proposal No.: 2016-17-12

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January 18, 2017

The City of Weslaco is accepting proposals for:

**Mayor Joe V. Sanchez Public Library
ERate Internet Access
Request for Proposal #2016-17-12**

Objectives of this RFP

The City of Weslaco Public Library invites prospective vendors to submit a proposal to enhance and maintain current Internet Access and supply automated services within the confines of the Schools and Libraries Program of the Universal Service Fund guidelines (E-rate).

We intend to provide an equitable, level and fair format for submission and evaluation of proposals, in accordance with applicable E-rate guidelines and procedures. This Request for Proposal (RFP) provides the relevant background and capacity of desired operational specifications and requirements, and the evaluation factors we will use to select the successful vendor. There is **NO** Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR) requirement for consideration. Prospective vendors **do not** need to be DIR contracted or DIR vendors to have their proposal considered.

The term of any accepted proposal shall be one year from the date of implementation, or as otherwise defined by Universal Service Fund guidelines (E-rate), and may be renewable annually as provided for under E-rate guidelines or consented to by the City of Weslaco City Commission.

This Request for Proposal (RFP) provides potential vendors with the relevant operational, performance, application, and architectural requirements of the system. This RFP specifically request proposals for the successful vendor to provide internet access using the library's existing network hardware, software and fittings, as well as anticipated upgrades. **The Mayor Joe V. Sanchez Public Library is requesting proposals to obtain bandwidth at 500Mbps upload and 500Mbps download of unlimited Internet Access. The library reserves the right to consider other options as well.** The preferred main location will be located at City of Weslaco Public Library, 525 South Kansas Avenue, Weslaco, Texas 78596.

All vendor-installed equipment shall integrate with current Cisco equipment and software, or reasonably expected upgrades thereto. The vendor shall guarantee full compatibility at peak efficiency, with the equipment in place at the time of installation.

This RFP is funded through the E-Rate program; however, there is no guarantee of E-Rate funding. The award of this RFP by the City of Weslaco Council is not a guarantee of purchase. Decisions to purchase E-Rate eligible items may be dependent upon E-Rate funding and the needs of the City of Weslaco. If no E-Rate funding is provided to the Mayor Joe V. Sanchez Public Library this RFP will be null and void.

Internet Access

Current Internet connectivity equipment contains of a Cisco, and a point-to-point fiber optic connection (200 Megabits per second).

Requirement of: Internet services request per calendar year of fiber-optic or equivalent support of 500 Megabits with local dedicated 24/7 technical customer care based in Rio Grande Valley (RGV) - Texas.

General

City of Weslaco Public Library is located at 525 South Kansas Avenue in Weslaco, Texas. It serves a population of 57,000 in the city proper and surrounding areas.

Internet load

The current internet load consists of over 200 computers, which are networked into Cisco equipment and Cisco and/or Dell servers, and supporting hardware and software. We are able to provide wireless access greater than 300 wireless devices at one time.

Current telecommunications and data

Verizon Southwest provides local phone service and Primary Rate Interface T-1 voice trunk services. AT&T provides long-distance service.

Current internet access

Time Warner Cable Business Class / Spectrum Business is the library's current internet service provider. Vendor should design, integrate, and test installations systems to Cisco hardware and components at the main location. We wish to keep fiber optic technology as the mode of Internet access.

Right to Reject

The City of Weslaco reserves the right to reject any, all, or portions of responses to this RFP even if all the stated requirements are met. In addition, the City may enter into negotiations with more than one vendor simultaneously and award the transaction to any vendor in negotiations without prior notification to any other vendor. The City reserves the right to select portions of the proposals while rejecting

other portions. The Awarding of the proposal will take place at a City Council meeting to be announced at a later date.

Installation Terms

The successful proposal shall provide the following services and requirements at no additional cost above the initial proposal price on equipment or furniture. The proposal should include the cost of installation, transportation of the items to the building, location of the items at their proper location within the building, uncrating, complete assembly, and adjustment by a trained installation mechanic with removal of all debris. Equipment is to be complete including operating/owner's manuals, wiring, and piping. The equipment should be made ready for electrical and/or fluid service connection by the City of Weslaco. After connections, vendors must ready the machine, start up, analyze, and correct any malfunctions of the equipment. Vendors should provide all material equipment and labor to place machinery in top operating conditions and to fully assemble furniture.

Vendor References and Qualifications

Vendors must provide a minimum of five references (public libraries in the RGV are preferred). These references must be for projects that are similar in scope, design, and have been completed by the vendor within the last three years. References that are not positive will be grounds for vendor disqualification. Vendors should provide reference names and phone numbers, and emails of the primary contact person. Vendors must supply the number of employees with maintenance of technical certifications that includes Microsoft and Cisco or equivalent.

The City of Weslaco requires that vendors furnish a certificate of insurance as required by Texas Labor Code 406.096. Coverage must be as follows (minimum amounts):

Worker's Compensation	Statutory Limit
Comprehensive General / Liability Occurrence	\$1,000,000
Bodily Injury Property / Damage Aggregate	\$1,000,000
Comprehensive Auto	\$1,000,000

RFP EVALUATION FACTORS

Instructions to vendors (10 points)

Project Schedule

By allowed date within 28-Day Waiting Period

Wednesday, January 18, 2017 to Wednesday, February 14, 2017

Vendor selection and contract date will be at the 28-Day Waiting Period.

Closing Time and Date

Responses to this RFP must be submitted in sealed packages on or before

Wednesday, February 15, 2017 on or before 3:00 p.m.

Delivery shall be made during normal working hours (M-F 8:00am to 5:00pm) unless prior approval has been obtained from Purchasing Agent Finance Department.

Response and Submission

Inquiries and responses shall be sent to:

Homer Rhodes
Purchasing Agent
Finance Department
Weslaco City Hall
255 South Kansas Avenue
Weslaco, Texas 78596-6158
(956) 447-2240
hrhodes@weslacotx.gov

Provide three (3) printed copies on company letterhead and one (1) copy saved on USB flash drive in a PDF format, on company letterhead. Proposals will be accepted **Wednesday, February 15, 2017 on or before 3:00 p.m.** At which time they will be opened, but not read publicly, at the office of the Purchasing Agent I Finance Department. The Proposals will be announced publicly at later City Council Meeting. Vendors are responsible to complete the City of Weslaco Purchasing Vendor Application which is located at City's web site. Proposals are to be hand delivered or mailed to Homer Rhodes, Purchasing Agent Finance Department. Failure to do so will disqualify vendor. Incomplete responses will not be considered.

Questions and Clarification

For questions and clarification regarding the terms of this RFP, please contact:

Martin J. Mata
Assistant Library Director
Mayor Joe V. Sanchez Public Library
(Weslaco Public Library)
525 South Kansas Avenue
Weslaco, Texas 78596-6215
(956) 968-4533
mjmata@weslacopl.us

Questions and clarifications asked by any one vendor shall be made available to all on the City's web site (www.weslacotx.gov) as provided in the Schools and Libraries (E-Rate) Form 470. Questions arising out of this RFP must be received in writing by emailed copy on company letterhead. Responses to all questions received in proper time frame will be answered in writing and distributed to all vendors known to have picked up the RFP. In order to assure prompt and timely posting of all questions and clarifications, the deadline for submittal shall be by **Tuesday, February 7, 2017 on or before 3:00 p.m.**

Proposal Period

The term on the contract will be from July 1, 2017 until June 30, 2018.

Response to Questions:

Vendor shall respond to questions as specified by **Wednesday, February 15, 2017 on or before 3:00 p.m.**

Vendor Background Questions (20 points)

- 1.) Number of years your company has been in business.
- 2.) Where is your head office, your sales and customer service offices located?
- 3.) Where is your billing office?
- 4.) Number of employees in your company.
- 5.) Number of employees in local (RGV) site (if applicable).
- 6.) Number of employees in customer service.
- 7.) Number of employees with technical certifications.
- 8.) Number of employees in local (RGV) site (if applicable) with technical Certifications.
- 9.) Are your hardware and software dependent on third party vendors for manufacturing?
- 10.) Please list any items from current or anticipated equipment which you will not be able to provide maintenance.

Repair / Response Times (10 points)

- 1.) How long will it take for you to have a qualified technician on site? (Response Time) during regular business hours (Monday-Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm)
- 2.) How long will it take for you to have a qualified technician on site outside normal business hours?
- 3.) Please provide a direct number to the person(s) who can provide immediate decisions on pricing and expansion.
- 4.) Please provide a direct number for the person(s) who can immediately facilitate repairs during normal business hours (8:00-5:00 Monday-Friday)
- 5.) Please provide a direct number for the person(s) who can immediately

facilitate evening and weekend repairs.

Future Offerings (10 points)

- 1.) What new technology does your company plan to utilize in the near future that would be an advantage to the Mayor Joe V. Sanchez Public Library?
- 2.) What is the most significant factor affecting the future success of your company and what is being planned to address it?

Market Differentiation (10 points)

- 1.) Provide a brief summary of your company's history in the marketplace. Limit response to 2 pages.
- 2.) Please describe any features, services, or practices you provide in relation to the products requested which set you apart from your competition.
- 3.) Identify other Public Libraries in the Rio Grande Valley for whom your company has provided similar service. Specify the services provided.
- 4.) Please describe how you charge for onsite visits. Specify whether you charge a minimum number of hours per onsite visit, and if so how many, or whether you charge for the actual hours devoted to a project.
- 5.) Please provide a minimum of five references (public libraries in the RGV are preferred. For each reference provide names and phone numbers of the primary contact person.

Proposal and Pricing (40 points)

This section shall be evaluated as one concrete item of up to 40 points.

Service or function	Quantity and/or Capacity:	AMOUNT

Any additional cost, such as instillation, assembly, etc. should be included in the above price. Vendor should provide an exhaustive list of all associated cost within their proposals. **Avoiding hidden or unforeseen cost is of the utmost importance.** There is **NO** Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR) requirement for consideration. Prospective vendors **do not** need to be DIR contracted or DIR vendors to have their proposal considered. Please fill out, sign and submit with your proposal response the enclosed IRS Form W-9 and Vendor Background Questionnaire.