



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL ("RFP")

for

Information Technology Support Services

at

City of Von Ormy

14729 Quarter Horse Von Ormy, Texas 78073

Issued: Wednesday, June 14, 2023

Proposals Due: Monday, July 3, 2023, by 4:00 pm

Any Proposal received after this time shall be rejected and will be returned, unopened to the Respondent.

Proposals will be received by the City of Von Ormy for Information Technology Support Services. Interested vendors should submit three original (3) copies of the proposal response documentation in an envelope marked as follows:

“IT SUPPORT SERVICES PROPOSAL”

Please submit sealed proposals to:

Valerie Naff, City Administrator

City of Von Ormy

14729 Quarter Horse

P.O. Box 10

Von Ormy, Texas 78073

Sealed proposals must be received by Monday July 3rd at 4:00 p.m.

Vendors are required to provide as much detail as possible in this proposal regarding scope of services, approach to protecting and securing the technology used by City users, and their capability and experience. The City will utilize evaluation and selection criteria to determine an acceptable vendor. The City reserves the right to reject any or all proposals or to accept any proposal considered most advantageous, regardless of price.

Copies of the Request for Proposal are available electronically from the City Administrator at cityadmin@vonormytx.gov. Proposals will be public information after they are opened.

Please direct all inquiries to Valerie Naff at cityadmin@vonormytx.gov. Any changes or clarifications to the Request for Proposal will be posted on the City's website.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT SERVICES

1. INTRODUCTION

The City of Von Ormy is requesting proposals from qualified, professional technology vendors for Information Technology Support Services. The qualified vendor will provide necessary technical services, which will enable the City to:

- Ensure the efficient operation of data processing networks and related computer systems.
- Enhance its quality of service for Administrative and Police departments as detailed in Attachment #1.
- Minimize expenses and maximize the ROI for investment in technology.

The ideal vendor will resolve computer systems and network issues in accordance with standard and acceptable maintenance and support benchmarks. The successful vendor will be expected to respond to service calls efficiently and to ensure there is no significant computer downtime during normal working hours, generally, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday, in addition to 24-hour operations for Public Safety. The vendor is expected to report on the status of technology issues and communicate effectively with City departments.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The City of Von Ormy does not have an IT Department. There are approximately twenty-one (21) PCs in the departmental areas to be covered under the service and support agreement with the successful vendor. These PCs are located primarily in City Hall and the Police Department. These PCs vary by manufacturer, aging, specifications, software, and service pack versions. Windows 10 is the prevalent operating system used on the workstations. The City uses various versions of Windows software.

Experience in Public Safety Systems and Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS) Security Policy preferred. This experience can be noted in the response. Additionally, all IT vendors having access to the City of Von Ormy Police Department PCs must submit to a fingerprint and criminal history check conducted by the Department of Public Safety in Austin.

3. SERVICES REQUIRED

This section summarizes the services to be provided to the City of Von Ormy in this RFP. The City is looking for a maintenance and support program to be designed under two major categories. These categories are PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE and AS NEEDED MAINTENANCE, to accommodate departmental computer system activities and user equipment performance. The City expects the vendor proposal to define, in detail, the approach to be used in the above categories. Distinction of time and material costs for these efforts are important to billing the City and future budget considerations.

A. Initial Assessment

Review of inventory, update network diagram, assessment of system architecture and equipment for efficiency, life expectancy, capacity, speed, and current processes, and make recommendations for improving routine support criteria and eliminating emergency maintenance situations. A report of this initial assessment shall be submitted by September 1, 2023, and each July 1st as long as the contract is in force. This is to allow for necessary budget planning for the upcoming year.

B. Desktop Application Support

Performance of basic support functions, including the installation of PC's, laptops, mobile devices, printers, peripherals, and office software; diagnosis and correction of desktop application problems, configuring of PC's, laptops and mobile devices for standard applications; identification and correction of user hardware problems, with advanced troubleshooting as needed; maintenance of an updated inventory of all related computer-related hardware, to be available to designated City personnel upon request.

C. Server and Workstation Administrative Services

Management of networks and computer systems, including complex applications, databases, messaging, servers and associated hardware, software, communications, and operating systems necessary for performance, security, reliability, and recoverability of the systems.

Scheduling of preventive maintenance for equipment in the areas of coverage is properly and promptly performed; maintenance of records for on-site visits, remote support, and telephone support is available; development of operations and quality assurance for backup plans and procedures are being followed.

Configuration management, including changes, upgrades, patches, etc. is maintained; management and security of user login credentials are documented, and support of software products relating to servers and workstations; timely response to repair and maintenance work for the user.

D. Network Administration Services

Maintenance and support of network equipment, including switches, firewalls, routers, and other security devices are included. Installation and maintenance of printers, scanners, network devices et al; analysis, routine configuration changes, and installation of patches and upgrades; minor cabling as needed; alert notifications in case of failure of equipment. Proactive monitoring of network equipment, including performance indicators to report on threshold limitations; network performance and capacity management services; continuous troubleshooting is required.

Maintenance of network documentation for daily, weekly, and monthly services is required.

E. Email, Security and Backup Efforts

Maintenance of City email accounts using the City domain and go daddy account, adding, changing, and/or deleting City employee accounts as requested; maintenance of virus-detection programs on the City computers and laptops; performance of periodic security audits, including notification of suspected breaches of security to designated City point of contact are required. The vendor will also be responsible for coordinating certified cyber-security training to be compliant with current state law.

Configuration of the City systems to enable remote access in a secure environment, with provisions for remote access administration, as requested by the City Administrator is required.

Requirements for a data backup policy, with procedures in place to handle daily, weekly, and monthly backup of the computer, data and information, email, and the like; program to restore systems and data if servers and/or computers go down, is required. Redundant backup systems compliant with electronic records management is required.

F. Planning

Engineering, planning, and design services for major system enhancements and/or upgrades to existing systems; recommendations for future purchasing and technology needs, when requested or necessary. Installation of new equipment, software, and transfer of existing data when acquired, will be needed.

G. Not Included

The contract to be awarded does not oblige the City to purchase computer equipment, hardware devices, cabling, licenses, software et al from the successful vendor.

4. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The City is requesting that the proposal submitted address the subjects outlined in Section 3 herein with specificity. The City is looking for content, organized effort, and solution-oriented procedures. The goal is a secure, smooth operating, efficient process, and effective information technology system. Due to the nature of this proposal, it is requested that each proposal be brief and to the point and consist of no more than ten pages. Each proposal shall provide the following information:

Letter of Transmittal:

The letter of transmittal must contain the following statements and information:

- Company name, address, telephone number(s), and website.
- Name, title, email address, and telephone number of the person(s) to contact and who is authorized to represent the firm and to whom correspondence should be directed.
- Federal and State taxpayer-identification numbers of the firm.

- A brief statement of your understanding of the services to be performed and make a positive commitment to provide services as specified.
- The letter must be signed by a corporate officer or person authorized to bind the vendor to the proposal and cost schedule.
- A statement indicating that the proposal and cost schedule will be valid and binding for ninety (90) days following the proposal's due date and will become part of the contract negotiated with the City.

Profile:

Provide a short profile of the firm including at a minimum:

- a) Length of time in business.
- b) Length of time in providing proposed services.
- c) Number of clients.
- d) Number of clients in the public sector.
- e) Number of full-time employees and areas of involvement: Technical Support, Programming, Consulting, Sales Support, Administrative Support.
- f) Location of office to service the account.

Proposal:

1. Description of the approach the firm will use in providing the services requested. Description of how the firm is positioned to provide the services requested, with a history of experience in providing similar services.
2. Name, title, address, and telephone number of three references for clients, whom similar services have been provided, including information referencing the actual services performed, number of users, and length of tenure. References from other Public Sector clients would be beneficial.
3. Naming of staff resources with identification of principals and key personnel who are available to provide the services (The city prefers one primary point of contact or project manager): a. experience and expertise of staff; b. local availability of staff is an important consideration; c. roles and responsibilities that each staff member will have.
4. Support services questions to be addressed:
 - a. Support availability (days of week and time, including how you will deal with after-hours and weekend calls).
 - b. Toll-free or local number.
 - c. Structure of charges for support.
 - d. Steps for resolving problem escalation.
 - e. Final authority regarding conflicts.
 - f. Response time and goal for resolving problems.
5. Explanation of any contract termination for default or other incident in the past five years. Termination for default is defined as notice to stop services for non-performance

or poor performance, and issue was either litigated or not litigated. If default occurred, list name, address, and telephone number of the party. If no such termination occurred for default, declare it. The City will evaluate the facts, and may, at its sole discretion, reject the vendor's proposal.

6. Scope of services beyond the RFP that the firm provides which may be of interest to the City.
7. Proposal summary, including how it is uniquely qualified to perform the services.

Draft Contract Language

The vendor shall submit a draft contract.

Reports

The vendor shall submit service reports on a monthly basis, summarizing service and IT policy issues. The Vendor must be available to meet with the City Administrator or designated staff member to review periodically scheduled reports and discuss issues.

Cost of Services

The City is requesting that the vendor submit a FIXED FEE service contract for ongoing maintenance items along with an hourly rate for troubleshooting, desktop maintenance, and other projects for a twelve-month period, with an option to renew for three successive twelve-month periods. Each twelvemonth period must be shown separately. Payment schedule should also be included, however, the City prefers a monthly billing schedule.

As a bid alternate, vendor should also submit a FIXED FEE service contract for an all-inclusive service and maintenance, with the understanding that major projects will be negotiated on an as-needed basis.

Vendors may also submit other alternative packages that they feel would meet the needs of the City as an included alternate bid.

Vendors must list, specifically, any services which would not be covered in the proposal price. The vendor shall indicate the impact, if any, of changes in the City's IT infrastructure (number of servers and PC's) on the fixed fee. Identify the following for those services not under the fixed fee:

- a. A fee schedule containing the vendor hourly rates.
- b. A description of how services will be billed.
- c. A description of additional charges, as in out-of-pocket expenses for travel, subsistence, etc.

5. EVALUATION CRITERIA

The City Administrator will review the vendors' qualifications. From this review, an evaluation and selection process will be completed using the following criteria as a benchmark for making a recommendation. The Board of Commissioners will award the contract to the vendor who provides a proposal that it determines provides the best value for the City. The criteria are shown below:

A. Satisfaction of Clients/End Users

B. Project Staffing and Experience

C. Pricing

D. Approach and Methodology

A rating system will be used to evaluate the proposals based on the above criteria. The award of the contract will be made to a firm, whose proposal receives a favorable evaluation and recommendation of the selection committee, with final approval by the Board of Commissioners. The City reserves the right to accept whichever proposal is felt to be in the best interest of and provide the best value to the City of Von Ormy, as well as to reject any and all proposals for any or no reason.

6. MISCELLANEOUS

The Board of Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for failure to meet the requirements contained herein, to waive any technicalities, and to select the proposal which, in the Commissioner's sole judgment, best meets the requirements of the program. The RFP creates no obligation on the part of the City to award a contract or to compensate the Bidder for any costs incurred during proposal presentation, response, submission, presentation, or oral interviews. The City reserves the right to award a contract based on proposals received without further discussion or negotiation. Vendors should not rely upon the opportunity to alter their qualifications during any discussions. The City further reserves the right to make such investigation as it deems necessary, to determine the capability of the vendors to furnish required services, and vendors shall furnish all such information for this purpose as the City may request. Vendors must specifically identify any portions of their submittals, deemed to contain confidential and proprietary information or trade secrets. However, the vendor should also understand that information submitted may be subject to Texas Open Records Act Laws and may be disclosed if requested. All requests from the vendor for additional information must be made in writing (includes email), and this information provided will be made available to all vendors at the discretion of the City.