



COUNTY OF EL PASO
500 East San Antonio, Suite PU500
El Paso, Texas 79901
(915) 546-2048 (915) 546-8180 Fax

Notice to Interested Parties

Sealed Request for Information will be received at the County Purchasing Department, 500 E. San Antonio, Suite PU500, El Paso, Texas 79901 before 2:00 p.m., **Wednesday, December 5, 2007**. Responses will be opened at the County Purchasing Office the same date for **(RFI) Interoperable Communication for Border Security**.

Request for Information must be in a sealed envelope and marked:
"RFI to be opened December 5, 2007
(RFI) Interoperable Communication for Border Security
RFI Number 07-153"

Any questions or additional information required by interested vendors must be submitted in writing to the attention of the County Purchasing Agent before Tuesday, November 27, 2007, at 12:00 p.m. Questions can be faxed to (915)-546-8180.

Said contract shall be let to the best qualified, and the **COMMISSIONER'S COURT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL RESPONSES AND WAIVE TECHNICALITIES**. Only responses that conform to specifications will be considered. Faxed responses will not be accepted.

In order to remain active on the El Paso County Vendor list, each vendor receiving this request for information must respond in some form. Vendors submitting requests for information must meet or exceed all requirements herein. Vendors not responding to the request must submit their reason in writing to the El Paso County Purchasing Department.

PITI VASQUEZ
County Purchasing Agent

SIGNATURE PAGE

<p>Description – RFI #07-153</p> <p>(RFI) Interoperable Communication for Border Security</p> <p>Vendor must meet or exceed specifications</p>
<p>Please submit one (1) original copy and two (2) duplicate copies of your response.</p>

Company

Address

Federal Tax Identification No.

City, State, Zip Code

CIQ Document Number (Required)

CIQ Sent Date

Representative Name & Title

Telephone & Fax Number

Signature

Date

**** THIS MUST BE THE FIRST PAGE ON RFI RESPONSE ****

BIDDING SCHEDULE

To: El Paso County, Texas

I or we agree to furnish the following described equipment, supplies, or services for the prices shown in accordance with specifications listed below or attached. By execution of this bid, I hereby represent and warrant to El Paso County that I have read and understood the Bid Documents and the Contract Documents and this bid is made in accordance with the Bid Documents.

Please quote prices and discounts on the following items:

F. O. B. El Paso County

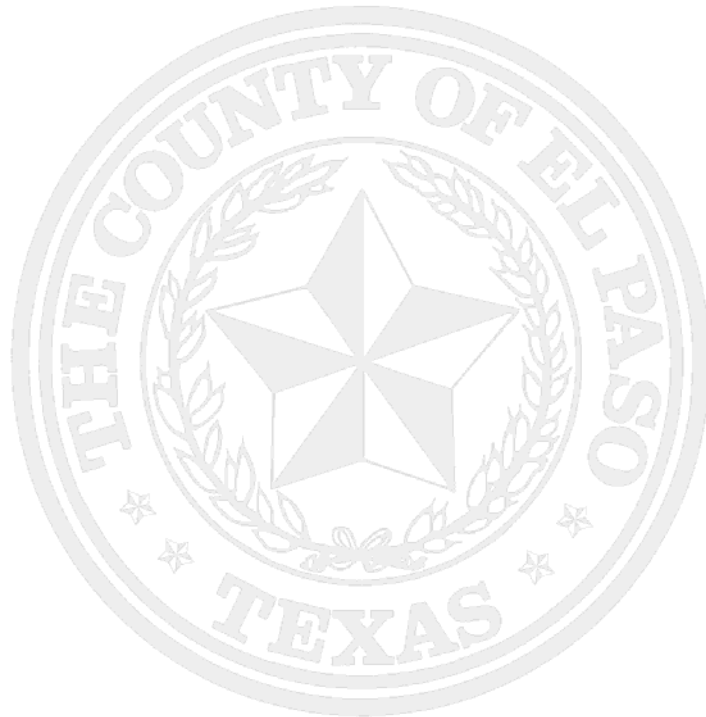
Description – Bid # 07-153 (RFI) Interoperable Communication for Border Security Vendor must meet or exceed specifications
Please do not include tax, as the County is tax-exempt. We will sign tax exemption certificates covering these items. Please submit one (1) original copy and two (2) copies of your bid.

_____ Company	_____ Address
_____ Federal Tax Identification No.	_____ City, State, Zip Code
_____ CIQ Document Number	_____ CIQ Sent Date
_____ Representative Name & Title	_____ Telephone
_____ Fax Number	_____ E-mail
_____ Signature	_____ Date

*****THIS MUST BE THE FIRST PAGE ON ALL BIDS*****

(RFI) Interoperable Communication for Border Security

RFI# 07-153



**Opening Date
Wednesday, December 5, 2007**

Interoperable Communications for Border Security Request for Information

I. Scope:

A. The El Paso County Sheriff's Office is interested in evaluating wireless capabilities to increase law enforcement effectiveness in the County of El Paso, with connectivity to other locations in the Rio Grande Council of Governments. This Statement of Work is to demonstrate capabilities for evaluation on a pilot basis for a period of thirty days as a part of normal law enforcement operations, including support for Operation Linebacker and Operation Wrangler which may lead to an award for services and purchase of equipment and software. Award may consist of acquisitions to upgrade all of the Sheriff's Office communications capabilities at fixed sites and mobile communications, to include handheld devices. If an award is made to a successful vendor, other criminal justice agencies will be authorized to acquisition equipment and services through this RFI.

B. The demonstration concept is to show the Sheriff's Office a microwave backbone which is capable of transmitting both voice and digital data. The backbone demonstration shall include the Sheriff's Office headquarters, Dispatch center, fixed mountain site (Kfox), and Vinton Station. The demonstration shall also include transmitting voice and data to Sheriff's Office marked units in a mobile environment. A pre-bidders conference shall be scheduled to provide additional clarifications as necessary and answer any questions perspective vendors may have.

C. Option years will be exercised at the discretion of El Paso County Sheriff's Office. The intent of the option years is to allow for phased acquisition or to allow other criminal justice agencies the ability to acquisition service or equipment through this contractual vehicle.

II. The overarching guidelines for conduct of the demonstration and evaluation of the capabilities are:

A. Demonstration equipment must be integrated with existing communication and data assets of the El Paso County Sheriff's Office.

B. The equipment will have no proprietary interfaces that will lock the Sheriff's Office into a specific technology or vendor for the future.

- C. Changes to the way users interface with the system shall be minimized.
- D. The capabilities shall be evaluated as a part of normal operations to allow accurate assessment of law enforcement utility.
- E. Evaluation Period will not exceed 30 calendar days and the prospective vendors will coordinate a demonstration time between November 1, 2007 through March 31, 2008. At the discretion of the Sheriff's Office the calendar time in which a vendor may need to schedule a demonstration time period may be extended beyond the March 31, 2008, evaluation periods shall not exceed 30 days excluding installation and removal of equipment.
- F. Vendors shall incur all costs associated with the demonstration and will return any Sheriff's Office items to the original condition if modifications are required.

III. Specific desired capabilities to be demonstrated include:

- A. Establish redundant wireless connection from Sheriff's Dispatch Center to the Sheriff's Office Land Mobile Radio (LMR) Transmitter.
- B. High bandwidth mobile communications capability which is interoperable with the Sheriff's Department existing communications and data systems
 - 1. Mobile operations in discrete areas of operation: integrate wide bandwidth mobile capabilities for four (4) patrol vehicles, including transport of patrol car video and access to the Records Management System
 - 2. Connectivity to two (2) remote users via satellite
 - 3. Extend range of hand held devices for better penetration in buildings/range from patrol vehicle by using equipment in vehicle as a repeater for the handheld unit.
 - 4. Demonstrate utility of high bandwidth backbone for other law enforcement / security services, such as video surveillance, mobile AFIS, or license plate recognition
 - 5. Single interface for dispatch operator to both existing and new capabilities

C. Demonstrate LMR voice interoperability integration Voice over IP (VoIP) connectivity with other law enforcement units

1. Within El Paso region law enforcement and emergency response and to select law enforcement locations in other counties within the Rio Grande Council of Governments using the internet.

2. Link to other interoperable communications systems in Texas, including the Alamo Council of Governments and the Texas Sheriff's Association via the internet.

D. Demonstrate sharing of situational awareness data, including video and incident reports to other law enforcement organizations in the State of Texas, such as the Border Security Operations Center

E. Interface to the Public Switched Telephone System demonstrating interoperability between VoIP and conventional telephone services.

F. Mobile access to the internet.

IV. Technical Specifications for Interoperable Communications Demonstration

A. Minimum data rate to mobile users:

1. 256 kbps uplink

2. 512 kbps downlink

B. Support for the following applications:

1. Provide VoIP over all segments of the network

2. LMR interface to include VoIP using SIP

3. Ability to interface VHF, UHF, 800 MHz, Aircraft, PSTN telephones, Cell Phones, and VoIP phones in common talk groups.

4. Provide support for interconnecting multiple cities, state and federal voice systems together via wide area networks to include the internet.

5. Support for voice, video, and data in an integrated collaborative environment.

C. Provide the following features and capabilities:

1. Provide security to include encryption of voice, video, and data over all new wireless links. (It is not required to encrypt the existing LMR radio system).
2. The system must provide a fully integrated network that is independent of other communications systems while providing complete interface to existing telephone, LMR and data communications systems.
3. The system provider must provide all interfaces to existing voice, data and video systems specified in the SOW.
4. The system provider shall provide standards-based equipment to the maximum extent possible, and in all cases, the network shall use IP network protocol. No proprietary standards shall be used unless a waiver is granted by the city. (Note: Does not apply to existing equipment the city has currently installed.)
5. The network shall provide DHCP/DNS IP address servers. The equipment provided shall support DHCP services for all users except when static IP addresses are necessitated by system interfaces.
6. The system shall provide full mobile IP traffic capability for speeds up to at least 70 mph, providing automatic handover between cell coverage areas while maintaining the IP connection when in the coverage area of the system comprised of multiple nodes or base stations.
7. A high-capacity microwave backhaul shall be used to interconnect all base stations, the Sheriff's office, the sub-station, and other locations included in the SOW. The minimum capacity shall be 50 Mbps full duplex, and shall have growth capability to 90 Mbps or greater.
8. All wireless systems shall use licensed bands.
9. The system integrator shall work with the city to obtain any required license needed by the city. All wireless equipment used in the installation must be either FCC certified or capable of being certified by the time the system is purchased.
10. The contractor shall provide an Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) at all sites to sustain the system for a minimum of 15 minutes during any power outage.

11. The system integrator shall be responsible for all installation including providing AC power installation to the new equipment (including any required circuit breakers, sub-panels conduit, wire, etc.); installing all coax, fiber optic cable, CAT 5 cable, power cables, etc; installing antennas at the selected sites; providing suitable cabinets for equipment installed at each site and interfacing to others systems to include city networks, vehicle radios, vehicle cameras, the PSTN, wideband data connections to the internet and other systems included in the SOW.
12. If the city elects to include back-up generators, the system integrator shall procure, install, integrate, and test such systems.
13. The system integrator must show evidence of installing, integrating and supporting systems of similar complexity or greater.
14. The system shall include a complete Network Management System or Element Management System. The NMS/EMS shall include remote access to facilitate remote monitoring, configuration, testing and maintenance functions.
15. The installation shall be completed in 60 days or less. (The city shall provide access to all sites and vehicles for which equipment is to be installed in a timely manner.
16. Licensed, bonded local contractors shall be used for installation of equipment in buildings, on towers or other city property. The system integrator shall identify the local contractor in his proposal and the local contractor shall provide proof of insurance, license, and bonding as part of the proposal.
17. The system integrator must have offices in El Paso and provide on-site support for the duration of the contract or one year, whichever is less.
18. The system integrator shall warrant the system for one year following final acceptance.
19. The contractor will provide technical assistance to the city for one year following contract award to assist in providing interfaces between the new integrated emergency communications system, existing city networks and/or equipment and the addition of new applications.
20. The system integrator must show adequate financial resources to implement the system and meet all obligations during the installation.

21. The system integrator must have at least one registered professional engineer to approve all installations.
22. The system integrator shall support the city in good faith to obtain any tower access approvals that may be necessary.
23. All equipment installed in an outdoor environment or any uncontrolled temperature/humidity environment shall be capable of operating in a temperature range of -20 to + 50 deg C and in all humidity ranges to include heavy rain. Equipment installed in buildings having controlled environments shall operate in an ambient temperature range of +10 to +25 degrees C, and a humidity range of 5% to 85%. Equipment to be installed in an outdoor environment exposed to direct sunlight shall operate in an ambient temperature of 110 deg F and a solar loading of 110 W/sq ft.
24. Installation of antennas and other related tower mounted equipment shall be designed to operate in winds of 70 mph and survive wind speeds of 125 mph.
25. The minimum coverage range from any base station to any mobile installation having radio line-of-sight shall be 5 miles minimum at the stated data rates.
26. The microwave links shall have a calculated link availability of 0.9999 for the rain zone of El Paso.

COUNTY OF EL PASO, TEXAS

CERTIFICATIONS REGARDING LOBBYING, DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS; DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE REQUIREMENTS; FEDERAL DEBT STATUS, AND NONDISCRIMINATION STATUS AND IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS*

Instructions for the certifications:

General Requirements

The County of El Paso, Texas is required to obtain from all applicants of federal funds or pass-through certifications regarding federal debt status, debarment and suspension, and a drug free workplace. Institutional applicants are required to certify that they will comply with the nondiscrimination statutes and implementing regulations.

Applicants should refer to the regulations cited below to determine the certifications to which they are required to attest. Signature of the form provides for compliance with certification requirements under 21 CFR part 1405, "New Restrictions on Lobbying," 21 CFR part 1414, Government wide Debarment and Suspension (Non procurement), Certification Regarding Federal Debt Status (OMB Circular A-129), and Certification Regarding the Nondiscrimination Statutes and Implementing Regulations. The certifications shall be treated as a material representation of fact upon which reliance will be placed when the County of El Paso determines to award the covered cooperative agreement

1. LOBBYING

As required by Section 1352, Title 31 of the U.S. Code, and implemented in 21 CFR part 1405, for persons entering into a cooperative agreement over \$100,000, as defined at 21 CFR Part 1405, the applicant certifies that;

(a) No federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, and officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the making of any Federal grant, the entering into continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal grant or cooperative agreement,

(b) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal Grant or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form -LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with its instructions;

(c) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award document for all sub-awards at all tiers (including sub-grants, contracts under grants and cooperative agreements, and subcontracts) and that all sub-recipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

1. DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS

As required by Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension and implemented at 21 CFR Part 1404, for prospective participants in primary covered transactions

A. The applicant certifies that it and its principals:

(a) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, sentenced to a denial of Federal benefits by a State or Federal court, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal department or agency;

(b) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application been convicted of or and a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain or performing a public (Federal, State, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;

(c) Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State, or local) terminated for cause or default; and

B. Where the applicant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, he or she shall attach an explanation to the application.

2. DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE

As required by the Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988, and implemented at 21 CFR Part 1404 Subpart F.

A. The applicant certifies that it will or will continue to provide a drug free workplace by:

(a). Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the applicant's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violations of such prohibition;

(b) Establishing an on-going drug free awareness program to inform employees about:

(1) The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;

(2) The applicant's policy of maintaining a drug free workplace;

(3) Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and

(4) The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violation occurring in the workplace;

(c) Making it a requirement that each employee to be engaged in the performance of the grant be given a copy of the statement required by paragraph (a)

(d) Notifying the employee in the statement required by paragraph (a) that, as a condition of employment under the grant, the employee must

- (1) Abide by the terms of the statement; and
- (2) Notify the employer in writing of his or her conviction for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such conviction.

(e) Notifying the agency, in writing, within 10 calendar days after receiving notice under subparagraph (d)(2) from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such convictions. Employers of convicted employees must provide notice including position title, to: The County of El Paso, Texas, 500 East San Antonio Street, Suite 406, El Paso, Texas 79901. Notice shall include the identification number of each affected grant

(f) Taking one of the following actions within 30 calendar days of receiving notice under subparagraph (d)(2), with respect to any employee who is so convicted:

- (1) Taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination, consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; or
- (2) Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a Federal State, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency

(g) Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug free workplace through implementation of paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f).

3. CERTIFICATION REGARDING FEDERAL DEBT STATUS (OMB Circular A-129)

The Applicant certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it is not delinquent in the repayment of any federal debt.

4. CERTIFICATION REGARDING THE NONDISCRIMINATION STATUTES AND IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS

The applicant certifies that it will comply with the following nondiscrimination statutes and their implementing regulations: (a) title VI of the Civil right Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000D et seq.) which provides that no person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which the applicant received federal financial assistance; (b) Section 504 of the rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29

U.S.C. 794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicap in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance; (c) title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972m as amended (20 U.S.C. 1981 et seq.) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance; and (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and amended (42 U.S.C. 6101 ec seq.) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance, except that actions which reasonably take age into account as a factor necessary for the normal operation or achievement of any statutory objective of the project or activity shall not violate this statute.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I hereby certify that the applicant will comply with the above certifications.

Business Name

Date

Name of Authorized Representative

Signature of Authorized Representative

COUNTY OF EL PASO PURCHASING DEPARTMENT

COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 500 EAST SAN ANTONIO,
ROOM PU500, EL PASO, TEXAS 79901
(915) 546-2048, FAX: (915) 546-8180

PITI VASQUEZ, PURCHASING AGENT
JOSE LOPEZ, JR. ASST. PURCHASING AGENT
LUCY BALDERAMA, INVENTORY BID TECHNICIAN

BIDDING CONDITIONS

This is the only approved instruction for use on your invitation to bid. Items below apply to and become a part of the terms and conditions of the bid.

1. BY SUBMITTING A REQUEST FOR INFORMATION, EACH BIDDER AGREES TO WAIVE ANY AND ALL CLAIMS IT HAS OR MAY HAVE AGAINST THE COUNTY OF EL PASO, AND ITS OFFICERS, AGENTS AND EMPLOYEES, ARISING OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH: THE DOCUMENTS, PROCEDURES, ADMINISTRATION, EVALUATION, OR RECOMMENDATION OF ANY BID; THE WAIVER BY EL PASO COUNTY OF ANY REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE BID DOCUMENTS OR THE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS; THE ACCEPTANCE OR REJECTION OF ANY BIDS; AND THE AWARD OF THE CONTRACT.
2. RFI must be in the Purchasing Department **BEFORE** the hour and date specified. Faxed bids will not be accepted.
3. Late RFI properly identified will be returned to bidder unopened. Late RFI will not be considered under any circumstances.
4. All RFI are for new equipment or merchandise unless otherwise specified.
5. RFI must give full firm name and address of bidder. Failure to manually sign the RFI will disqualify it. Person signing should show title or authority to bind his firm in a contract.
6. This is a quotation inquiry only and implies no obligation of the part of the County of El Paso.
7. Brand names are for descriptive purposes only, not restrictive.
8. The County of El Paso is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
9. Any Request for Information sent via express mail or overnight delivery service must have the RFI number and title clearly marked on the outside of the express mail or overnight delivery service envelope or package. Failure to clearly identify your proposal may be cause for disqualification.
10. PURSUANT TO TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 2253.021, A PRIME CONTRACTOR WHO IS AWARDED A PUBLIC WORKS CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT SHALL, PRIOR TO BEGINNING THE WORK, EXECUTE TO THE COUNTY:
 - 1) A PERFORMANCE BOND, IN THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE CONTRACT, IF THE CONTRACT IS IN EXCESS OF \$100,000; AND
 - 2) A PAYMENT BOND, IN THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE CONTRACT, IF THE CONTRACT IS IN EXCESS OF \$25,000.

17. PURSUANT TO TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 262.032(b), ANY SUCCESSFUL BIDDER WHO IS AWARDED ANY CONTRACT IN EXCESS OF \$50,000 MAY BE REQUIRED TO EXECUTE A PERFORMANCE BOND TO THE COUNTY. SAID BOND SHALL BE IN THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE CONTRACT AND MUST BE FURNISHED WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE A PURCHASE ORDER IS ISSUED OR THE CONTRACT IS SIGNED AND PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF THE ACTUAL WORK. ANY PERFORMANCE BOND REQUIRED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL BE NOTED IN THE ATTACHED DETAILED BID SPECIFICATIONS OR SCOPE OF WORK. THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO A PERFORMANCE BOND REQUIRED BY CHAPTER 2253, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE.

18. "Beginning January 1, 2006, in order to implement HB 914 (adding new Local Government Code Chapter 176), ALL VENDORS MUST SUBMIT A CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE (Form CIQ) disclosing its affiliations and business relationships with the County's Officers (County Judge and Commissioners Court) as well as the County employees and contractors who make recommendations for the expenditure of County funds. The names of the County Officers and of the County employees and contractors making recommendations to the County Officers on this contract are listed in the Specifications.

THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE MUST BE FILED WITH THE COUNTY CLERK AND A COPY OR PROOF OF FILING MUST BE ATTACHED TO THE BIDDER'S RESPONSE SUBMITTED TO THE PURCHASING DEPARTMENT.

Bidders should be aware that this bidding condition is not intended to cover or to advise you about all situations in which Local Government Code Chapter 176 would require you to file a Form CIQ. You should consult your private attorney with regard to the application of this law and your compliance requirements. Failure to comply is punishable as a Class C misdemeanor.

NOTICE:

ALL COMMUNICATIONS BY A VENDOR TO THE COUNTY, ITS OFFICIALS, AND DEPARTMENT HEADS REGARDING THIS PROCUREMENT SHALL BE DONE THROUGH THE EL PASO COUNTY PURCHASING DEPARTMENT. **THE EL PASO COUNTY CODE OF ETHICS PROHIBITS ALL PRIVATE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN VENDORS AND CERTAIN COUNTY OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES AS DESCRIBED BELOW:**

No vendor, its representative, agent, or employee shall engage in private communication with a member of the El Paso County Commissioners Court or county department heads regarding any procurement of goods or services by the County from the date that the bid, RFP, or RFQ is released. No private communication regarding the purchase shall be permitted until the procurement process is complete and a purchase order is granted or a contract is entered into. Members of the commissioners court are required to make a reasonable effort to inform themselves regarding potential procurements and have a duty to inquire of vendors, their representatives or employees, the nature of any private communication being sought prior to engaging in any communication. "Private Communication" means communication with any vendor outside of a posted meeting of the governing body, a regular meeting of a standing or appointed committee, or a negotiation with a vendor which has been specifically authorized by the governing body.

Health Insurance Benefits Provided By Bidder

Consideration of Health Insurance Benefits*

1. Do you or your subcontractor(s) currently offer health insurance benefits to your employees?

If so, please describe those health insurance benefits that you or your subcontractor(s) currently provide/offer to your employees.

2. What percentage, if any, of your of your subcontractor's employees are currently enrolled in the health insurance benefits program?

El Paso County may consider provision of health insurance benefits as part of the overall "best value" determination. Failure to provide health insurance benefits will not disqualify you from participating in this bid selection process.

Business Name

Date

Name of Authorized Representative

Signature of Authorized Representative

* This page must be included in all responses.



COUNTY OF EL PASO
County Purchasing Department
500 East San Antonio, Suite PU500
El Paso, Texas 79901
(915) 546-2048
(915) 546-8180 Fax

RE: RFI #07-153, (RFI) Interoperable Communication for Border Security

Dear Vendor:

As of January 1, 2006, the Texas Local Government Code Chapter 176 requires all vendors and potential vendors who contract or seek to contract for the sale or purchase of property, goods, or services with any local government entity to complete and submit a Conflicts of Interest Questionnaire. A copy of the requirements regarding vendors is attached. Also attached is a copy of the Questionnaire which needs to be filed and was prepared and approved for statewide use by the Texas Ethics Commission.

In filing out the Questionnaire, the following are the County Officers that will award the bid and the employees which will make a recommendation to the Commissioners Court:

County Officers: County Judge Anthony Cobos
Commissioner Luis C. Sariñana
Commissioner Veronica Escobar
Commissioner Miguel Teran
Commissioner Dan Haggerty

County Employees: Piti Vasquez, Purchasing Agent
Jose Lopez, Jr., Assistant Purchasing Agent
Peter Gutierrez, Buyer II
Linda Gonzalez, Inventory Bid Technician
Lucy Balderama, Inventory Bid Technician
Jimmy Apodaca, Chief Deputy
Ralph Mitchell, Assistant Chief
Gomecindo Lopez, Lieutenant
Grover Poynter, Deputy
Frank Cress, IT
Joe Padilla, Communication Supervisor
Jack Waite, Lieutenant
Marisa Quintanilla- COG

Please note that the state law requires that the Questionnaire be filed with the **COUNTY CLERK** no later than **the 7th business day after submitting an application, response to an RFP, RFQ or bid** or any other writing related to a potential agreement with the County. Failure to file the questionnaire within the time provided by the statute is a Class C misdemeanor

CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE

FORM CIQ

For vendor or other person doing business with local governmental entity

This questionnaire is being filed in accordance with chapter 176 of the Local Government Code by a person doing business with the governmental entity.

By law this questionnaire must be filed with the records administrator of the local government not later than the 7th business day after the date the person becomes aware of facts that require the statement to be filed. See Section 176.006, Local Government Code.

A person commits an offense if the person violates Section 176.006, Local Government Code. An offense under this section is a Class C misdemeanor.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received

1 Name of person doing business with local governmental entity.

2

Check this box if you are filing an update to a previously filed questionnaire.

(The law requires that you file an updated completed questionnaire with the appropriate filing authority not later than September 1 of the year for which an activity described in Section 176.006(a), Local Government Code, is pending and not later than the 7th business day after the date the originally filed questionnaire becomes incomplete or inaccurate.)

3

Name each employee or contractor of the local governmental entity who makes recommendations to a local government officer of the governmental entity with respect to expenditures of money AND describe the affiliation or business relationship.

4

Name each local government officer who appoints or employs local government officers of the governmental entity for which this questionnaire is filed AND describe the affiliation or business relationship.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE

For vendor or other person doing business with local governmental entity

FORM CIQ

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Name of local government officer with whom filer has affiliation or business relationship. (Complete this section only if the answer to A, B, or C is YES.

This section, item 5 including subparts A, B, C & D, must be completed for each officer with whom the filer has affiliation or other relationship. Attach additional pages to this Form CIQ as necessary.

A. Is the local government officer named in this section receiving or likely to receive taxable income from the filer of the questionnaire?

Yes

No

B. Is the filer of the questionnaire receiving or likely to receive taxable income from or at the direction of the local government officer named in this section AND the taxable income is not from the local governmental entity?

Yes

No

C. Is the filer of this questionnaire affiliated with a corporation or other business entity that the local government officer serves as an officer or director, or holds an ownership of 10 percent or more?

Yes

No

D. Describe each affiliation or business relationship.

6

Signature of person doing business with the governmental entity

Date

Tex. Local Gov't Code § 176.006 (2005)

§ 176.006. Disclosure Requirements for Vendors and Other Persons; Questionnaire

(a) A person described by Section 176.002(a) shall file a completed conflict of interest questionnaire with the appropriate records administrator not later than the seventh business day after the date that the person:

(1) begins contract discussions or negotiations with the local governmental entity; or

(2) submits to the local governmental entity an application, response to a request for proposals or bids, correspondence, or another writing related to a potential agreement with the local governmental entity.

(b) The commission shall adopt a conflict of interest questionnaire for use under this section that requires disclosure of a person's affiliations or business relationships that might cause a conflict of interest with a local governmental entity.

(c) The questionnaire adopted under Subsection (b) must require, for the local governmental entity with respect to which the questionnaire is filed, that the person filing the questionnaire:

(1) describe each affiliation or business relationship the person has with each local government officer of the local governmental entity;

(2) identify each affiliation or business relationship described by Subdivision (1) with respect to which the local government officer receives, or is likely to receive, taxable income from the person filing the questionnaire;

(3) identify each affiliation or business relationship described by Subdivision (1) with respect to which the person filing the questionnaire receives, or is likely to receive, taxable income that:

(A) is received from, or at the direction of, a local government officer of the local governmental entity; and

(B) is not received from the local governmental entity;

(4) describe each affiliation or business relationship with a corporation or other business entity with respect to which a local government officer of the local governmental entity:

(A) serves as an officer or director; or

(B) holds an ownership interest of 10 percent or more;

(5) describe each affiliation or business relationship with an employee or contractor of the local governmental entity who makes recommendations to a local government officer of the local governmental entity with respect to the expenditure of money;

(6) describe each affiliation or business relationship with a person who:

(A) is a local government officer; and

(B) appoints or employs a local government officer of the local governmental entity that is the subject of the questionnaire; and

(7) describe any other affiliation or business relationship that might cause a conflict of interest.

(d) A person described by Subsection (a) shall file an updated completed questionnaire with the appropriate records administrator not later than:

(1) September 1 of each year in which an activity described by Subsection (a) is pending; and

(2) the seventh business day after the date of an event that would make a statement in the questionnaire incomplete or inaccurate.

(e) A person is not required to file an updated completed questionnaire under Subsection (d)(1) in a year if the person has filed a questionnaire under Subsection (c) or (d)(2) on or after June 1, but before September 1, of that year.

(f) A person commits an offense if the person violates this section. An offense under this subsection is a Class C misdemeanor.

(g) It is a defense to prosecution under Subsection (f) that the person filed the required questionnaire not later than the seventh business day after the date the person received notice of the violation.

Tex. Local Gov't Code § 176.001 (2005)

§ 176.001. Definitions

In this chapter:

(1) "Commission" means the Texas Ethics Commission.

(2) "Family member" means a person related to another person within the first degree by consanguinity or affinity, as described by Subchapter B, Chapter 573, Government Code.

(3) "Local governmental entity" means a county, municipality, school district, junior college district, or other political subdivision of this state or a local government corporation, board, commission, district, or authority to which a member is appointed by the commissioners court of a county, the mayor of a municipality, or the governing body of a municipality. The term does not include an association, corporation, or organization of governmental entities organized to provide to its members education, assistance, products, or services or to represent its members before the legislative, administrative, or judicial branches of the state or federal government.

(4) "Local government officer" means:

(A) a member of the governing body of a local governmental entity; or

(B) a director, superintendent, administrator, president, or other person designated as the executive officer of the local governmental entity.

(5) "Records administrator" means the director, county clerk, municipal secretary, superintendent, or other person responsible for maintaining the records of the local governmental entity.

COUNTY OF EL PASO, TEXAS

Solicitation Check List

(RFI) Interoperable Communication for Border Security

RFI #07-153

THIS CHECKLIST IS PROVIDED FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

_____ Responses should be delivered to the County Purchasing Department by 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 5, 2007. Did you visit our website (www.epcounty.com) for any addendums?

_____ Did you sign the Signature Page?

_____ Did you sign the "Certifications Regarding Lobbying, Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; Federal Debt Status, and Nondiscrimination Status And Implementing Regulations" document?

_____ Did you sign the "Consideration of Insurance Benefits" form?

_____ Did you file a copy of the completed Conflict of Interest Questionnaire (Form CIQ) with the El Paso County Clerk (in person or by mail to 500 E. San Antonio, Suite 106, El Paso, TX 79901 or by fax to 915-546-2012 attention Joann) and write the confirmation number given as proof of filing on your bidding schedule?

_____ Did you provide one original and two (2) copies of your response?
