

AGENDA
PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE
40-FOOT LOW FLOOR HEAVY DUTY TRANSIT BUS PROCUREMENT

THE GULF COAST CENTER
4352 E.F. LOWRY EXPRESSWAY
TEXAS CITY, TEXAS 77951

March 13, 2014 at 1:30 P.M. CDT

1. Introduction of Attendees
2. Roles and Responsibilities of Center Staff and 3 rd Party Support Staff
3. Scope of Procurement <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Vehiclesb. Quantityc. Optionsd. Schedule
4. Sources of Funding
5. Solicitation Schedule
6. Federally Required Contract Clauses
7. Proposal Content
8. Selection Criteria and Committee Members
9. Contract Award
10. Questions
11. Adjourn

Teleconference Information

Phone Number: (800) 747-5150

Access Code: 2368002

RFP Coordinator

James Hollis – Transportation Director

jamesh@gulfcoastcenter.org

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40-FOOT LOW FLOOR HEAVY DUTY TRANSIT BUS PROCUREMENT
RFP NO. 2014-TRANSIT-001**

Name	Organization	E-mail Address	Mailing Address and Phone Number
Conni Westfall	Connect Transit	Constancew@gulfcoastcenter.org	409-944-4458 4352 Emmitt F. Lowery Expy Texas City, TX 77591
JAMES HOLLIS	CONNECT TRANSIT	JAMES HOLLIS@gulfcoastcenter.org	<div style="text-align: right;"> 409-944-4446 ↓ SAME ADDRESS </div>
DAVID BARTELS	THE GOODMAN CORPORATION	dbarfels@thegoodmancorp.com	1715 EAST 5 TH STREET AUSTIN, TX 78202 (512) 226-8002 x307
MICHAEL PIERCE	ABC COMPANIES	M.PIERCE@ABC.COMPANIES.COM	1702 GREAT SW PKWY GRAND PRAIRIE TX 75051 214.708.9062
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PLEASE SIGN IN

March 13, 2014

The Gulf Coast Center

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Name	Organization	E-mail Address	Mailing Address and Phone Number
Brent Sumrall	Vehicle Technical Consultants Inc.	bsumrall@vtconsultants.net	30 Corte Rivera Lake Elsinore CA 92532 951-805-9217
Javier Hernandez, Jr.	Gillig LLC	Javier.HernandezJr@gillig.com	(510) 264-5020
Robert McHaney	The Goodman Corporation	rmchaney@thegoodmancorp.com	1715 E. 6th Street, Ste 112 Austin, TX 78733 (512) 236-8002 x304
Mike Yestrumsky	Mobile Climate Control		
Mike Pierce	ABC Companies	mpierce@abc-companies.com	1702 S. Great Southwest Pkwy Grand Prairie, TX 75051 (800) 222-2877 x44030
Katrina Bayer	Houston-Galveston Area Council	Katrina.Bayer@h-gac.com	3555 Timmons, Suite 120 Houston, TX 77027 (832) 681-2557

Teleconference Attendees

March 13, 2014

The Gulf Coast Center

Questions for Gulf Coast Center Bid

Ask at Pre-bid Meeting

1. In Section 2.5. A minimum seating capacity of 35 seats is required. If a bus is available with more than 35 seats would you prefer it be bid with more seats. Is seating capacity or price more important for this opportunity?
2. Exhibit E states all certifications are required before the Proposal Submission. At what point in the procurement process would you prefer to receive these? Are copies of them required in the proposal as well? Can they be submitted electronically or do you require originals before proposal as they are required in Tab 9 of the proposal as well.
3. On page 31, Section 3 it states that the bus price will be subject to PPI each year. On the pricing sheet, a bus price is required for each year. Would Galveston prefer fixed pricing for the initial term and optional contract years or would you prefer a base bus price that is adjusted based on PPI? If PPI is preferred, would Galveston accept PPI1413 as the price escalator?
4. Are the evaluation criteria as listed in Section 9/9.1 listed in order of importance? Can you elaborate on the weightings of the evaluation criteria?
5. The spec includes Exhibit K for Approved Equals yet the spec does not indicate that there is a formal Approved Equals process, rather questions then deviations with the bid. Is it the intent of Galveston to have Approved Equals submitted?
6. We typically require two weeks to respond to Answers to Questions and obtain suppliers quotes and compile the proposal package. The current schedule only has 8 calendar days between the response to questions and proposal submissions. Will an adjustment to the schedule be considered to ensure the bidders have adequate time to respond to the material?

Ask if there is a lot of technical discussion happening, if not, we will submit as written questions:

1. TS 36.4 and associated sections under TS 36 require drum brakes. Has the agency considered the long term maintenance cost savings and thus lower life cycle costs of specifying or allowing a pricing credit for the higher initial cost of disc brakes?

2. Certain makes of buses are available with higher horsepower engines thus allowing the buses to better maintain highway speeds, especially in commuter service. Has the agency considered the benefit thereof and thus allowing for a pricing credit for the higher initial cost?
3. TS 6.1 require air conditioning meet certain specs at up to 3,000 feet above sea level. Is this a mistake in the spec?
4. TS 7.10 specify an aisle width of 22 inches. TS77.6 specifies an aisle width of 20 inches. Which is preferred?
5. TS 11.1 specify that the bottom of the radiator and charge air cooler be 3 feet from the street level. Are there some operating conditions that make this advantageous even though the buses are specified with electric reversible fans?
6. TS 59 require a heated entrance and exit areas. Are there some operating conditions in Houston that make this advantageous? TS60 states floor level heating is not required which is contradictory to the requirement for the exit areas.

Submit as Written Questions only using Exhibit K from the Spec:

1. Would Galveston considering add the following clause to address changes in regulatory requirements that may occur between the base year order and the optional contract years?

“Notwithstanding anything else to the contrary contained herein, in the event that a price adjustment is required in respect of changes that are mandatory as a result of legislation or regulations that become effective after the date of the submission of the Contractor’s proposal, such price adjustment shall be negotiated in good faith by the City and the Contractor.”

2. TS6.3/TS74.7 and throughout the specification Docket 90 is required. Docket 90 is a recommended standard only, and is not a Federal requirement. The proposed coach is designed and manufactured in accordance with all applicable FMVSS 302 for fire safety and smoke emissions regulations. New Flyer requests that the Docket 90 is removed from the spec and provided as an optional item that can be selected by Galveston if required but will increase the bus price if left in.
3. Is the intent of the specification to provide electric cooling? Electric cooling has been proven to increase fuel economy and reduce maintenance costs as it reduces the opportunity for hydraulic fluid leaks. New Flyer requests the specification be updated to include electric cooling as a requirement of the specification.

4. Section TS34 has specifies *"The drive axle shall have a design life to operate for not less than 300,000 miles on the design operating profile without replacement or major repairs"*. We recommend that a 5year, 300,000 mile warranty for the axles be considered mandatory in order to meet this requirement and ensure all bidders provide this guarantee

5. Section 75 requires a manual Diamond Fare Box, or equal and Transfer mounting, cutting and punching equipment shall be located in a position convenient to the driver. Please provide additional information as to the type of system required or on current fleet so that a suitable system can be quoted and designed.