



**City of Tacoma
Environmental Services Department**

**Tree Removal, Pruning, and Planting
RFB Specification No. ES16-0568F**

QUESTIONS and ANSWERS 2

This information IS NOT considered an addendum. Respondents should consider this information when submitting their proposals.

Question 1: SPECIAL PROVISIONS SECTION 1 PROJECT INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS [U] PAYMENT & PERFORMANCE BOND: Please clarify – Do you require a payment of 25% of the entire contract plus purchase a performance bond for 25% of the entire contract? [Example: if the entire contract bid amount is \$350,000, do we have to write a check to you in the amount of \$87,500?] What does power of attorney enable the City to do?

Answer 1: No, we do not require a payment of 25%; this requirement is for a Payment Bond of 25%. The City requires a Payment Bond for 25% of the entire contract value as well as a Performance Bond for 25% of the entire contract value. The bonds must be accompanied by a fully executed power of attorney for the office executing on behalf of the surety. This is standard and your surety should be familiar with this requirement.

Question 2: SBE UTILIZATION FORM: How is it possible to allocate a dollar amount to a subcontractor such as traffic control without any knowledge of when and how much traffic control will be needed? Can we write down unit costs instead?

Answer 2: Because traffic control is not included in the evaluation SBE does not apply for this work.

Question 3: SPECIAL PROVISIONS SECTION 2 – SCOPE OF WORK [G] SCHEDULING FOR WORK PERFORMANCE: What if the City of Tacoma causes a delay in getting required documents such as permits thus forcing the contractor to go past the dead line to complete the job?

Answer 3: If the contractor applies for a permit in a reasonable time period, any delay in issuing the permit that is borne by the City, shall be added to the contractor's timeline to complete the work.

Question 4: SPECIAL PROVISIONS SECTION 2 - SCOPE OF WORK [A, 3-c] Do we pay for wood disposal at city landfill?

Answer 4: Yes

Question 5: APPENDIX B - INTENT & AFFIDAVIT INFORMATION FOR ON CALL CONTRACTS [A.] Can you confirm that one (1) approved form Intent to Pay Prevailing wages and its corresponding Affidavit of Wages Paid is to be filed for the first 12 month period regardless of how many individual jobs are performed?

Answer 5: Correct. This is needed on an annual basis for the term of the contract.

Question 6: Can you confirm that each successfully completed job will be paid in full in 30 days or less?

Answer 6: Our standard payment terms are Net 30 days upon receipt of invoice unless a prompt payment discount is offered. 5% retainage will be held unless a Retainage Bond is obtained. See Section 1, V. RETAINAGE of the specification.

Question 7: SPECIAL PROVISIONS SECTION 2 SCOPE OF WORK K. TRAFFIC CONTROL: Will the city of Tacoma be required to pay for traffic control furnished by the contractor in the event of the city failing to provide traffic control? Example of text in contract, The City will provide traffic control if needed, however in the event the City is unable to provide traffic control, the Contractor will be responsible.

Answer 7: Traffic control furnished by the Contractor will be paid by City in accordance with the pricing set forth in the Schedule of Unit Prices of the Bid Proposal Page.

Question 8: BID PROPOSAL PAGE SPECIFICATION NO. ES16-0568F: Regarding the fact that you ask a unit price per tree listed under item number and Description of Work, How is it possible to set a unit price when the description lists a huge disparity in tree sizes? Example, No company would set a unit price for a quart of milk and use the same price for a gallon of milk.
Example, The contract bid dollar amount for smaller dbh tree listed in each item would produce a bid vastly different in price from the bid amount for the larger dbh tree listed in each item line.
Example, Item No. 2, 26"-50" dbh] A tree 26" dbh could require an average of 1.1 days to complete, while a tree 50" dbh averages 4.2 days to complete for a 4 man crew.
Additionally, price per tree unit is dictated to a large extent on circumstances such as traffic, obstacles, powerlines, geography, etc.

Answer 8: The size classes of trees were selected based upon the past history of work done. Although we can't predict which trees will need work in the future, it is presumed that the tree work within a class will be spread across the entire class, and not be weighted towards the high or the low ends of the class. It is presumed that some tree work within a class will be overpaid to the on-call contractor, and other work underpaid, to ultimately balance out over the two year period, however this cannot be a certainty. It is estimated that 47% of the tree work required will be on steep slopes, as was described in the RFB. Traffic control is not taken into consideration in the bid for tree work, and occurs under a separate line item in the RFB. In situations where powerlines are at risk, the City is most likely to perform the tree work.

Question 9: If the contract were performed to completion on either size tree, the dollar amounts would be greater than the estimated price set forth by the city, how did the city arrive at this figure and on what formula was the price based?

Answer 9: The price set forth in the RFB was an estimate based upon previous work, and bidders may put in higher bids than the City estimate. In a circumstance where all work in the contract was completed, fulfilling every line item for tree work, then there would be no additional funds available, and no additional work would be requested. In a circumstance in which funds are still available and certain line item of tree work was not filled, then it would be possible for work to occur above the number of trees estimated in the line item, provided there were funds available. The latter situation could ultimately reduce the amount of work that could be done in other categories.

Question 10: What assurance do we have that you will not hire us to do the largest and most technical trees?

Answer 10: We cannot be certain of the trees that will require work in the future, however it is estimated that most of the work will fall within the mid-size classes of trees as per the RFB. The on-call

contractor is not required to perform tree work beyond the number of trees reflected in each line item. The numbers indicated for each line item are intended to be representative of the requests that will be made by the City.

Question 11: Will the city assure us that they would assign us an average of the tree sizes listed?

Answer 11: The items and quantities listed on the Bid Proposal Page are estimates based on past usage and are not a guarantee for any particular order, quantity, item, or dollar volume.