



City of Tacoma
Department of Public Utilities – Tacoma Rail
Railroad Equipment Monitoring System
RFI Specification No. TR18-0021F

QUESTIONS and ANSWERS - REVISED

All interested parties had the opportunity to submit questions in writing by email to Richelle Krienke by February 28, 2018. The answers to the questions received are provided below and posted to the City's website at www.TacomaPurchasing.org: Navigate to *Current Contracting Opportunities / Services*, and then click *Questions and Answers* for this Specification. This information IS NOT considered an addendum. Respondents should consider this information when submitting their proposals.

Question 1: Should an RFP be released as a result of this RFI, when would you anticipate a solicitation to be released?

Answer 1: Summer – Fall 2018.

Question 2: Has funding been allocated for this effort? If so, from where?

Answer 2: Yes, from the current budget.

Question 3: What's the estimated cost of this project?

Answer 3: At this time, we don't have enough information to provide a cost estimate. However, any cost information included in a RFI submission may be used to assist Tacoma Rail with project cost estimates in a potential subsequent RFP.

Question 4: Do you anticipate needing consulting services related to this effort?

Answer 4: No.

Question 5: Who is the technical contact for this project, and what is their contact

Answer 5: The RFI is being conducted because there are no city staff with technical expertise in this subject area.

Question 6: Does Tacoma Rail currently have a system like this in place? If so, what is it, and what are the main issues with it that are leading to the need for a replacement?

Answer 6: No.

Question 7: In regard to page 2, F 1, could you explain what conditions you wish to monitor for "asset status"?

Answer 7: Some asset status elements could include: Asset health such as battery strength and fluid temperatures, and speed, direction, etc.

Question 8: In regard to page 3, G 1 and 2, are you looking to monitor and analyze a specific condition in real time, or are you looking for a video recording mechanism for later playback?

Answer 8: Later playback.

Question 9: What is the nominal and maximum speed of your locomotives?

Answer 9: In yard, 10 mph. Mainline, 40 mph maximum.

Question 10: Are the locomotives currently equipped with any equipment for remote asset monitoring?

Answer 10: No.

Question 11: Will the software be a new system or is it required to interface with an existing system?

Answer 11: It will be a new system. No requirements to interface at this time; however, a web service, FTP (file transfer protocol), etc., would be beneficial.

Question 12: Do you currently have an existing asset monitoring system of any kind?

Answer 12: No.

Question 13: Are the locomotives currently equipped with any type of GPS system?

Answer 13: No. Four of our locomotives are PTC equipped; however, these would remain separate from the equipment monitoring system.

Question 14: Do your trains currently have AEI tags?

Answer 14: Our locomotives that travel the mainline have AEI tags.

Additional information:

All locomotives have AEI tags, or can have them within a couple days. However, there are no AEI readers on Tacoma Rail owned yard track.

Question 15: In regard to page 4, 1.05, B, 1, can you explain or give examples of the type of customization you'd like?

Answer 15: Locomotive status and health history with filters on the various data sets being tracked.

Question 16: In regard to page 4, 1.05, B, 3, can you explain or give some examples of "certain events"?

Answer 16: Excessive speeds, excessively hard impacts, emergency brake applications.

Question 17: If possible, can we get a rough idea as to the budget that would be allocated to this potential project?

Answer 17: See question 3.

Question 18: Can you provide a complete locomotive fleet list to include locomotive models?

Answer 18: A current list of Tacoma Rail's locomotive fleet can be found on our website at: <https://www.mytpu.org/tacomarail/general-information/locomotives.htm>

Question 19: What type of Event Recorder(s) does Tacoma Rail currently use?

Answer 19: Quantum Q1044E is installed on 12 locomotives. WABTEC M6 event recorders are installed on four PTC equipped motors (two of which are EMD Fire Gen 3).

Question 20: In Section F, #5: "Locomotive Fuel Readings and Alerts" – is Tacoma Rail interested in an upgrade to existing Fuel Tank sensors?

Answer 20: Yes.

Question 21: Can Tacoma Rail further define in Section F, #7: "Provide Secure service interfacing with other systems", specifically the definition of "Other Systems". Are these existing systems on the Locomotive, existing Back Office Systems, or both?

Answer 21: Yes. Existing back office systems unrelated to PTC. See answer 11.

Question 22: Does Tacoma require PTC?

Answer 22: PTC is out of scope for this project.

Question 23: Does Tacoma Rail already have a secure telecom link installed on the locomotives, or is telecom required?

Answer 23: A secure telecom link is not installed on any of our locomotives at this time.