

Specifications

Scope of Services

The County is seeking a highly qualified Consultant to provide expert project management and technical oversight for the county's public safety communications infrastructure and related projects. The vendor will serve as a high-level liaison between the County Executive's Office, the Director of Communications, and municipal and County stakeholders. The vendor is responsible for ensuring that all projects meet the rigorous operational standards of Bergen County's public safety network.

Primary Responsibilities

- **Government Liaison and Representation:** Act as the official technical representative for the County at municipal council meeting, public safety committee briefings and regional planning events.
- **Strategic Project Management:** Lead large-scale communications projects from inception to completion, including logistical planning, vendor oversight, and milestone tracking.
- **Regulatory Compliance:** Ensure all procurement and project activities adhere to the Local Public Contract Laws (LPCL) and relevant New Jersey municipal/county finance regulations.
- **Interoperability Management:** Oversee the complex integration of multi-manufacturer hardware (Motorola, Harris, Kenwood, Tait etc.) into the County's existing P25 infrastructure.
- **Executive Reporting:** Prepare high-level briefs and status reports from the Director of Communications and the County Executive's Office regarding project budget, timelines, and operation risks.

Technical & Professional Requirements

- **Regional Expertise:** Minimum of 10 years of public safety operational LMR (Land Mobile Radio) experience specifically within Bergen County. Must have a deep understanding of the county's unique topography and jurisdictional landscape.

- **Systems Engineering:** Deep familiarity with P25 Phase I and Phase II standards, radio topology (simulcast, multisite) and network backhaul topology (Microwave, Fiber MPLS)
- **Financial and Legal Literacy:** Proven knowledge of New Jersey municipal and county finance laws, including purchasing procedures and bid process for public entities.
- **Integration Specialist:** Demonstrated experience in integrating ‘mixed-fleet’ subscriber units and infrastructure into unified environment.
- **Advanced Project Management:** proven track record in managing multi- million dollar public safety deployments, including site acquisition, tower construction and fleet cutovers.

Preferred Additional Qualifications

To ensure the highest level of service to the Director of Communications and the County Executive, the ideal consultant should also possess:

- **Grant Management:** Ability to identify, draft and manage state and federal grants (e.g., UASI, HSGP) to offset project costs.
- **Crisis Communications:** Experience coordinating and communicating during large-scale emergencies or planned county-wide events.
- **Strategic Roadmapping:** Ability to develop a 5-to-10 year technology lifecycle plan for the county’s radio systems and user equipment.
- **Stakeholder Mediation:** Strond “soft skills” to navigate stakeholder sensitivities when aligning municipal interests with County-wide technical mandates

Evaluation Criteria

The following criteria; not necessarily listed in order of importance, will be used to evaluate all proposals. These criteria are general in nature and may be used to develop a more detailed evaluation work sheet. All percentage criteria will be presented at the opening of this RFP.

1. Technical
2. Management
3. Cost.

Evaluation and Selection

The County intends to enter into a contract with a vendor that in the County's opinion best meets the responsiveness and price criteria described below. However, this RFP does not commit the County to select or enter into a contract with any organization. The County reserves the right to reject proposals. The County will use a committee to review and evaluate proposals.

Evaluation Compliance

The County will determine whether the proposals comply with the RFP. Failure to meet other requirements will affect our evaluation and may result in rejection.

Evaluation of Responsiveness

The County will use a point ranking system to aid in the evaluation process. The County reserves the right to use its discretion to eliminate proposals deemed unacceptable.

We will separately determine how well proposals satisfy the RFP objectives in terms of responsiveness, and we will rank proposals using a point ranking system.

The County will determine whether any failure to supply information, or the quality of information, will result in rejection or downgrading a proposal. Consultants whose proposals meets minimum responsiveness requirements will be eligible for further consideration.