



Department of Procurement Services

160 South Hollywood Street · Room 126 · Memphis, TN 38112 · (901) 416-5376

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

IFB10242023JJKG Fire Alarm Upgrades

1. **Are the schools going to be bid separately or all together as one?**
Contractors can bid separately.
2. **Are we able to reuse any existing raceways/backboxes if the opportunity arises?** **No.**
3. **We have a concern about receiving all the fire alarm parts by January 2024. If that is the case, would we be able to push forward the contract timeline?**
No, the funding must be spent by 12/30/24.
4. **Should the Bids for the (17) Seventeen Locations be individually Sealed separately and identified or can they all be packaged together into (1) One Envelope?**
Contractors can bid separately.
 - a. **If packaged together into (1) One Envelope, I understand that each Location will have a separate Bid Proposal Form (Appendix J) & MWBE Form.**
This is correct; a separate Bid Proposal Form and MWBE Form for each.
 - b. **If packaged together into (1) One Envelope, can we provide Only (1) One of Every Other Required Form other than the Bid Proposal Form (Appendix J) & MWBE Form.**
Yes. You do not have to duplicate any additional forms besides the Bid Proposal Form and MWBE Forms.
5. **Will all (17) Seventeen Locations be awarded Lump Sum to (1) One Bidder or will they be awarded individually to the lowest qualified bidder per Location?**
Can bid separately.
6. **The Bid Documents states that Contractor shall be responsible for paying and scheduling all associated services that are required to assist in the project to achieve final code approvals such as elevator companies, sprinkler companies, fire suppression companies and HVAC Companies:**
 - a) **Please provide a list of All such companies being used at each of the (17) Seventeen Locations along with contact information.**
Contractor shall verify.
 - b) **Please provide a detailed list of the company's hourly rates and charges.**
United Elevator currently has the District contract. All Contractors shall be licensed and MSCS approved vendors.

- c) **It is understood that this item is to acquire the companies for coordination. However, if these vendors deem that repairs are needed to SCS Equipment, are we responsible for paying for these repairs?**
- i. **If so, is there a maximum out of pocket? What if the HVAC Company informs us that a Mechanical Unit must be replaced at a cost of \$20,000?**
The Contractor would not be expected to replace the unit.
 - ii. **What if the Sprinkler Company needs to replace a \$500 Waterflow Switch?**
Contractor's responsibility if Owner's contingency amount will not support it.
 - iii. **What if the Fire Marshall Requires some Fire Doors be Replaced due to prior Damage?**
Contractor's responsibility if Owner's contingency amount will not support it.
 - iv. **What if the Ceiling Collapses in the Library causing additional Charges?**
MSCS would address.
 - v. **What if a Bookstore Fire Door Doesn't have the Proper Equipment Needed to Close upon a Fire Alarm Condition?**
Contractor's responsibility if Owner's contingency amount will not support it.
 - vi. **What if there is a Kitchen Hood that doesn't have the proper Contacts to be Monitored?**
Contractor's responsibility if Owner's contingency amount will not support it.
 - vii. **What if there are No Controls on the Elevator due to age to perform Required Elevator/Fire Alarm Functions?**
Contractor's responsibility if Owner's contingency amount will not support it.
 - viii. **I recommend a Maximum Allowance to be Placed in the Bid, Not to Exceed and to be kept if not used. Otherwise, please identify the exact occurrences that we should plan to cover and what not to cover.**
Same answer for vii above.
7. **If there are presently Portable Classrooms onsite, should we plan to reconnect them to the New Fire Alarm System?**
Not if the portable classrooms have been condemned or deemed unusable.

- 8. What happens if additional Portable Classrooms show up after the Fire Alarm Contract is awarded? Will there be a Change Order allowed?**
It would be a part of the existing contract with the company installing the new portable classroom and not the responsibility of the contractor awarded for the the current Fire Alarm replacement.
- 9. Treadwell Elementary & Middle Schools are both identified as a Separate Bid for each. However, they seem to share a cafeteria, gym & auditorium. Please identify which School shall monitor the cafeteria, gym & auditorium.**
Treadwell MS
- a) **Is the Office Building shown on upper Right Corner on Vicinity Map included in this bid? If so, which school shall it be connected to. This is possibly the Northeast Regional Office Shelby County Schools.**
Yes, connect to Treadwell MS.
- b) **Should the Elementary be involving the Elementary Building ONLY and the other buildings all be connected to the Middle School? Please clarify. Yes**
- 10. Will the existing fire alarm system remain up while the new fire alarm system is being installed?**
Yes, the old fire alarm system cannot be demolished until the new system has been tested satisfactory by all Codes having jurisdiction.
- 11. Does the installation of the new fire alarm system require full conduit or conduit stubbed up above ceiling?**
See bid specifications, all exposed cabling shall be installed in conduit.
- 12. If full conduit does the conduit need to be painted red or just the junction covers red marked FA.**
Painting of conduit is not required.
- 13. Painting and patching be required by FA vendor or school?**
Touch-up painting services shall be required by the Contractor. See Division 28 30 00, page 88, #16. Include patching as necessary and prime areas before painting.
- 14. Demo to include the conduit, cabling required?**
See Division 28 30 00, page 88, #13. Raceways are defined as existing conduit or wire mold raceways. Old cabling shall be removed also.
- 15. Working hours, Days allowed to work?**
Monday through Friday, hours will vary depending on if the school is Elementary, Middle or High School. Typically, 8-hour days but most locations will have extended

hours due to custodial crews working some evening hours. Contractors cannot work in the schools during State testing times.

- 16. Will elevator and sprinkler vendor be provided?**
See Division 28 30 00, page 88, #19 of the MSCS Design and Construction Guidelines.
- 17. Will Voice notification be required in schools?** Yes
- 18. Pull station covers required in all schools?** No
- 19. Will notification covers be required in Gyms and cafeterias?**
New System shall meet all Code requirements.
- 20. Will prevailing wages be required?** No
- 21. On surface mount devices is conduit or wire mold the preferred raceway?** Conduit
- 22. Will the contractor be provided who is the current fire alarm central station monitoring company along with the account number, passcode, phone number?**
This information can be provided before the project starts.
- 23. Will Shelby County be providing ceiling tile replacement after removing the defective ceiling tiles?**
See Division 28 30 00, page 88, #14 of the MSCS Design and Construction Guidelines.
- 24. Will the new fire alarm control panel be installed next to the existing fire alarm system, or are you wanting to relocate the new fire alarm panel?**
It is preferred that the new fire alarm panel be installed in an area of the Main Office.
- 25. Will fire alarm inspection reports be provided for the existing fire alarm systems?**
Yes, upon request.
- 26. A NICET IV or III has the ability to design a fire alarm project. Is that acceptable instead of a licensed engineer?**
The state requires Design drawings to be prepared and sealed by a Tennessee registered Architect or engineer as required by the State Fire Marshal Office (SFMO).
- 27. Is there a contingency for the devices that we cannot see above ceiling?** No

Thank you,

Procurement Services