

February 16, 2022

Subject: RFP #2000-P: Fayette County Water System Advanced Metering Infrastructure Addendum #3

Gentlemen/Ladies:

Below, please find responses to questions, clarification, or additional information for the above referenced Request for Proposals. You will need to consider this information when preparing your proposal.

1. **General Terms and Conditions #5 Open Offer is deleted and replaced by the following: Companies that submit proposals shall honor the proposed prices until contract is awarded, up to 12 months after the date proposals are opened.**
2. **The original Attachments B, D, G have been removed and replaced with:**
 - Attachment B - AMI System Requirements Rev 1, 02142022.doc (Exhibit 1)
 - Attachment D - Meter Installation Services Rev 1, 02142022.doc (Exhibit 2)
 - Attachment G - Pricing Template Rev 3, 02142022.doc (Exhibit 3)

Responses to submitted questions:

3. We need a list of any available elevated infrastructure that we can use 450-470mhz radio equipment on.
Response: Included in the FC Asset file. This file has been released to all participants.
4. List of Meter locations. If latitudes and longitudes are available, they are preferred. If not then address, city and zip code are desired.
Response: Included in the FCWS Account file. FCWS has only provided addresses. Lat/Long is not available. This file has been released to all participants.
5. A list of any available locations that a telephone pole may be installed.
Response: Included in the FC Asset file. This file has been released to all participants.
6. Any infrastructure height limitations that exist in the coverage area.
Response: There are no rules governing heights of any of our structures. There might be FAA rules for lights on structures that are over 180-190 ft tall. None of FCWS tanks have lights on them.
7. A list of any frequencies that you are currently using.
Response: See attached file which includes frequencies being used by Fayette County. (Exhibit 4)
8. When is completion expected? By the end of 2026?
Response: FCWS has a target completion date of mid 2025 which is in advance of the required completion of the end of 2026.

9. Regarding the requirement in Attachment D ID (3) that the installation contractor shall be a licensed Utility Contractor in GA – Will the County accept a Georgia Unlimited Plumbing Contractor license in lieu of a Utility Contractor license for this project?

Response: FCWS is amending Requirement #3, Attachment D – Meter Installation Services. The Installation Contractor is no longer required to have a State of Georgia Utility Contractor license.

Requirement #3 is amended and states the following:

FCWS prefers the lead responsible person in charge have a Distribution Operator certification. FCWS requires the contractor to have a Master Plumber available for this project to execute service repairs if needed.

See revised Attachment D – Meter Installation Services (Exhibit 2).

10. Will you be testing all meters pulled from the field?

Response: No. Testing of meters described in the RFP is for random sample testing to confirm shipment can be accepted. See response to Question 22.

11. Do you currently have a network in place? Is it a drive-by solution?

Response: FCWS does not have fixed network in place. The residential meters were upgraded to Badger Orion drive by system in 2004. FCWS has about 400 meters with Badger cellular endpoints installed.

12. Would the County be open to installation and service instead of a turn-key solution?

Response: The RFP requires a turnkey AMI solution include meter installation. FCWS is not entertaining separate meter installation bids. Meter installers must partner with an AMI technology provider.

13. Is there any page requirements or limitations?

Response: There is no page limit, but we recommend your proposals be clear, concise, and focused on the specific requirements in the RFP.

14. When was the AMR project completed?

Response: The AMR project was completed in 2004.

15. Should installers get information on installation requirements? Taking time to inventory will be an added cost. Can a line for this labor be added to the price sheet if you want it included?

Response: The RFP includes meter installation requirements in Attachment D and the Pricing template (Attachment G) includes a tab for meter installation pricing.

See revised Attachment D – Meter Installation Services (Exhibit 2).

See revised Attachment G – Pricing Template (Exhibit 3).

16. Is it a straight pipe situation or setter?

Response: Most meters are straight piped, some, very few, setters could be encountered.

17. Will we be required to install a dual check valve on every residence?

Response: A majority of FCWS service locations have existing dual check valves which we are requiring to be replaced. Service locations without dual check valves will require installation.

18. Are the backflows in the pit itself?
Response: A majority of 3/4" and 1" backflows will be located in the same meter box as the meter. 1.5" and 2" meters will have backflows located in a meter box immediately adjacent to the box with the meter. Large diameter backflows will be in vaults with the meters.
19. Will all existing backflows be replaced?
Response: Some dual check valves on more recently installed meters will not need to be replaced. Testable backflows in good working order will not need to be replaced. All small diameter (.75" and 1") dual check valves installed prior to 2018 shall be replaced, approximately 20,500. Small diameter meters (.75" and 1") without dual check valves shall have dual check valves installed, approximately 10,000. Large diameter meters (1.5" - 10") without testable backflow assemblies shall have devices installed. Expected quantity is about 100 large meters. Meters with testable backflows in good working order will not need to be replaced.
20. Do you have a service provider you use or recommend for backflow preventers?
Response: Dual Check Valve – Lead Free – Meter Thread Connection x Female NPT Connection – Domestic Manufacturer Only. The device must meet ANSI/ASSE and AWWA standards. Backflow preventers must be approved by the FCWS. There are a variety of manufacturer brands currently installed throughout the system. The respondent should select a manufacturer and Fayette County Water System staff will assess the proposed manufacturer.
21. The above referenced RFP states that the "Installation contractor shall be a licensed utility contractor within the State of Georgia" does this requirement apply to only the water meter installation or does this also apply to the installation of the AMI network infrastructure? Please provide clarification in an addendum. Typically, this requirement is meant for the water meter installation and the AMI network installation is exempt from the utility contractor requirement.
Response: See response to Question #9.
21. **Instructions to Proposer Item 2.3**
I know you all will be providing an address list for each service. If you all have the latitude and longitude for each service, can that be included as well? That will save a lot of time in regards to geocoding, adjusting addresses that may not have an exact match, and those locations that may not have a complete address.
Response: FCWS does not have lat/long for each service. Address is the only data we can provide.
22. **Background and Summary of Work Item 4 and Attachment B – AMI System Requirements / Section C Water Meters, Meter Box Covers, and Meter Box Equipment / Subsection C1 Water Meters / Item 42**
Do you all have a procedure or scope you want us to follow when it comes to meter testing for shipment acceptance? From my reading it states test a random sample and if more than 3% of the shipment fails FCWS has the right to reject the entire shipment. I wasn't sure if say for example we are testing 1% of meters per shipment based on a random selection by us or FCWS. If less than 3% of that 1% fail FCWS will accept shipment, or if some failure rate is found in the 1% then do we continue testing another 1%? Or for example do we test all meters in the shipment? Or do we test say 5% of the shipment and as long as 3/5 of those don't fail FCWS accepts shipment?

Response: FCWS amends Requirement 42, Attachment B, Section C1. Random sample testing of received meter shipments shall follow these requirements:

- Random sample size is 5% of a shipment
- If 10% or more of the random sample fails, then the Respondent shall randomly select another 5% sample for additional testing.
- If 10% or more meters fails again, then FCWS has the option to reject the entire shipment

See revised Attachment B - AMI System Requirements (Exhibit 1)

23. Attachment D – Meter Installation Services Item 55

Do you all have a procedure or scope you want us to follow in regard to lead and copper survey? Is it just a visual inspection inside the box if available, digging up each side of the box, are we doing a scratch test, are we doing a magnet test, etc.?

Response: The following procedure is required for the lead and copper survey. Before beginning the lead and copper survey, FCWS will review the Respondent's proposed tools used to document findings for the lead and copper survey. FCWS will be using GIS to store the findings of the lead and copper survey. FCWS prefers the use of handhelds with a specific workflow, so surveyors follow these procedures and captures the required data accurately.

1. Visual inspection of inlet and outlet piping of the meter
2. Carefully scratch the pipe on the inlet and outlet side with a key or coin. If the scratch turns a silver color, it could be lead or steel and will be confirmed in step 5.
3. Take photograph after scratch test.
4. Place magnet on the inlet pipe. If the magnet sticks, the pipe is not made of lead. Repeat for the outlet piping.
5. Data collected shall be:
 - a. Premise address
 - b. GPS coordinate (Lat/Long)
 - c. Inlet pipe type to meter (Copper; Copper with lead solder; galvanized iron; plastic; PVC; PEX; other)
 - d. Outlet pipe type from meter (Copper; Copper with lead solder; galvanized iron; plastic; PVC; PEX; other)

24. Attachment D – Meter Installation Services Item 3, 9, 61

There was discussion about having an underground utility license, a water distribution license, and a plumber license in the pre-bid. An attendee was going to provide some information they received back from GEFA in reference to the law about why either one or all of those licenses would not be needed. Can you confirm what is needed and share the information the attendee provided?

Response: See response to Question #9.

25. Will the Utility provide a data file for mapping the proposed services to be performed, prior to bidding?

Including:

- a) All service addresses
- b) Route Numbers
- c) Read Sequence Number
- d) Meter size
- e) Old meter number

- f) Old radio ID
- g) Old GPS Coordinates (if applicable)
- h) Existing location notes or comments describing difficult to locate meters

Response: Respondents have been provided information of the service locations, meter size counts and type of services. Specific meter information, will be provided to the vendor awarded the bid.

26. Will the Utility take responsibility for storage of all new materials?

Response: No FCWS does not have the storage capacity for new materials.

27. Will Utility take responsibility for all disposal of all project waste?

Response: No, the Respondent needs to take care of the disposal of all project waste. See responses below.

28. Please answer yes or no to the following questions regarding project waste disposal:

- a) Salvageable material (meters, metal lids, etc.)? No
- b) Recyclable material (packaging, cardboard, plastic, etc.)? No
- c) Spoils (dirt, trash, debris, etc.)? No
- d) Hazardous waste (legacy endpoints/batteries)? No

29. Are the services in contiguous complete routes?

Response: Yes

30. Will the Utility assist in locating difficult to locate meters?

Response: Yes.

31. What percentage of services are Residential, Irrigation, Commercial, and Industrial?

Response: Residential - 94%, Non-Residential - 4%, Industrial - 0.70% and Irrigation - 1.30%. See file "2022.02.08 Service Type Percentages.XLS" (Exhibit 5)

32. Number or percentage of meters in the following locations?

Response: All meters are outdoors. Most are on the road R/O/W in front of the property. See responses below:

- a) Indoors - 0
- b) Curb and gutter - 0
- c) Front yards - >95%
- d) Backyards - <0.10%
- e) Behind locked gates - <0.10%
- f) Alleyways - 1%
- g) Driveways - <0.10%
- h) Roadways - 0
- i) Rural Areas - >95%
- j) Confined spaces: Please provide the location and quantities of the confined spaces - <1%
- k) Hazardous areas, please describe the potentially hazardous conditions, quantities, and locations - 0

33. Will any portion of the project require traffic control? Please describe potential traffic control conditions and permit requirements.

Response: No

34. How many services are in hardscapes (concrete, asphalt, etc.,)?
Response: Less than 1% of the services
35. It is expected that a small amount of dirt/debris will be removed with typical meter replacement. Is it anticipated that meter boxes will require substantially cleaning (dirt higher than bottom of register)? What percentage?
Response: Respondent should anticipate 90% of the meter boxes will require cleaning.
36. What is the typical depth (in inches) to the top of the meter register?
Response: Typical 12" – 14"
37. What type of shut off valve is used, angle-stops or curb-stops?
Response: Curb stops.
38. Since lids are being replaced, are specific lid sizes known for each service location?
Response: See Attachment G - Pricing Template, Installation Services tab items 7, 8, 9, 10 for quantities by lid size (Exhibit 3).
39. Is it anticipated that meter boxes will have to be replaced? If so:
a) What is the percentage?
b) What is the determining factor for a replacement?
c) Is the decision for replacement based on a pre-installation audit?
d) Will the replacement boxes be the same size as the old boxes?
e) What is the quantity of each size?
Response: Probability < 3%. See Attachment G - Pricing Template Installation Services tab Section 2 for estimated quantities by meter box size (Exhibit 3).
40. What is the material of the existing meter boxes? Are the meter boxes tapered, straight-sided, corrugated or a mix?
Response: Plastic, mostly tapered. Some oval metal boxes, <3% with straight sides.
41. If a customer side water line breaks during installation due to deteriorating line or infrastructure (old, galvanized pipe), who is responsible for repairs?
Response: FCWS expects Respondent to have a licensed plumber available to perform service repairs that are encountered during the project. The details about the service repair process will be developed in the mobilization and installation planning stages of the project. FCWS anticipates establishing a threshold that Respondents can proceed with the repairs. For larger repair efforts, an estimate and approval process will be required.
42. What will the process be if the service is too high and the new endpoint radio will not fit under the lid?
Response: Endpoint may need to be placed offset in lid.
43. Provide percentages of piping materials are found on the service side, within the service system.
Response below:
a. Copper: >90%
b. Galvanized: <1%
c. Poly: <1%
d. CTS: <1%

- e. PVC: <0.05%
- f. Other: %

44. Was there a system audit performed during the development of the RFP (meter type, meter size, meter manufacturer, quantity, box condition, lid condition, dirt/debris condition, etc.)?

- a. What was the audit outline, and will the results be shared?
- b. What entity performed the system audit?

Response: No such audit was performed.

45. During installation services, will there be a third-party auditor performing QA/QC for the project owner? If yes, what entity will be performing the QA/QC services?

Response: FCWS has not made a decision to contract a third-party auditor to perform QA/QC at this time.

46. Will the county provide standard drawings and specifications of shutoff valves and check valves?

Response: FCWS will provide standard drawings and specifications for shutoff valves and check valves. See "Drawing W-002_20 short service AMI.pdf" (Exhibit 6).

47. Service Line Material Identification

- a. Can all service and customer lines be accessed within the meter box? No, not all.
- b. If the lines cannot be accessed within the meter box does the Board anticipate the installation contractor to remove the meter box or dig outside of the box? Either or
- c. If boxes need to be pulled, a pricing line item should be added for pulling the box? Replacement of meter box should include the cost to pull the old meter box. The pricing template has a line item for replacement meter box by size.
- d. What are the makes, models, and sizes of the boxes to be pulled? Various makes and models. Sizes, generally, standard water meter box. Some oval cast iron boxes.
- e. What are the expectations for meter boxes in located hardscape? Minimal number of meter boxes in hardscape, expectations on case by case basis.

48. Will Utility staff shut down service line lateral in street?

Response: Yes. Shutdowns can be done if necessary, on case by case basis.

49. Are all service line laterals restrained?

Response: As a general rule, yes.

50. It was clarified in the Pre-Bid meeting and is already stated in the RFP that new check valves are to be replaced on EVERY residential service as noted in Attachment B - AMI System Requirements Item (56) Can Fayette County provide the check valve specification they would prefer for this project? (There is none specified in RFP)

Response: See response to Question 17

51. Table 2: Proposal Format & Technical Proposal Forms: Concerning the Technical Proposal Forms, the RFP states, "If your proposed solution does not meet the requirement, explain if there are any alternatives or provide a reason why the requirement is not necessary." Do we need to re-list each of these instances as exceptions in the Exceptions document in County Procurement Forms / Other Required Documents?

Response: No. Use the Exceptions Form to itemize contract/legal exceptions. If you have exceptions to a requirement, please note this in the Compliance Description column in each of the requirement's attachments.

52. Regarding Attachment B - AMI System Requirements Item - Water Meters, Meter Box Covers, and Meter Box Equipment Questions (Q3) Would Fayette County be willing to purchase said retrofit register(s) from the Badger Vendor in that Fayette County would receive a better price from Badger Vendor. We would then install these on the proposed retrofit locations unless the material and labor cost associated with retrofit register proves to be as much or more than a complete meter replacement.

Response: FCWS requires retrofit registers to be provided under this turn-key contract.

53. Regarding the RFP due date. The RFP was released on 1/19/2022 Solicitation date, vendors did not receive the meter data address file until Feb 3, 2022. A duration of 19 days was encumbered where vendors were unable to begin the propagation study. This leaves only 34 calendar days / 23 business days to complete a successful propagation study. We request the RFP submittal date be extended to Tuesday March 29, 2022.

Response: The proposal submission due date and time are extended to March 16, 2022, at 3 PM EST.

54. The RFP requires the Water Meter Replacement contractor supervisors to be State Certificate License for Water Distribution Operator Attachment D - Meter Installation Services Item (9). This State of Georgia License pertains to Water and Wastewater treatment plant operators and laboratory analysts. Please refer to the following Rules and Regulations and certification exam requirements below. Therefore, we are requesting that this requirement be removed from the RFP.

a. <http://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/750>

b. <https://www.gwwi.org/distribution-systems-operator-certification>

Attachment D - Meter Installation Services Page 64 item 3 Installation contractor shall be a licensed utility contractor with the State of Georgia. While the State of Georgia law is vague as it pertains to the State license requirement on work performed at the Utility Water Meter and Water Meter Box connections. Title 43 which regards such work in a water meter box TITLE 43. PROFESSIONS AND BUSINESSES CHAPTER 14. ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS, PLUMBERS, CONDITIONED AIR CONTRACTORS, LOW-VOLTAGE CONTRACTORS, AND UTILITY CONTRACTORS § 43-14-13. C. to the installation, alteration, or repair of plumbing not applicable for State License. My professional experience on water meter replacement projects under GEFA and other funding sources has been that the Owner nor Funding Agency has required Water Meter Contractors to carry a UL License. Rather the Owner and Funding Agency has based the approval of said contractor in regard to experience and qualifications.

Response: See response to Question #9.

55. Regarding Meter Lids existing and proposed. C.2 Meter Box Covers and Meter Boxes item (1) page 39 of pdf. Meter pit covers shall be non-metallic and constructed of high impact, no break approved polymer or composite. Proposed lid shall be approved by AMI vendor. Specify the covers proposed (brand, make, model, etc.). If said metallic or cast-iron meter box lid is in a non-pedestrian area can the AMI Vendor drill a hole in lid to receive the new AMI Transmitter therefore utilizing the existing meter box lid if in fact it is in good working order and not broken?

Response: FCWS prefers non-metallic lids. FCWS is open to consider all alternatives. Please propose the cost for material and labor for the replacement with non-metallic lids and the labor cost for drilling metallic lids. The AMI vendor must certify that the metal lid drilled will not encumber the radio transmissions reducing the performance of the

network and the AMI vendor shall certify that the battery life of the MIUs are not shortened due to a metallic lid.

56. Can you further explain the 2:1 redundancy requirement? Redundancy: Two (2) Collectors per meter (2:1 redundancy) over thirty-five (35) days (+/-10%) for 100% of the endpoints.
Response: Between 90-100% of the endpoints must show an average 2:1 redundancy during a 35-day period.

57. During the Pre-Bid it was mentioned a few times by Janice Lusco, Arcadis that "Fayette County is not locked into a Cellular only AMI System. If your AMI network is RF Based then please include within your RFP." (paraphrased) However the RFP includes only a Cellular bid line items for a response. Where do we include a price for RF Endpoints?
Response: See Attachment G - Pricing Template - Meters tab (Exhibit 3). There is a cell to include pricing for MIU for each meter line item in the table.

58. Can we consider these properties as possible AMI System properties to install a new monopole if needed within our Sensus AMI Network design?

Fire Station Property	Fire Station #1	450 GA-279, Fayetteville, GA 30214
Fire Station Property	Fire Station #2	1330 Hwy 92, Fayetteville, GA 30214
Fire Station Property	Fire Station #3	420 Jenkins Rd, Tyrone, GA 30290
Fire Station Property	Fire Station #5	1790 GA-85, Fayetteville, GA 30215
Fire Station Property	Fire Station #6	903 Hwy 85 Connector, Brooks, GA 30205
Fire Station Property	Fire Station #7	220 Hampton Rd, Fayetteville, GA 30215
Fire Station Property	Fire Station #10	195 Seay Rd, Fayetteville, GA 30215
Fire Station Property	Fire Station #11	212 Flat Creek Trail, Fayetteville, GA 30214

Response: FCWS does not want to consider the fire station locations as possible locations for network equipment at this time. All other possible locations provided must be

considered first. Generally, Fayette County is not favorable to the installation of NEW monopolies.

59. Can you provide attachments A and F in excel format?

Response: Attachment A and F are only available in Word format. The only file in Excel format in the Solicitation is the pricing template.

60. We understand that ARPA funding is being used, and would the County please confirm if the ARPA funding will be provided through the EPA?

Response: The ARPA funding is not coming through the EPA. The ARPA money is coming from the U.S. Treasury Department.

61. Will Fayette County require submeter or subfoot GPS coordinates?

Response: Yes, submeter or subfoot is the required GPS accuracy. If the Respondent would like to present an option, please provide pricing options for submeter GPS capture and an option for less accurate GPS coordinate capture. The Pricing template (Attachment G) has been updated to include a line for optional pricing for less accurate GPS accuracy.

See Attachment G - Pricing Template Rev 3, 02142022.doc (Exhibit 3)

62. During installation of 500-meter pilot, can the installer go ahead gps all meter locations. If yes, can the collection of gps coordinates be its own line item for payment?

Response: Yes, we will accept pricing itemized for GPS location capture. Please provide pricing options for submeter GPS capture and an option for less accurate GPS coordinate capture. Pricing template Attachment G, Installation Services tab has been updated to include this itemized line item.

See Attachment G - Pricing Template Rev 3, 02142022.doc (Exhibit 3)

63. Please clarify how many meters have setters and how many meters will require setter installation.

Response: Use of meter setters has not been a common practice throughout FCWS, however a very minimal number may be encountered. Less than 0.50% of meter will have resetters or retrosetters.

64. Please clarify the types of connectors that are on the meter registers that are being identified as needing to be retrofitted.

Response: FCWS requires retrofitted meters to have new registers replaced with the installation of the endpoint so that all meters will have Nicor or equivalent connectors. The register and meter body shall be of the same manufacturer and be provided under this turn-key project.

65. Page 61, item C, "meter service line repairs as authorized ". Can this be separated by line size, and how do we handle existing service line issues? (Example, broken curb stop identified when installer first visits meter)

Response: In a revision to Attachment G - Pricing Template, FCWS has added a line item in Section 2 for Respondents to provide a Time and Materials rate for service-related work not already covered in the Section 2 list.

See Attachment G - Pricing Template Rev 3, 02142022.doc (Exhibit 3)

66. How many meters must be tested per batch before FCWS takes ownership? Are we only testing 3/4 and 1" meters?

Response: FCWS requires random testing for all meters - small or large. The random sample testing procedure detailed question #22 applies.

Received by (Name): _____ Company _____

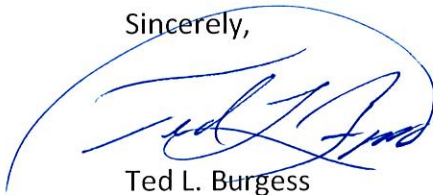
Note: If this addendum is not returned to the Fayette County Purchasing Department or if it is returned not signed, responding individuals, companies or other organizations will still be responsible for the requirements of this addendum and the specifications or changes herein.

The opening date for this RFP has changed. **The opening time and date are 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 16, 2022.** Proposals must be received by the Purchasing Department at the address above, Suite 204, at or before the opening date and time.

Questions regarding this solicitation are no longer being accepted due to the question/answer period has expired. We will not be able to respond to any inquiries about this project.

If you have questions, please contact Natasha Duggan, Contract Administrator at (770) 305-5150, fax (770) 719-5534 or email at nduggan@fayettecountyga.gov.

Sincerely,



Ted L. Burgess
Director of Purchasing