



City of Tacoma

Questions and Answers

On-Call Telecommunications System Outside Plant Construction and Maintenance RFB Specification No. PT24-0296F

All interested parties had the opportunity to submit questions in writing by email to Aaron Bratton, Buyer by date questions were due. 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 / Public Works and Improvements Solicitations](#), 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.

- 1. Question: Approximately, what % of aerial work will occur in the Supply Space?**
Answer: No work is expected in the supply space. If this type of work is required to complete a project, it will generally be in the neutral space.
- 2. Question: Is any Emergency Call Outs/Work included in the maintenance contract scope?**
Answer: Yes, please see Addendum #1 for the updated proposal sheets and information. Addendum #1 is expected to be released no later than Tuesday, April 1st. Please register on the Plan Holder List for this solicitation to be automatically notified when it is posted.
- 3. Question: Will Tacoma Power provide any Traffic Control Plans with the work packets? It appears not, but wanted to confirm all TCPs are the responsibility of the contractor.**
Answer: That is correct, all TCPs are the responsibility of the contractor and are expected to be worked on when the work packets are given so that any issues can be discussed prior to work starting,
- 4. Question: Will all of the aerial work be strand and lash or overlash, or will there be self-support work too?**
Answer: Yes, all of the above. Self-support rarely happens under this contract.
- 5. Question: Is there a minimum amount of work or # of work packets that will be released at a time?**
Answer: This is job-based. If more than one work packet is assigned at the same time, TPU will work with the contractor on priority of work to be done and timing needed to complete jobs if contractor can only do one job at a time.
- 6. Question: The contractor will provide all materials except for coax, fiber cable, and vaults, correct?**
Answer: Yes
- 7. Question: Is the work performed for Tacoma Power or other entities that have interest in the fiber network?**
Answer: The work is for Tacoma Power's needs only.
- 8. Question: Does Lightcurve take care of any issues related to commercial or residential cable modem business?**



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Answer: That is all Lightcurves business. Tacoma Power is out of the broadband cable business. We maintain the actual physical infrastructure and they operate the commercial side.

9. Question: What about the school and City government usage?

Answer: If any are active, those are now Lightcurves customers. We only give pathways – we do not do service.

10. Question: What does the acronym LID mean?

Answer: Local improvement district – any type of sidewalk improvement, road widenings or anything causes us to have to move the network system to get it out of the way. That is handled by Tacoma Power and part of the scope of this contract.

11. Question: Is there a specified wage rate and is there a requirement for it to be a Union shop?

Answer: In reviewing job classification on L&I, it is our recommendation these most closely match our scope of work: Outside Telephone Line Construction, Telephone Equipment Operator (Heavy or Light depending on project) and Hole Digger/Ground Person. Vendors are encouraged to speak directly with L&I if there are questions about this recommendation. There is no requirement that a shop is a Union shop to bid for this contract.

12. Question: Is there a minimum call-out response time?

Answer: There is language in the Special Provisions about normal assigned work having a five business day turnaround. Our team will work on specific language for emergency response, to be included in Addendum #1. In all instances, our team is flexible if the vendor is responsive and clear in their communications.

13. Question: Is there any Engineering permitting work needed? Will there be any interior cabling work?

Answer: For interior work, there may be a time when a fiber needs to go inside a building for a longer length than “normal” but we are not in the interior work business – that is Lightcurves. Please refer to Section 2.02 – this is the entire scope of possible work being requested under this contract. For permitting, please refer to Section 3.03.