WHATCOM COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM PUBLIC EV CHARGING STATIONS QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ADDENDUM #1

- Can a Non-Union electrical shop bid this project as a General?? The Contract between WCLS and the General, looks to need a union signature? We are a member of the approved Dept. of L&I CITC, who provides us our apprentices for our projects, though we are a nonunion shop.
 - An updated and signed PLA will be added via addendum soon. Please note that the updated PLA has some significant changes that will affect the contractors' bids. The general contractor must sign a letter of assent to the PLA as will all sub contractors. Non-Union electrical shops may bid on this project as a general contractor. The PLA does not obligate an employer or any other contractor/subcontractor from signing a union agreement, nor does it obligate any worker from becoming a union employee or paying dues. The contractor does agree to deduct union dues or dues equivalent for any worker who voluntarily authorizes such deductions to the Union or Council. The contractor is not signatory to the PLA however the contractor must sign a letter of assent agreeing to the stipulations of the PLA. Contractors shall make contributions in the amounts designated in the appropriate prevailing wage determination for fringe benefit contributions to each of the applicable Schedule A Funds and will make all worker-authorized deductions in the amounts designated. Such contributions shall be made in compliance with the applicable prevailing wage determination and shall be due and payable on the due date contained in the applicable Schedule A. Payment of cash in lieu of contributions shall not be permitted.
 - Please note: the updated PLA stipulates that the contractor may designate three (3) Journey level core workers (employees of nonunion shops) to be used in conjunction with union workers dispatched from a union hall on an alternating basis. The core workers of the contractor/subcontractor must be requested by name from the union hall by the contractor and dispatched by the hall. The PLA states that journey level core workers must have the following qualifications:
 - **1.** Possess any license required by State or Federal law for the project work to be performed.
 - Have worked a total of at least one thousand two hundred (1,200) hours in the construction craft over the last two (2) year period from the date of dispatch to the Covered Project.

- **3.** Were on the contractor's active payroll for at least sixty (60) out of the one hundred twenty (120) calendar days prior to the contract execution.
- **4.** Have the ability to perform safely the basic functions of the applicable trade.
- 5. Contractors and subcontractors within their first three years of business can exempt their Core Workers from the minimum hours and active payroll requirements as described in 1 & 2. Such Contractors or Subcontractors shall not have performed the project contracted scope of work under any name or under a past or related license in Washington or any other State.
- The lowest bidding responsible contractor will be required to attend a Pre-job conference with the Unions, the Council and all other employers (sub-contractors) prior to commencing the work. Prior to this meeting, the contractor will notify the Unions and the Council of all other employers (sub-contractors) hired to perform the work. The group of employers will submit final trade assignments to the Unions and Council at the pre-job conference.
- Per the PLA, apprentices must be in an apprenticeship program approved by the Washington State Apprenticeship Training Council (WSATC), (certified by Washington State). Accordingly, it is WCLS' understanding that the contractor and their sub-contractors may use their own apprentices. The contractor/subcontractor must sign a Letter of Affirmation confirming that: 1) the Employer participates in an Apprenticeship Program certified by the State of Washington, 2) the Employer will accept female apprentices, apprentices of color and military veteran apprentices prior to commencing work on the Project; and 3) the Employer will report to the Council the number of such apprentices and the hours worked by each apprentice on the Project. The Unions shall assist Employers in locating and supplying apprenticeship labor in each craft who will participate in training and on the job opportunities to increase the skills of the workforce in the local area. WCLS believes that the contractor and all subcontractors may use their own apprentices to meet the 25% apprenticeship utilization requirements for this project.
- I see that there is a donation of \$5000 to the Center for Military Recruitment, Assessment and Veterans Employment Helmet to Hardhats program?? Can you explain a bit about this, I have never seen on a bid proposal requirement that a donation is required?
 - WCLS agreed to use Washington State's Department of Commerce
 Project Labor Agreement template as a starting point for creating the
 project PLA. This PLA had language covering a donation to the
 program. The associated Building Trades Council and Unions were
 vocal in their support for this program. All costs for this project
 should be included in each contractor's bid.

- 3. Are bollards required in this project? None were in the design drawings.
 - No, relocation of wheel stops as shown in the Engineer's drawings shall be sufficient to protect the EV Charging stations.
- 4. Will the contractor be repairing any striping in the project.

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- The contractor will be responsible for repairing any striping in the project.
- 5. I do not see a bid form.
 - Bid form has been attached to the updated RFP.
- 6. Are we supposed to put the bid on our letterhead, along with exhibit A and B?
 - Please use the bid form in the updated RFP.
- 7. Also, it says the bid opening will be by TEAMS, at 5 pm? Will you send us a link?
 - We're extending the RFP due date to April 7th at 5PM. Bid Opening will be April 8th at 11AM. A Microsoft Teams meeting link will be emailed to all bidders.