



# CITY OF SUFFOLK

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## ADDENDUM NO. 1

City of Suffolk  
RFP #19115-JS  
June 19, 2019

Purchasing Division  
442 Market Street, Room 1086  
Suffolk, VA 23434-5237  
Phone: (757) 514-7520 / Fax: (757) 514-7524  
<http://www.suffolkva.us/purchasing>

The Request for Proposal (RFP) for Internet Service Providers for Unserved Areas has been amended.

The following questions and answers are incorporated in the RFP:

Q1: What if any vertical assets are owned by the City?

A1: The City owns 5 towers ranging in height from 330 ft to 420 ft. See map that is provided as an attachment to the RFP.

Q2: What are the names of these assets, and can the City provide us a KMZ files of where these assets are located?

A2: The names of the towers are Hunter, Pruden, Driver, Whaleyville and Downtown.

Q3: How many vertical assets are owned by the city, and how many are private?

A3: See above. Regarding private assets, we are unsure, but understand that information is available to industry. All sites involved would most likely be City owned assets.

Q4: Does the city intend on providing any funds for the project as far as the cost of deploying for a network.

A4: Perhaps. That will be negotiated with the selected vendor.

Q5: Does the City have any existing contracts with any broadband providers.

A5: The city's cable franchisee is Spectrum/Charter Communications. They offer cable and broadband to their customers. They do not cover the entire city. The City is working to determine exactly where Spectrum provides service and where they

don't. This is a high priority for the City as we understand the limitations on where VATI grant money can be spent and where it can't. We will work closely with the selected vendor on this issue.

**Q6:** How many schools, fire station, and city buildings exist?

**A6:** This number is unavailable, but all of these buildings are currently serviced with broadband either owned by the school system, private sector or the city.

**Q7:** Is there any broadband connections to any of these facilities, and would the selected provider be granted access from these places.

**A7:** See above. There is a possibility that city or school system owned fiber could be used for back haul or middle-mile broadband.

**Q8:** Is the City going to help the selected ISP with pole attachment that may be necessary?

**A8:** Undetermined. A structural analysis would have to be performed prior to any pole attachment. The City cannot commit at this time.

**Q9:** Are there any farmers that have to be served?

**A9:** Yes

**Q10:** Would it be necessary to sign an contract with the provider, and if so for how long. If not, would the City be ready to sign one with the provider?

**A10:** Yes. A contract between the city and provider needs to be signed. This would not happen until the VATI grant application is ready for submission to the Commonwealth. The duration is negotiable.

**Q11:** Where are the unserved and underserved areas in the city?

**A11:** Mainly in the rural areas of the City which exist to the South and West of downtown. Northern Suffolk is already served.

**Q12:** Does the City wish to have a smart City.

**A12:** Yes.

**Q13:** Does the city have a GIS department.

**A13:** Yes

**Q14:** What is the time-line to signing agreements with the selected company?

**A14:** We will select a preferred vendor in early July. The VATI grant application must be submitted by September 3<sup>rd</sup>. Once the grant application is close to finished we anticipate signing an agreement then.

Q15: Besides wanting to have the underserved and not served have broadband services, is/are they any other objectives or challenges to be solved.

A15: Yes. Competitive prices for the people and businesses of Suffolk.

Q16: What is the City's IoT plans?

A17: Undetermined at this time.

Q17: What is the plan if the City is not successful in requesting VATI grants.

A17: Submit another VATI grant application next year based on lessons learned from this submission.

Q18: Are there any plans to apply to the USDA for funds.

A18: No.

Q19: Is there any possibility that the City would extend the due date.

A19: Due to the time restraints, the City does not anticipate extending the due date. The City does do not believe that we have asked for anything too difficult to create. This would not be a finished, ready-to-implementable plan. That will be negotiated and developed with the selected vendor.

Q20: Does the city have an emergency notification plan or system in place. If not is this something that would be desirable?

A20: Yes, the City is in the process of implementing Everbridge and Alertis. Completion will be on or before 7/31/2019.

Q21: Who is the current provider to those areas that are served.

A21: Spectrum/Charter Communications.

Q22: Is there a dollar amount we are going for? Or an estimate of how much is anticipated in grants?

A22: The City anticipates a grant of not less than \$500,000.

Q23: What is the number of households or persons to be served?

A23: Approximately 5000 households and 300 properties that are zoned commercial.

Attachment

All other information remains unchanged.

**Contract Officer:** \_\_\_\_\_

Jay Smigielski, Purchasing Agent.



If you have any questions regarding this Addendum, please contact Jay Smigielski, Purchasing Agent at [jsmigielski@suffolkva.us](mailto:jsmigielski@suffolkva.us)

It is the responsibility of the offeror to ensure that they have read and met the specifications of all addendums in their proposal.