

## Instructions to Bidders

Each Bid Proposal submitted to the **City of Pittsburg (“City”)** for its **City Council Chambers Upgrade Project, Contract 2021-24** (“Project”) must be submitted in accordance with the following instructions and requirements:

### 1. Bid Submission.

- 1.1 General.** Each Bid Proposal must be signed, sealed and submitted to City, using the form provided in the Contract Documents, by or before the date and time set forth in Section 1 of the Notice Inviting Bids, or as amended by subsequent addendum. Faxed or emailed Bid Proposals will not be accepted, unless otherwise specified. Late submissions will be returned unopened. City reserves the right to postpone the date or time for receiving or opening bids. Each bidder is solely responsible for all of its costs to prepare and submit its bid and by submitting a bid waives any right to recover those costs from City. The bid price(s) must include all costs to perform the Work as specified, including all labor, material, supplies, and equipment and all other direct or indirect costs such as applicable taxes, insurance and overhead.
- 1.2 Bid Envelope.** The envelope containing the sealed Bid Proposal and all required forms and attachments must be clearly labeled and addressed as follows:

**BID PROPOSAL:**

City Council Chambers Upgrade Project  
Contract No. 2021-24

City Clerk  
City of Pittsburg  
65 Civic Avenue  
Pittsburg, CA 94565

The envelope must also be clearly labeled, as follows, with the bidder’s name, address, and its registration number with the California Department of Industrial Relations (“DIR”) for bidding on public works contracts (Labor Code §§ 1725.5 and 1771.1):

*[Contractor company name]*  
*[street address]*  
*[city, state, zip code]*  
DIR Registration No: \_\_\_\_\_

- 1.3 DIR Registration.** Subject to limited legal exceptions for joint venture bids and federally-funded projects, City may not accept a Bid Proposal from a bidder without proof that the bidder is registered with the DIR to perform public work under Labor Code § 1725.5. If City is unable to confirm that the bidder is currently registered with the DIR, City may disqualify the bidder and return its bid unopened. (Labor Code §§ 1725.5 and 1771.1(a).)
- 2. Bid Proposal Form and Enclosures.** Each Bid Proposal must be completed in ink using the Bid Proposal form included with the Contract Documents. The Bid Proposal form must be fully completed without interlineations, alterations, or erasures. Any necessary corrections must be clear and legible, and must be initialed by the bidder’s authorized representative. A Bid Proposal submitted with exceptions or terms such as “negotiable,” “will negotiate,” or similar, will be considered nonresponsive. Each Bid Proposal must be

accompanied by bid security, as set forth in Section 4 below, and by a completed Subcontractor List and Non-Collusion Declaration using the forms included with the Contract Documents, and any other required enclosures, as applicable.

- 3. Authorization and Execution.** Each Bid Proposal must be signed by the bidder's authorized representative. A Bid Proposal submitted by a partnership must be signed in the partnership name by a general partner with authority to bind the partnership. A Bid Proposal submitted by a corporation must be signed with the legal name of the corporation, followed by the signature and title of two officers of the corporation with full authority to bind the corporation to the terms of the Bid Proposal, under California Corporations Code § 313.
- 4. Bid Security.** Each Bid Proposal must be accompanied by bid security of ten percent of the maximum bid amount, in the form of a cashier's check or certified check, made payable to the City, or bid bond using the form included in the Contract Documents and executed by a surety licensed to do business in the State of California. The bid security must guarantee that, within ten days after issuance of the Notice of Potential Award, the bidder will: execute and submit the enclosed Contract for the bid price; submit payment and performance bonds for 100% of the maximum Contract Price; and submit the insurance certificates and endorsements and any other submittals, if any, required by the Contract Documents or the Notice of Potential Award. A Bid Proposal may not be withdrawn for a period of 60 days after the bid opening without forfeiture of the bid security, except as authorized for material error under Public Contract Code § 5100 et seq.
- 5. Requests for Information.** Questions or requests for clarifications regarding the Project, the bid procedures, or any of the Contract Documents must be submitted in writing to [2021-24BidInfo@pittsburgca.gov](mailto:2021-24BidInfo@pittsburgca.gov). Oral responses are not authorized and are not binding on the City. Bidders should submit any such written inquiries at least five Working Days before the scheduled bid opening. Questions received any later might not be addressed before the bid deadline. An interpretation or clarification by City in response to a written inquiry will be issued in an addendum.
- 6. Pre-Bid Investigation.**

  - 6.1 General.** Each bidder is solely responsible at its sole expense for diligent and thorough review of the Contract Documents, examination of the Project site, and reasonable and prudent inquiry concerning known and potential site and area conditions prior to submitting a Bid Proposal. Each bidder is responsible for knowledge of conditions and requirements which reasonable review and investigation would have disclosed. However, except for any areas that are open to the public at large, bidders may not enter property owned or leased by the City or the Project site without prior written authorization from City.
  - 6.2 Document Review.** Each bidder is responsible for review of the Contract Documents and any informational documents provided "For Reference Only," e.g., as-builts, technical reports, test data, and the like. A bidder is responsible for notifying City of any errors, omissions, inconsistencies, or conflicts it discovers in the Contract Documents, acting solely in its capacity as a contractor and subject to the limitations of Public Contract Code § 1104. Notification of any such errors, omissions, inconsistencies, or conflicts must be submitted in writing to the City no later than five Working Days before the scheduled bid opening. (See Section 5, above.) City expressly disclaims responsibility for assumptions a bidder might draw from the presence or absence of information provided by City.
  - 6.3 Project Site.** Questions regarding the availability of soil test data, water table elevations, and the like should be submitted to the City in writing, as specified in

Section 5, above. Any subsurface exploration at the Project site must be done at the bidder's expense, but only with prior written authorization from City. All soil data and analyses available for inspection or provided in the Contract Documents apply only to the test hole locations. Any water table elevation indicated by a soil test report existed on the date the test hole was drilled. The bidder is responsible for determining and allowing for any differing soil or water table conditions during construction. Because groundwater levels may fluctuate, difference(s) in elevation between ground water shown in soil boring logs and ground water actually encountered during Project construction will not be considered changed Project site conditions. Actual locations and depths must be determined by bidder's field investigation. The bidder may request access to underlying or background information on the Project site in City's possession that is necessary for the bidder to form its own conclusions, including, if available, record drawings or other documents indicating the location of subsurface lines, utilities, or other structures.

**6.4 Utility Company Standards.** The Project must be completed in a manner that satisfies the standards and requirements of any affected utility companies or agencies (collectively, "utility owners"). The successful bidder may be required by the third party utility owners to provide detailed plans prepared by a California registered civil engineer showing the necessary temporary support of the utilities during coordinated construction work. Bidders are directed to contact the affected third party utility owners about their requirements before submitting a Bid Proposal.

**7. Bidders Interested in More Than One Bid.** No person, firm, or corporation may submit or be a party to more than one Bid Proposal unless alternate bids are specifically called for. However, a person, firm, or corporation that has submitted a subcontract proposal or quote to a bidder may submit subcontract proposals or quotes to other bidders.

**8. Addenda.** Any addenda issued prior to the bid opening are part of the Contract Documents. Subject to the limitations of Public Contract Code § 4104.5, City reserves the right to issue addenda prior to bid time. Each bidder is solely responsible for ensuring it has received and reviewed all addenda prior to submitting its bid. Bidders should check City's website periodically for any addenda or updates on the Project at: <http://www.pittsburgca.gov>.

**9. Brand Designations and "Or Equal" Substitutions.** Any specification designating a material, product, thing, or service by specific brand or trade name, followed by the words "or equal," is intended only to indicate quality and type of item desired, and bidders may request use of any equal material, product, thing, or service. All data substantiating the proposed substitute as an equal item must be submitted with the written request for substitution. A request for substitution must be submitted within 35 days after Notice of Potential Award unless otherwise provided in the Contract Documents. This provision does not apply to materials, products, things, or services that may lawfully be designated by a specific brand or trade name under Public Contract Code § 3400(c).

**10. Bid Protest.** Any bid protest against another bidder must be submitted in writing and received by the City at City of Pittsburg, 65 Civic Avenue, Pittsburg California, 94565, Attn: City Clerk, before 5:00 p.m. no later than two Working Days following bid opening ("Bid Protest Deadline") and must comply with the following requirements:

**10.1 General.** Only a bidder who has actually submitted a Bid Proposal is eligible to submit a bid protest against another bidder. Subcontractors are not eligible to submit bid protests. A bidder may not rely on the bid protest submitted by another bidder, but must timely pursue its own protest. If required by City, the protesting bidder must submit a non-refundable fee in the amount specified by City, based

upon City's reasonable costs to administer the bid protest. Any such fee must be submitted to City no later than the Bid Protest Deadline, unless otherwise specified. For purposes of this Section 10, a "Working Day" means a day that City is open for normal business, and excludes weekends and holidays observed by City. Pursuant to Public Contract Code § 4104, inadvertent omission of a Subcontractor's DIR registration number on the Subcontractor List form is not grounds for a bid protest, provided it is corrected within 24 hours of the bid opening or as otherwise provided under Labor Code § 1771.1(b).

- 10.2 Protest Contents.** The bid protest must contain a complete statement of the basis for the protest and must include all supporting documentation. Material submitted after the Bid Protest Deadline will not be considered. The protest must refer to the *specific* portion or portions of the Contract Documents upon which the protest is based. The protest must include the name, address, email address, and telephone number of the protesting bidder and any person submitting the protest on behalf of or as an authorized representative of the protesting bidder.
  - 10.3 Copy to Protested Bidder.** Upon submission of its bid protest to City, the protesting bidder must also concurrently transmit the protest and all supporting documents to the protested bidder, and to any other bidder who has a reasonable prospect of receiving an award depending upon the outcome of the protest, by email or hand delivery to ensure delivery before the Bid Protest Deadline.
  - 10.4 Response to Protest.** The protested bidder may submit a written response to the protest, provided the response is received by City before 5:00 p.m., within two Working Days after the Bid Protest Deadline or after actual receipt of the bid protest, whichever is sooner (the "Response Deadline"). The response must attach all supporting documentation. Material submitted after the Response Deadline will not be considered. The response must include the name, address, email address, and telephone number of the person responding on behalf of or representing the protested bidder if different from the protested bidder.
  - 10.5 Copy to Protesting Bidder.** Upon submission of its response to the bid protest to the City, the protested bidder must also concurrently transmit by email or hand delivery, by or before the Response Deadline, a copy of its response and all supporting documents to the protesting bidder and to any other bidder who has a reasonable prospect of receiving an award depending upon the outcome of the protest.
  - 10.6 Exclusive Remedy.** The procedure and time limits set forth in this Section are mandatory and are the bidder's sole and exclusive remedy in the event of a bid protest. A bidder's failure to comply with these procedures will constitute a waiver of any right to further pursue a bid protest, including filing a Government Code Claim or initiation of legal proceedings.
  - 10.7 Right to Award.** City reserves the right, acting in its sole discretion, to reject any bid protest that it determines lacks merit, to award the Contract to the bidder it has determined to be the responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid, and to issue a Notice to Proceed with the Work notwithstanding any pending or continuing challenge to its determination.
- 11. Reservation of Rights.** City reserves the unfettered right, acting in its sole discretion, to waive or to decline to waive any immaterial bid irregularities; to accept or reject any or all bids; to cancel or reschedule the bid; to postpone or abandon the Project entirely; or to perform all or part of the Work with its own forces. The Contract will be awarded, if at all,

within 60 days after opening of bids or as otherwise specified in the Special Conditions, to the responsible bidder that submitted the lowest responsive bid. Any planned start date for the Project represents the City's expectations at the time the Notice Inviting Bids was first issued. City is not bound to issue a Notice to Proceed by or before such planned start date, and it reserves the right to issue the Notice to Proceed when the City determines, in its sole discretion, the appropriate time for commencing the Work. The City expressly disclaims responsibility for any assumptions a bidder might draw from the presence or absence of information provided by the City in any form. Each bidder is solely responsible for its costs to prepare and submit a bid, including site investigation costs.

- 12. Bonds.** Within ten calendar days following City's issuance of the Notice of Potential Award to the apparent low bidder, the bidder must submit payment and performance bonds to City as specified in the Contract Documents using the bond forms included in the Contract Documents. All required bonds must be calculated on the maximum total Contract Price as awarded, including additive alternates, if applicable.
- 13. License(s).** The successful bidder and its Subcontractor(s) must possess the California contractor's license(s) in the classification(s) required by law to perform the Work. The successful bidder must also obtain a City business license within 10 days following City's issuance of the Notice of Potential Award. Subcontractors must also obtain a City business license before performing any Work.
- 14. Ineligible Subcontractor.** Any Subcontractor who is ineligible to perform work on a public works project under Labor Code §§ 1777.1 or 1777.7 is prohibited from performing work on the Project.
- 15. Safety Orders.** If the Project includes construction of a pipeline, sewer, sewage disposal system, boring and jacking pits, or similar trenches or open excavations, which are five feet or deeper, each bid must include a bid item for adequate sheeting, shoring, and bracing, or equivalent method, for the protection of life or limb, which comply with safety orders as required by Labor Code § 6707.
- 16. Subcontractor Work Limits.** The prime contractor must perform at least 50% of the Work on the Project, calculated as a percentage of the base bid price, with its own forces, except for any Work identified as "Specialty Work" in the Contract Documents. The total bid amount for any such Specialty Work, as shown on the Bid Schedule, may be deducted from the base bid price before computing the 35% self-performance requirement. The remaining Work may be performed by qualified Subcontractor(s).

END OF INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS