



**CAMERON COUNTY PURCHASING**

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**ADDENDUM # 1 - PAGE 1 of 3**

**DATE OUT: 3/06/23**

**RFP TITLE: COUNTY WIDE BROADBAND EXPANSION**

**RFP NUMBER # 230102**

**DEADLINE: MARCH 28, 2023**

*(IN ORDER TO AVOID DISQUALIFICATION – ALL ADDENDUMS MUST BE SIGNED AND RETURNED BY DEADLINE AND INCLUDED IN THE SEALED BID PACKAGE SUBMITTED)*

**1.- CHANGE # 1**

**RFP DUE DATE WILL BE CHANGE TO THE FOLLOWING:**

**FROM**

**DATE DUE: MARCH 14, 2023- DUE NO LATER THAN 3:00 P.M.**

**TO:**

**DATE DUE: MARCH 28, 2023- DUE NO LATER THAN 3:00 P.M.**

**Note:**

*This addendum is issued for the purpose of answering request for clarifications submitted by participants*

*This addendum shall become part of the RFP and all RESPONDERS/PARTICIPANTS shall be bound by its content. All aspects of the scope of work/services not covered herein shall remain the same.*

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Vendor Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

***Must include and return with Bid package***

**ADDENDUM # 1 - PAGE 2 of 3**

**DATE OUT: 3/06/23**

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**2.- RFP - Request for clarifications submitted by Responders/Participants:**

**Cameron County RFP # 230102  
County Wide Broadband Expansion  
Addendum Q&A**

**Question #1:** Can you please clarify what sections of 2 CFR Part 200 will be “applicable,” in particular, to for-profit entities, as referred to in the following statement in the RFP – “*If applicable, the regulations in 2 CFR, Part 200 ..., as it may be amended from time to time ... are incorporated by reference as part of this procurement packet and any resulting agreement.*”

**Answer #1:** Any contractor looking to partner with the County must follow the 2 CFR Part 200

200.101 Applicability

(a) General applicability to Federal agencies.

(1) The requirements established in this part apply to Federal agencies that make Federal awards to non-Federal entities. These requirements are applicable to all costs related to Federal awards.

(2) Federal awarding agencies may apply subparts A through E of this part to Federal agencies, **for-profit entities**, foreign public entities, or foreign organizations, except where the Federal awarding agency determines that the application of these subparts would be inconsistent with the international responsibilities of the United States or the statutes or regulations of a foreign government.

**Question #2:** Can you please explain the reference to Appendix B “Super Circular-Procurement Standards 2 CFR Parts 200.317 – 200.327” in the following line from the RFP – “The RFP is particularly interested in Proposers’ ability to meet the funding eligibility requirements set for in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) *Please see Appendix A “ FHWA 1273” & Appendix B “Super Circular- Procurement Standards 2 CFR Parts 200.317 – 200.327.”* Is the County requiring compliance with all provisions of 2 CFR Parts 200.317 – 200.327 or will proposers still be eligible for an award if unable to strictly comply with all of those provisions and need to explain challenges with meeting the requirements?

**Answer #2:** The Cameron County require compliance with all provisions of 2 CFR Parts 200.317 – 200.327 when using American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) funds. The County anticipates the need for the selected provider to apply for Federal and State funding in partnership with the County in order to execute the full project implementation and therefore should be prepared to strictly comply with all 2 CFR 200 requirements.

**Question #3:** Should the Department of Treasury issue guidance regarding the application of federal requirements such as 2 CFR Part 200, including, but not limited to Procurement Standards, for grants provided under ARPA-funded federal broadband subsidy programs (e.g., the Capital Projects Fund), does the County intend to follow such guidance for its initiative? If so, how will that be accomplished if Treasury has not provided such guidance prior to the due date for RFP submissions? Same questions, but regarding possible similar guidance from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) for grants provided under Broadband Equity, Access And Deployment Program (BEAD) funded programs.

**Answer #3:** The County follows all federal purchasing requirements and that any contractor looking to partner with the County is willing and able to be an eligible applicant and partner for the federal funding in order to execute the full implementation. Any additional special award conditions unknown at the time of procurement can be addressed upon grant award.

**ADDENDUM # 1 - PAGE 3 of 3**

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**Question #4:** What business model will Cameron County be employing to manage this build/offering? (Reference Broadband Feasibility Study section on pages 151-159) Will the county simply fund the middle and last mile build and the proposer will bill end clients directly?

**Answer #4:** This project will be conducted through a Public Private Partnership between the provider and the County. The County anticipates the need for State and Federal funding in order to implement the project and the provider selected will need to be ready and willing to apply for those funds in partnership with the County.

**Question #5:** When will the county expect the entirety of the project to be completed? Can the project be proposed in phases?

**Answer #5:** Understanding the complexity of the project and the fact that competitive funding will need to be secured in order to implement, the County is open to a phasing structure based on supply chain and funding availability with the goal of completion within 5 years.

**Question #6:** How detailed will the proposals need to be with regard to fiber delivery (aerial vs underground/boring) at this point of the project? Will a general estimate of the miles of each delivery type suffice at this point?

**Answer #6:** Respondents should adequately describe their proposed network structure to the level of detail that enables a review of potential ROW and permitting needs, total number of homes to be served, overall cost projections and the projected levels of service to be achieved.

**Question #7:** Is the intention of the RFP for the proposer to include in the response a bid to provide the services described on page 9 under "Community Services on Network" section?

**Answer #7:** The services described in the "Community Services on Network" section relate to the County's goal of ensuring there is digital equity programming included in the project implementation. Respondents can speak to their ability to support the enabling of these services in the short and/or long term.

**Question #8:** Is the preference of the County for the proposer to submit a middle mile or last mile solution?

**Answer #8:** The County is looking for respondents to describe their network capacity for middle and last mile with the understanding that the outcome of the project is to have last mile connectivity for residential and businesses in need of high-speed, reliable service throughout Cameron County.

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Vendor Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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**END OF ADDENDUM # 1**

**RFP # 230102**