



**City of Tacoma  
Fire Department  
All Weather Jacket  
RFI Specification No. FD21-0682F**

**QUESTIONS and ANSWERS**

All interested parties had the opportunity to submit questions in writing by email to Ryan Foster by October 6, 2021. The answers to the questions received are provided below and posted to the City's website at [www.TacomaPurchasing.org](http://www.TacomaPurchasing.org): Navigate to *Current Contracting Opportunities / Services / Supplies / Public Works and Improvements*, 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.

**Question 1: Would you please advise which jackets the department currently uses? If it is new, would you please advise which manufacturer and product was used to develop the specification?**

Answer 1: The department currently wears a jacket made by Watershed. The requirements are based on matching the colors of our current jacket as we do not plan to do a 100% replacement. Features were determined by the PPE Committee.

**Question 2: What is the Quantity for the jackets?**

Answer 2: We are looking to establish a new contract to purchase from but this is for information only at this time. This will not be a one-time large order. We currently are looking at approximately 24 new jackets per year as long as we continue to have 1 recruit class a year; however some years we may not have any and other years up to 2 classes. Several coats a year might will be needed due to attrition and wear and tear.

**Question 3: Is this a one time purchase or will it be ordered on as needed basis?**

Answer 3: This will be to establish an on-going contract but we are only requesting information on products at this time.

**Question 4: We are located in Cleveland OH, and we do not have physical office in WA state. Can we participate in this opportunity?**

Answer 4: Yes, we don't require a vendor to be close as long as you can provide us shipping alternatives that would meet similar timelines to vendors who are local to our area.

**Question 5: Do we need any licence/registration before or after bid?**

Answer 5: This is not a bid. This is a request for information. If a request for bid is published, you will need to register with our city for payment purposes and those details will be provided if selected. There is no business license requirement unless your business is within the City of Tacoma.

**Question 6: What brand and item # is the jacket you are describing in your technical requirements?**

Answer 6: Watershed, Storm Force – Style, Sierra

**Question 7: How many employees are in need of outerwear?**

Answer 7: All of our Operational employees are issued an all weather jacket as part of their uniform. Our next class starting in December of approx. 35 students will be issued a coat from this contract in the first part of 2022.

**Question 8: What is the estimated quantity you are looking to purchase?**

Answer 8: A round estimate over a 5 year contract might be around 100. We are not committing to this number however, as numbers can vary and this is not a bid.

**Question 9: Do these Jackets require any decoration?**

Answer 9: Please see the pictures below Q10 to see what items we need to be able to put on the new jackets.

**Question 10: Are you looking for samples to be along with our bid or after your team consults and requests a sample for review? M, L, and XL of each style?**

Answer 10: The department would like to be able to examine all the jackets prior to making a decision regarding our final jacket selection. The bid says the following, TFD would like to have at least one (1) jacket in each size Medium, Large and Extra Large for the committee to look at in person in two weeks before the demonstrations, so delivery by October 29. Jackets can be mailed or hand delivered to our Fire Garage at 3401B South Orchard, Tacoma WA 98466-6826. Jackets will be returned to vendors either via mail or can be picked up after the demonstration day.



