



**City of Tacoma
Tacoma Public Utilities - Tacoma Water
AMI Meter Box Lid Procurement
RFB Specification No. WA20-0115F**

QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

All interested parties had the opportunity to submit questions in writing by email to Alex Clark by March 20, 2020. The answers to the questions received are provided below and posted to the City's website at www.TacomaPurchasing.org: Navigate to *Current Contracting Opportunities / Supplies*, 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: Do you have an anticipated start date for this project?

Answer 1: We are currently anticipating this project will start in the 4th quarter of 2020. For the meter box lid delivery schedule please see appendix A in the RFB.

Question 2: What size plate is needed for the 20k testing on the lids?

Answer 2: I'm not familiar with this term "size plate".

Question 3: The drawings provided shown are meant to be with lifting slots or pick holes?

Answer 3: This slot is a lifting slot. My understanding is a pick hole is used for inserting a pick usually in manholes.

Question 4: The Lundberg Style – Meter Box Cover No.3 does not show any lifting slot or pick hole

Answer 4: The Lundberg meter box lid fits on top of the meter box so lifting the lid will occur on the outside of the box. Some of the lids, however, will be located in areas where a lifting slot would be beneficial. A new price proposal form will be included in Addendum #1.

Question 5: Punitive Damages \$10,000 a day liquidated damages for delay in scheduled delivery dates, are we responsible if the trucking company had a breakdown or weather related delays?

Answer 5: It will be understood that time is of the essence in the Vendors performance. For each day that Delivery is delayed beyond the scheduled delivery time, Tacoma Water may deduct payment Due to or to become due to the vendor for the delivered price of the meter boxes lids. In the event of unexcused delays that extend beyond one calendar week (7 days) and are not considered unavoidable, the Vendor agrees to pay and/or authorize Tacoma Water to deduct from any sum due or to be due to the Vendor the sum of \$ 10,000 for each calendar day that thematerial is not delivered beyond the times stipulated in Appendix A. Appendix A gives ample time in between shipments dates plus there is a 7 day grace period that your scenario would fall in. This is to allow enough time for unforeseeable situations which may affect delivery times like the one you have described.

Question 6: Is the City of Tacoma considering pushing back the bid date for this project?

Answer 6: At this time we do not anticipate pushing back the bid date for this project.

Question 7: In the Special Provisions section of the bid there is specific liquidated damages section. It calls out potential \$10,000 per day liquidated damages if material is delivered late to the Appendix A schedule. Then in the Project Overview section the City of Tacoma retains the right to alter the quantities and/or delivery time. There seems to be a conflict between these 2 statements. Please clarify that if the city wants delivery quicker than the schedule in Appendix A, and the chosen supplier cannot provide the lids at a faster rate, could the liquidated damages be enforced?

Answer 7: We do not anticipate any modifications to the Appendix A schedule. If the quantities and delivery times are altered, this would be discussed and an agreement reached would be reached by both parties.

Question 8: The existing Lundberg Lids in Tacoma's system (that we have seen) are manufactured with a thickened section in the middle so they don't slide around and become "un-centered". The retrofit drawings provided don't indicate that feature, or any other way to keep the cover centered on the box. Do we just quote as per the drawing provided only, or do the lids need a centering feature?

Answer 8: You are correct. The Lundberg lid was manufactured with a thickened center section to prevent any movement of the lid. After reviewing our survey and conducting several field tests our team determined that the vast majority of these lid movement would be restricted based upon the surrounding material where the meter lid would be placed. On the rare occasion where this would not be the case, a couple of pegs could be inserted at the corners to add additional movement restriction. We view this as a rare exception.

Question 9: The material listed on the Lundberg drawing is reinforced concrete. Are other materials allowed as long as they meet the technical specs? When we reviewed these lids with Tacoma previously there were concerns about making sure that the retrofit lid would be heavy enough to not slide around and potentially damage the AMR wiring or modules.

Answer 9: We do not see this as an issue. A solid plastic lid with the density to be rated H20, and non-buoyant, should provide sufficient weight to keep from sliding around.

Question 10: Section F.A calls out "high impact polymer construction". What exactly is the city's definition of this? Does it apply to all lid styles?

Answer 10: As long as the covers meet the coefficient of friction and the 20K load rating the exact composition of the material whether injection molded, polymer concrete, or high density composite should not rule one or any of the bidders out. As long as they meet the non-buoyant and metal detectable criteria.

Question 11: In light of the COVID-19 situation, will the city accept electronic transmitted submittals?

Answer 11: Yes, this will be addressed in the posted addendum.

