



### RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI No. 1)

Project: Orchard Lane Sewer Replacement, Project No. 119025

Date: March 2, 2023

Question 1 – The specifications indicate that contractor shall complete work within 60 working days. Amongst the industry we are seeing unforeseen, and uncontrollable delayed delivery dates on many materials. Can you confirm that the owner will work with the general contractor on contract duration once the project is awarded and product lead times are solidified? If not, should contractors account for liquidated damages in their bids.

Answer: We can confirm that the City will work with the Contractor on material delivery time. There will be no need to account for liquidated damages within the bid due to delayed delivery dates on material.

Question 2 – Sheet 4 shows a pipe marker to designate the UPRR right of way line. Can you please give a make or model of material for this item?

Answer: The American Railway Engineering and Maintenance-of-way Association (AREMA) specifies the following regarding signage:

“All pipelines shall be prominently marked at right of way lines by durable, weatherproof signs located over the centerline of the pipe. Signs shall display the following:

- Name and address of owner
- Contents of the pipe
- Pipe Pressure
- Emergency contact telephone number”

I have attached a sample sign to be mounted on a steel pole approximately four (4) feet above ground set in a concrete footing.



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Question 3 – On Sheet 3 there is a note 5 that states “REMOVE AND REPLACE EXISTING MANHOLE”. Can you confirm if this is a new manhole? If yes, what bid item will it be in?

Answer: This is just a “REMOVE” item and addressed in Addendum No.1.

Question 4 – On Sheet 3 there is a note between Construction Notes 2 and 5 the states “(P) 14” DR 19 HDPE SEWER VIA OPEN CUT 7.3LF @ .95% Bearing N65 degrees 00’54.01”. Should this be 12”, 20”, or 24” in size? Also, what bid item should this work go in? Please clarify.

Answer: This sewer connection is a 12” line to be reconnected to the new manhole once this manhole is removed. The cost for this is included in the “Remove Manhole” bid price. This item is also covered with Addendum No. 1.

Question 5 – If sewer bypassing is required for the 20” SS coming south down Orchard Lane, will the City allow traffic “flow through” ramps on Main St.? Both in the East and West bound lanes. Traffic Control would also be required. These would be ramps would be needed to take flow from the nearest manhole on Orchard and get it across Main St. to the newly installed manhole on the corner. Please clarify if this is acceptable.

Answer: Yes, this is acceptable if bypassing is needed in that direction. The City requests that we work out the details within the submittal process as that particular line is a main trunk line and could possibly contain flow for a certain amount of time.

Question 6 – If sewer bypassing is required for the SS lines along Main St., can the bypass pipe be placed along the curb and gutter running down to the newly installed manhole on the corner? Please clarify if this is acceptable?

Answer: This would be acceptable to the City if drainage is taken into account, if there is any drainage along the gutter.



Question 6 (CP) – Per Construction Contract, Section 3.13.3.4 All Coverages, states "Each insurance policy required by this Contract shall be endorsed to state that: (1) coverage shall not be suspended, voided, reduced or canceled except after thirty (30) days prior written notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, has been given to the City". Industry standard is for policies to contain a cancellation provision for 10 day notice for non-payment of premium and 60 day notice for any other statutorily permitted reason. Therefore, cancellation due to non-payment cannot comply with this requirement. We ask that you modify the specification requirements to align with industry standard and allow for ten (10) day prior written notice.

Answer: We cannot change the City of Merced's' insurance requirements.

Question 7 – Will the City be covering all third party inspections for this project. Specifically, will the City being paying for compaction testing, concrete testing, and or any other in field testing?

Answer: Yes, the City will pay for all inspections.

Question 8 – After the job walk and review of the construction of this project, we believe that construction activities will take about 60 to 70 working days. If we allow for 5 days for agreements, 20 days for submittals, 20 days for submittal review, and 10 weeks (50 days) for procurement of the HDPE pipe material. We would recommend extending the project duration from 60 WD to 165 WD to cover this project.

Answer: The City does not charge working days for Agreements being signed, submittal time and material procurement. We will start working day one when actual work begins. We could also insert a delay of working days for a delay in material procurement.

Question 9 – Regarding Bid Item 16. What is the current 20" Carrier pipe material inside the 28" casing?



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Answer: The City is unaware of what the Carrier pipe material is.

Question 10 – Regarding Bid Item 16. Is the annular space between the 20" carrier pipe and the 28" casing free of fill materials?

Answer: The answer to this question is also unknown.

Question 11 – Regarding Bid Item 16. If the annular space between the 20" carrier pipe and the 28" STL casing does in fact have fill materials. Can you please provide a scope of work to remove the carrier pipe and what is being removed? Without knowing what material is inside the casing, we cannot determine the amount of time or effort it will take to ultimately remove the carrier pipe and surrey the casing.?

Answer: The City of Merced does not know what is inside the casing under UPRR Tracks or if there are fill materials between the carrier pipe and casing. Our scope of work has to remain the same, that is to remove anything within that casing and then CLSM slurry.

Question 12 – Per the Bid Form, page 21, states successful bidder is to furnish payment bond and performance bond. Please provide Performance Bond and Payment Bond forms, or please confirm that we are to utilize our own surety's Payment Bond and Performance Bond form for submission.?

Answer: Exhibits C, D, E and F were unfortunately omitted from the specifications. Addendum No. 2 will attach these Exhibits. Exhibit F has the Payment and Performance Bonds.

Question 13 – It was discussed at the job walk. There is a desire to not have to do extensive bypassing for the new sewer manhole tie in on Main ST. It was discussed by city staff that contractors can plug manholes upstream from the tie in manhole. Can the city please verify how long the lines/manholes can be plugged for the tie in before the sewer will back up to a level upstream that is critical? We can then determine if the tie in can be done in sufficient time.



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Answer: The City cannot provide a time frame for this as it depends upon the time of day and existing flow. We do suggest that if this route is taken a vacuum truck be available.

Question 14 – Will traffic control be required on Crist Ave.? Or will basic delineation be sufficient?

Answer: Basic delineation will be sufficient as long as one lane of traffic has asphalt or a base rock to travel on.

Michael R. Beltran II, P.E.

City Engineer



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