



CLARK COUNTY

RFP #788

SOLID WASTE CONTRACT NEGOTIATION

QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

UPDATED: NOVEMBER 9, 2020

	QUESTION	ANSWER
1.	Are you requesting estimated total cost for Task 1-3 or just our hourly rates? It looks like maybe a split with estimated total costs for Task 1 and Task 2 and then the hourly rates for Task 3 but would like your thoughts.	I am looking for estimated total costs, and the approach you have suggested for an estimated total cost for 1 and 2, with an hourly rate for 3, makes sense.
2.	Is it possible to use an 11x17 sheet for a timeline/schedule?	Yes, that is acceptable.
3.	Due to COVID spiking, would the County consider accepting electronic (pdf) submittal?	I had to check with purchasing on this one. We are not accepting proposals via electronic submission. They can be delivered FedEx, UPS, etc. they just need to send them early enough to allow enough time for them to get here and be time/date stamped in the Purchasing office by 1:30 pm on the due date to be considered.
4	Does "this 5-year extension" refer to the current extension expiring on December 31, 2021? Or the next 5-year extension, presumably expiring on December 31, 2026? Does the County anticipate any evaluation of these future options as part of the scope of services for RFP #788?	The RFP is referring to the 5-year extension which would, if acted on, would expire Dec 31, 2016. I am uncertain as to exactly what you mean by "evaluation of these future options." Would you be will to provide some more details?
5	How many jurisdictions currently have Interlocal Agreements with the County? Do these agreements generally have similar terms and conditions?	Related to this contract, we have ILAs with Camas, Yacolt, Washougal, Ridgefield, and Battle Ground. The City of Vancouver is a signatory to the contract, however we do have an ILA with them as well.
6	Do the ILA jurisdictions have to approve the future contract extension with CRC/Waste Connections or does the County retain sole authority for negotiating and approving the contract extension?	The county retains sole authority, however we do prefer to engage with them in larger planning efforts.
7	Are the RSWSSC and SWAC considered "stakeholders" for the purposes of Task 2 or are those groups outside the scope of services?	The RSWSSC is made up of the public works directors for the municipalities we have ILAs with. These two groups are the primary stakeholder we are referring to, in addition to county council and county leadership.
8	Will the negotiated 5-year extension have to go before County Council for approval?	Is this instance, it will, as it will likely be part of a larger approach to long-term planning.
9	How much time, in your experience, should be allocated for County Council approval, considering the preparation of agenda materials (i.e., how many days or	This is a tough one – we have a good relationship with their policy advisor and find that we are able to relatively quickly get input from council and the county manager. However, with new COVID protocols in place,

	weeks before a scheduled Council meeting must agenda materials be submitted?)	it is more difficult to get the face time that may be required. I would say 2 weeks is a good amount of time to plan to submit materials prior to a council meeting/hearing.
10	Part I, Section IA, 3. Scope of Project, Task 1, Paragraph D states "it is anticipated that negotiations with the existing service provider may extend over a three month to eighteen-month period." Since the current contract extension with CRC/Waste Connections expires on December 31, 2021 (i.e., within 12 months, assuming negotiations commence in January, 2021), are there any provisions in the contract which would allow for an 18-month negotiation process, should that be required in a worst-case scenario (such as a short-term extension of 6 months)?	I need to look into this question and get back to you. Our vision is to identify the use of the 5 year extension first, then move on to negotiating what comes after this.
11	Are the three transfer stations owned by CRC/Waste Connections?	Correct – Washougal, Central, and West Van (which includes a MRF).
12	Does the County intend to address these operational and space constraints through the negotiation process?	Yes. We have been identifying them through an ongoing regional systems study that is evaluating each and identifying capital costs.
13	Did the "informal" 10-year extension proposal that Waste Connections recently presented to the County address the operational and space constraints?	Very vaguely
14	Can the County provide a copy of the current contract with Waste Connections, or a link if the contract is available on the County's website?	This can be found on our website: https://clark.wa.gov/internal-services/requests-proposals
15	What is the status of completion of the Regional Solid Waste System Study, and will its findings be available when contract negotiations under this RFP commence?	the results of the Regional System you inquired about will be available to the vendor selected as we begin the process. However, the reports are in draft form and have not yet been vetted/reviewed with our internal stakeholders and cannot be released at this point in time.
16	The "evaluation of these future options" was in reference to the options including but not limited to those in the second sentence referenced from the RFP. More clearly stated, the question is "Does the County anticipate any evaluation of the future options that may be pursued by the County and the City of Vancouver at the end of the extension period in 2026?"	Very much, yes. There is intent built into the existing contract to buy the transfer stations at the end of the second available extensions and there is a desire to fully understand that intent. We are in a position to evaluate both a longer extension with our current vendor or purchasing the transfer stations with a longer operating contract. There are trade-offs both and our ultimate goal is to provide the best long-term system at the lowest long term cost. I think that's what you are asking, let me know if I missed the point.
17	Can the County disclose the budget allocated for this project through Task 3?	I honestly do not have a budget dialed in for this – there seems to be little in the way of examples I have found for this type of a project and it is my first foray into bringing in a negotiator for a contract of this scale. I have gotten estimates on full projects – including RFP development, evaluation, etc. I am really looking for costs to come from proposals that I can build my budget around.

