**Q&A #3**

**RFP #653177**

**Intelligent Bus System**

**P. 12, 4.07, Taxes**

Please confirm that the University of Arkansas is tax exempt from both Federal and State taxes and that no taxes should be included in the cost proposal.

1. The University of Arkansas is NOT tax exempt. However, per Section 8 of the Standard Terms & Conditions: 

**P. 15. A. Overall**

*Q.6 - System must offer integrated automated passenger counting.*

Please describe what specific integration components are required. What data is required to be integrated and specifically which detailed systems require integration?

1. Must be integrated into a Mobile Data Terminal, and the AVL administration/dispatch side of reporting and show the amount of passengers on a given bus as it moves around on route, as well as any Passenger Information System, App, or web service.

**P. 15 B. Integrations**

*Q1) Vendor must offer capability to integrate with all existing and concurrent systems, without compromising efficacy of overall system*

1. External Marquee system, external/internal announcement/PA system, as well as ability to communicate with future digital signage. See Requested Information Sheet for specifics.

*Q2) Vendor must offer complete system integration. Both proposed system and concurrent system must be integrated into one overall system without additional hardware.*

1. Proposed system and existing systems listed in Q1) should all be integrated into one system that can be controlled through the MDT and the administration/dispatch system.

Q3) Vendor is required to integrate the proposed system and concurrent systems into one, overarching system - there should be no separation between each module.

1. Reinforcing Q1) and Q2) that we should not have to swap between different systems to control the whole system.

Please list all existing system that require integration, including, specific hardware, software and data integration requirements.

Questions 1—3 appear to be repeating the same requirement. Please clarify if there are different requirements for each of these questions.

**P. 16 C. Additional Module: Automated Voice Announcements (AVA)**

Does the university intend for the respondent to provide compatible audio equipment or will the respondent be expected to use existing on board equipment?

1. It would be preferred that the respondent use existing on board equipment. Please see the Requested Information Sheet for specifics. If additional hardware is required for complete integration the vendor will need to provide the specifications for that hardware. The owner will have the option to provide any additional hardware or have the respondent supply the hardware.

**P. 17 D Additional Module: Automatic Passenger Counting (APC)**

*Q1) System shall have an integrated Automatic Passenger Counter system that works in concert with the overall AVL system.*

1. It is up to the vendor to describe how they intend to meet this requirement. For Clarifcation APC should not be a stand-alone only solution.

Please provide specific requirements that would satisfy the ‘in concert’ requirement for working with the AVL system.

*Q3) System shall have at minimum two separate counting triggers: one overhead, and one door entry.*

Please clarify what is meant by a counting trigger in this requirement. Does the university want the overhead unit to trigger a count when a passenger is detected and the doors to have electronic sensors that indicate the door status (I.e. count when open, do not count when closed)?

1. It means we do not want a respondent to offer an APC that only uses a single counting trigger to count passengers. There should be a way that the system knows whether the passenger is boarding or alighting from the bus.

*Q4) System shall cover all entrance and exit points of the vehicle.*

Please confirm that the APC sensors are required to be mounted at PASSENGER DOORS only. If other entrance/exit points are required, please provide specific details as to what those points are, how many of each type exist on each bus, and what type of counting is to be done at those non passenger door locations.

1. This is correct there are two passenger doors on all 25 buses that will need to be covered.

P. 17 E Additional Module: Digital Passenger Counting (DPC)

*Q1) System shall have an integrated Digital Passenger Counter system that works in concert with the overall AVL system.*

Please provide specific requirements that would satisfy the ‘in concert’ requirement for working with the overall AVL system.

1. It is up to the vendor to describe how they intend to meet this requirement. For Clarification the DPC could be a tool used to count specific rider categories or a backup counting method for APC redundancy. APC and DPC should work in tandem.

*Q7) System shall provide NTD Certified Reports.*

According to the 2015 NTD Policy Manual, for agencies to report APC data the FTA must approve an APC benchmarking plan for the first year and an APC maintenance plan for subsequent years. The first year validation of APC data for UPT and PMT data must include a manual sampling plan for the first year. All doors must have APC coverage for availability of 100% count. Based on this information the certification for NTD reports must be done by the submitting agency. Please confirm that providing NTD required data an supporting the university’s efforts to confirm will meet this requirement. If the University has additional requirements, please provide a detailed list all NTD reporting requirements.

1. The system must provide the necessary reporting structure to enable Razorback Transit to submit the appropriate NTD required data. Examples follow, but are not limited to; system miles, revenue miles, deadhead miles, passenger count, missed trips, ADA boardings, & etc.

*Q8) System shall provide FTA Certified Reports*

We are unware of FTA Certified Reports, other than NTD reporting requirements. Please provide a list of all FTA certified reports that are required, any reference links to websites with information on reporting requirements. Additionally, please provide the data requirements to support these FTA certified reports.

1. The system must provide the necessary reporting structure to enable Razorback Transit to submit the appropriate NTD required data. Examples follow, but are not limited to; system miles, revenue miles, deadhead miles, passenger count, missed trips, ADA boardings, & etc.

**P. 22 Sec. 5.b. Financial Qualifications**

*Q1) Please provide a copy of your firm's most recent two (2) years’ worth of audited financial statements.*

The firm’s financial information is needed to determine if they have the financial wherewithal to purchase the equipment and services necessary for the initial installation and setup, and if the firm has the resources to support them remaining in business for the term of the agreement. This financial evaluation can be conducted using the firm’s history and past performance, confirmation from banking and certified public account references, confirmation of financial resources and access to credit. Please confirm that providing this information will be an acceptable option in place of the audited financials, which can be an exclusionary requirement for all but the largest or publicly held potential bidders.

If the above, or similar reasonable accommodation is not acceptable, please clarify the specific requirements for audited financial statements including the specific information to be provided, the audit level needed, the qualifications of the auditor, and the purpose of the financial information requirement.

1. If bidder elects to omit requested documents, or to submit alternate documents to those requested in the RFP, it may result in University’s inability to properly evaluate bidder’s proposal.

**Requested Information**

1. On Board Audio Equipment – please provide an inventory with the following information:
	1. Vehicle Number
	2. Make, Model, Year
	3. Internal Speakers Y/N
	4. External Speakers Y/N
	5. Radio Head Unit Make/Model
		1. Radio – Aux Input in Front and/or Rear (Y/N)
		2. Does Radio Have MIC 1, and MIC 2 inputs, or no MIC input
	6. Public Address Unit Make/Model
		1. Is P/A System 1 channel or 2 channel
		2. Does P/A system have Aux Input
		3. Does P/A system have MIC 1 and Mic 2 inputs?
2. Vehicle Inventory
	1. Vehicle Number
	2. Make, Model, Year
	3. Number of Doors
	4. Do vehicles have electric door sensors
	5. Does vehicle have wheelchair lift?
		1. Separate door, flip down ramp, in step lift, or other?

A: Please see Addendum #3, “Bus Information Detail”