## Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission 1 Mercantile Street, Suite 520 Worcester, MA 01608 On behalf of the Leicester and Oxford Public Schools

March 12, 2018

To All Bidders

Subject: Bids for Student Transportation Services Leicester and Oxford Public Schools

## **ADDENDUM NO. 1**

## To Whom It May Concern:

With reference to our bid request relative to the above subject, please refer to the attached changes/modifications/clarifications and responses to questions received regarding the original bid request.

- 1. Question regarding Oxford. Will Oxford consider providing bus and driver parking on Oxford provided land for use at the cost of \$1.00 per year allowing a vendor to potentially lower their pricing for Oxford? If so, Can you have Oxford pricing with Oxford provided bus parking and without parking provided? The School recognizes the potential cost savings associated with this arrangement. However, there is a process required to lease town land that would require opening the sale to the public in which case, the highest qualified bidder would acquire the property. Bidders may submit their estimated price reduction if parking were provided but it will not have any bearing on this bid's rule for award. It would, however, provide useful information for the towns when considering the future disposition of town land.
- 2. Is there any reason you are not including the current union contract in Oxford? **For current union contract**, <u>click here</u>.
- 3. With the last bid, there was an opportunity for a pre-bid meeting. Is there any reason to omit the pre bid meeting also? Typically, pre-bid meetings are necessary for bidders to look at specialized pieces of equipment or complex plans. While not a conventional use of a pre-bid conference, we held one in the last bid because joint bidding for school transportation is new to this area and we explain how that would work. We will answer any questions you may have about the bid package but our group has decided not to hold a pre-bid conference.
- 4. Are financial statements to be submitted with the bid? Are they supposed to be audited? **Yes, the bid calls for audited financial statements.**
- 5. Do you have a letter from the Department of Labor specifically stating that there is no prevailing wage? After submitting for wage rates, the DLS replied that Prevailing wage does not apply for either town. For documentation of that decision, click here. We followed up with our legal counsel and legal counsel for DLS and both confirmed that prevailing wage does not apply. To view the email from DLS Legal counsel, click here. The school systems are directly signing individual contracts and each town has

- populations less than the 16,000 threshold. The existing union in Oxford has no bearing on whether a rate will be set by the DLS because each individual contract is for a town under the 16,000 population threshold.
- 6. Are there any changes to these specifications from the prior version? **There are some changes to the pricing sheet but overall, this bid is similar to the last one.**

Bidders are requested to acknowledge and/or include this addendum with this bid. All other terms, conditions and specifications remain unchanged.

Connor Robichaud Department of Regional Services and Municipal Collaboration Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission