



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS – Amendment 1

Proposals for the following service are sought
Recycling Carts

Date of Request: 05/24/2010	Proposal Due Date: 06/24/2010 by 5 P.M. CST
Date of amendment: 06/17/2010	

<u>Submitted to</u> City of Decatur Bids and Proposals (Carts) Purchasing Division #1 Gary K. Anderson Plaza Decatur, IL62523-1196	<u>Contract Administrator</u> Vasudha Pinnamaraju, AICP Environmental Planner City of Decatur #1 Gary K. Anderson Plaza Decatur, IL62523-1196
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The clarifying information in this document shall override the information in the original Request For Proposal in case of conflicting information. The amendment will be sent to all the vendors that have expressed interest in any of the RFP's published by the City in association with the Single Stream Recycling Program. The amendment will also be published on the City's website.

Question 1:

Page 5, Item 1.6.1 – the required color, “Pepsi” blue, cannot be manufactured with the required “minimum 49% post consumer recycled plastic.” The available post consumer recycled plastic (PCR) is usually a medium gray or brown color that will distort the “Pepsi” blue color. We request that the City allow proposers to offer available blue colors and state the maximum level of PCR each color will allow. Also, 1% carbon black is not a component of “Pepsi” blue. As with many colors, another UV inhibitor is used. We request that this specification be changed to require the use of a minimum of 1% of a standard UV inhibitor that will resist deterioration from sunlight for a minimum of ten (10) years.

Answer

Primary intent of the City is to achieve “Pepsi” blue color with as much PCR as possible. The current specification **1.6.1 bullet point 1** reads

“Carts shall have a minimum of 49% post consumer recycled plastic.”

Upon further consideration, this specification shall read

“Carts shall have 25% to 35% post consumer recycled plastic. The proposers are required to specify the percentage of PCR used per cart.”

Question 2:

Page 6, Item 1.6.2 – requires a minimum wall thickness of 0.175 inches throughout the body, and a minimum wall thickness of 0.185” at all critical wear and stress points. Toter Carts are engineered and molded using the Advanced Rotational Molding process and Medium Density Polyethylene (MDPE) to gain three key performance advantages: (1) Carts that meet or exceed the ANSI maximum allowable load rating of 3.5 lbs per gallon of volume; (2) Carts with a proven 15 to 20+ year Service Life; and (3) Carts that residents can tilt and roll with about 1/3 less effort.

To achieve these superior benefits our 96 gallon carts have a nominal wall thickness of 0.172”, which is only 1.7% less than the injection molders’ 0.175” wall. Our stress free molding process and MDPE combine with our reinforced key impact areas of the cart at 0.186” to produce a cart that is physically stronger and has a much lower failure rate. We respectfully request that this specification be changed to allow a minimum nominal wall thickness of 0.172”. If the City prefers, this requirement may be made specifically for Rotationally Molded carts.

The city asks for a wall thickness of .175 on both the 95 and 65 gallon carts. Often times, wall thickness is less (especially on the 65 gallon cart). Will a lower wall thickness be accepted?

Answer

This specification stands as written in the original RFP. However, the proposers have the opportunity to file exceptions to any specification listed in the RFP. The evaluators will give due consideration to the exceptions.

Question 3:

Page 7, Item 1.6.4 (first bullet on top of page 7) – requires cart load capacities. The cart load capacities specified as minimums in this specification do conform to the ANSI Safety Standard of a maximum of 3.5 pounds of load capacity per gallon of capacity (64 gallon cart = 64 x 3.5 pounds = 224 pounds; 96 x 3.5 pounds = 335 pound load capacity). However, Page 11, 1.6.11.4.2 has markings for load capacities that exceed the ANSI maximums and, therefore, do not conform to the ANSI Safety Standard. We request that 1.6.11.4.2 be amended to match the load capacities stated on Page 7.

Answer

The current specification **1.6.4 bullet point 2** reads

“Cart Load Capacity: Cart load capacity shall be a minimum of 220 pounds for the 64/65 gallon carts and 320 pounds for the 95/96 gallon carts excluding the domed lid.”

The current specification **1.6.11.4.2 bullet point 3** reads

“ MAXIMUM CAPACITY 250 LBS for 64/65 gallon

MAXIMUM CAPACITY 350 LBS for 95/96 gallon “

Upon further consideration the specification **1.6.4 bullet point 2** shall read

“Cart Load Capacity: Cart load capacity shall be a minimum of 224 pounds for the 64/65 gallon carts and 335 pounds for the 95/96 gallon carts excluding the domed lid.”

And specification **1.6.11.4.2 bullet point 3** shall read

“ MAXIMUM CAPACITY 224 LBS for 64/65 gallon

MAXIMUM CAPACITY 335 LBS for 95/96 gallon “

Question 4

Page 7, Item 1.6.6- requires that the lid be manufactured in the same manner and from the same material type as the cart body. Toter uses the best process and materials for each component - rotationally molded bodies, injection molded lids, blow molded wheels and steel axles and stop bars. Like our cart bodies, our lids are designed for high strength and durability in addition to keeping animals, insects, and rain out, while keeping odors inside the cart. By combining the best design and material for each component, Toter achieves the longest lasting, highest performance container. We respectfully request that the City delete this requirement.

This specification stands as written in the original RFP. However, the proposers have the opportunity to file exceptions to any specification listed in the RFP. The evaluators will give due consideration to the exceptions.

Question 5

Page 8, Item 1.6.7 – requires a rust-proof plastic fastener system. Toter’s all-plastic lid hinge is attached by tamper resistant rustproof steel Torx fasteners. These steel fasteners are much stronger and more durable than the plastic pins used in many cart hinges. Would the City change this specification to allow a rustproof fastener system to attach lids?

Answer:

The current specification **1.6.7 bullet point 5** reads

“The hinge, which holds the lid to the cart, thus creating the handle, shall be a minimum of one inch (1”) in diameter and shall be a rust-proof plastic fastener system test rated at a minimum of 600 pounds pull strength.”

Upon further consideration the specification **1.6.7 bullet point 5** shall read

“The hinge, which holds the lid to the cart, thus creating the handle, shall be a minimum of one inch (1”) in diameter and shall be a rust-proof fastener system test rated at a minimum of 600 pounds pull strength.”

Question 6

Page 9, Item 1.6.9 – requires a “snap-on” style wheel with an internal steel detent. Toter standard snap-on wheels are retained by means of a center aligned axle journal claw which snaps into a groove that is a full weight bearing surface. These wheels carry a 10-year non-prorated warranty, and provide a service life well beyond the warranty period. We respectfully request that the City accept this style “snap-on” wheel.

Furthermore, the “snap-on” style wheel design is known to fail at a much higher rate than wheels retained with end caps. Since the contractor is required to do all of the Cart Assembly and provide ten (10) years of Cart Maintenance, we request that the wheel specification allow both snap-on and end cap designs.

Answer

This specification stands as written in the original RFP. However, the proposers have the opportunity to file exceptions to any specification listed in the RFP. The evaluators will give due consideration to the exceptions.

Question 7

Page 10, Item 1.6.11.3 – requires that the RFID Tag be fully encased in high density polyethylene. Toter’s UHF RFID Tags are fully encased in medium density polyethylene. Would the City accept UHF RFID Tags fully encased in medium to high density polyethylene?

Answer

This specification stands as written in the original RFP. However, the proposers will have the opportunity to file exceptions to any specification listed in the RFP. The evaluators will give due consideration to the exceptions.

Question 8

Pages 10-11, Items under 1.6.11.4 – several markings are required, and all of the instructions and information may be applied to our carts, but we request clarifications:

- 1.6.11.4.1 – Is this marking an adhesive sticker, or an in-mold label (often called an IML, and is not a sticker application)?

Answer: City is looking for both in mold label and adhesive sticker alternatives.

- Are items described in items 1.6.11.4.2, 1.6.11.4.3, 1.6.11.4.4, 1.6.11.4.5 plus item 1.6.11.6 to be included in a hot stamp (white lettering)?

Answer: Yes.

- Will the City allow cart manufacturers to work with the City to incorporate all information on the lid into (1) a hot stamp and (2) an in-mold label or adhesive sticker? This can be accomplished, and would include the required information in a clear, user-friendly and prominent manner.

Answer: Yes, the City will work with the winning contractor to identify the efficient way of incorporating all the information on the lid.

There is a lot of information that is expected to be printed on (and inside) the lid. Does the city have a specific design or at least a priority as to which information is the most important to have on the lids?

Answer: City will work with the winning bidder on the design and the details of the information to be published on the lid. All the information identified in the RFP is important and must be provided on the lid. City envisions utilizing the cart lid as the first educational tool for the City’s single stream recycling program.

Question 9

Page 13, Item 1.11.1 – the last two test listed, Bottom Wear and Lid/Hinge Pin Life Cycle Test, are not a pair of the ANSI Standards. We request that these tests not be included in the specifications.

Answer:

The current specification 1.11.1 reads

Proposed carts shall meet the requirements of the most recent versions of ANSI Z245.30 and ANSI Z245.60 standards for Type Bar/Grabber carts. Independently certified copies of all ANSI test results shall be included with your proposal.

Test results shall state load (in pounds) under which tests were conducted. The load under which tests were conducted shall be the same as the load rating stated in all literature and specifications.

The ANSI test for “Loading and Unloading Test for Carts” shall clearly state that the required minimum 520 dump cycles under the carts full rated load were performed on both a semi-automated and fully automated Grabber Arm.

The following ANSI test results are required and shall be submitted with proposal.

- Semi-automated Lifter Test*
- Fully-automated Lifter Test*
- Volumetric Loading Capacity Test*
- Center of Balance Test*
- Force to Tip Test*
- Slope Stability Test*
- Bottom Wear*
- Lid/Hinge Pin Life Cycle Test*

After further consideration the “Bottom Wear” and “ Lid/Hinge Pin Life Cycle Test” are made optional.

Question 10

Page 13, Item 1.11.2 – the additional test in this specification include a longstanding industry standard, the Wind Tunnel Test, but also include proprietary tests developed by a manufacturer to exclude other manufacturers who produce and test to the established national safety standard, ANSI. The requirement to perform these proprietary, non-ANSI tests for certification by an independent laboratory is unreasonable and limits

competition. The plastic resin specified is already rated for the extreme temperature range and the cart is covered by a ten year warranty and Cart Maintenance Program. We request that this specification be amended to allow proposers to submit any non-ANSI cart tests that they have performed on the carts they are bidding.

On page 13 section 1.11.2.1 Wind tunnel test asks for the container to be tested on all four sides and withstand 35mph wind flow. We respectfully request that this be modified to read an average of 35 mph or be lowered to 30 mph from all 4 sides. Rehrig Pacific's 65-gallon container was tested successfully from the front at 30 mph, the side at 42 mph, and the back at 40 mph. Our "ground hugging" design offers more than adequate stability for this application. Our 65 -gallon container has been put to the test in different municipalities throughout the United States with great success, I suggest that you check with the references I provided to better determine the stability of our 65 -gallon container compared to other vendors. Please keep in mind that wind stability testing can be very subjective depending on the placement of the carts.

Answer

This specification stands as written in the original RFP. However, the proposers have the opportunity to file exceptions to any test listed in the RFP. The evaluators will give due consideration to the exceptions.

Question 11

Beginning on page 14, Item 1.12 - requires the warranty to cover freight for warranty replacements. Toter has the lowest warranty failure rate in the industry and furnishes all warranty parts and components at no charge. However, the manufacturer does not have control over the transportation cost and should not be responsible for those expenses. We respectfully request that the City delete this sentence.

Answer

The current specification 1.12 reads

*"The proposer shall warranty their cart, the cart lid, wheels, axle, RFID tags all necessary hardware, software and other component parts for a minimum of ten (10) years from the date the carts are accepted by the City of Decatur. Under this warranty, the seller and /or manufacturer assumes all costs related to parts replacement, **including applicable freight.**"*

Upon further consideration the "warranty on the freight" is removed from the specifications.

Question 12

Page 15, Item 1.12 – also requires that the warranty cover rodent damage to the cart body. This type of damage is out of the control of the manufacturer. Cart manufacturers cannot control the feeding habits of rodents, nor their outside food sources, and their ability to chew roll carts is clear, no matter what style or molding process the cart is manufactured with. Such damage is no more controllable than graffiti or vandalism. It is

standard for cities to exclude this from the cart warranty. We respectfully request that this item be deleted from the specifications.

Cart warranties do not cover damaged caused by rodents. This may not even be necessary as there is a maintenance contract which would address these issues.

Answer:

The current specification **1.12 bullet point 5** requires warranty on “*Rodent damage to cart body*”.

Upon further consideration this requirement has been removed from the specifications.

Question 13

Page 15, also in Item 1.12 - requires that the failure of a cart body shall require a full replacement of the cart at no cost to the City. Again, Toter provides all warranty parts and components at no charge, but replacing a cart body with a full cart (with all parts) involves replacing a component with more than a component. Also, in keeping with the City’s sustainability efforts, and the fact that there is a maintenance contract involved with this project, assembling the replacement body with the parts from the failed body would be the most efficient manner in which to handle these repairs. We respectfully request that the City amend this specification to require that failure of the cart body shall require a replacement of a body, and a lid or wheel with a new lid or wheel, at no cost to the City.

Answer

The current specification 1.12 bullet point 3 reads

“Failure of the cart body shall require a full replacement of the cart at no cost to the City. Cart body repairs will not be acceptable.”

Upon further consideration this specification shall read

“Failure of the cart body shall require a full replacement of the cart body at no cost to the City. Cart body repairs will not be acceptable. The replacement should be done in such manner that there is no/minimal disruption of services”.

Question 14

Page 16, Item 1.13 – requires the Contractor to buy existing 18 gallon red bins from the City if the City chooses to sell them. Who will pick up the bins? Will the City load these bins into the truck prior to shipping them to be recycled? Will these bins be available at once, or in phases? If in phases, would the City accept the Contractor picking up the bins in truckload quantities? This method would again support the City’s sustainability efforts and provide the best price for the City for these containers.

What percentage of bins does the city anticipate can actually be retrieved?

Answer:

If the City chooses to sell the bins,

- City will give its residents an option to retain their bins
- The cart contractor is expected to pick up the bins. City will not collect or load the bins into the trucks
- The bins will be available at once

City defers to the judgment of the cart manufacturers in estimating the percentage of bins that can actually be retrieved.

Question 15

Is the city expecting a bond for the amount of the total contract or only the services? It seems unusual to have a performance bond for delivery of a product. Either the city receives the product or does not. Also, the capital needed to secure such a large bond will only increase the cost of the product to the city.

The contract is for ten years. Can the performance bond be renewed annually instead of covering a ten year period?

Page 17, Item 2.1.1 – requires a Performance Bond to be posted “which shall, at all times, be 100% of the total contract amount”. Would the City accept two (2) bonds: (1) a bond posted for the initial year/rollout of the project, which will cover the bulk of the exposure of the bonding, and (2) an annually renewable bond for the balance of the contract to cover Phase II and Phase III roll carts and maintenance program?

Answer:

Yes, the City would accept two (2) bonds. The City will require a 100% performance bond from the successful bidder, one performance bond for the initial rollout year. Thereafter, the successful bidder will provide the City with a 100% performance bond annually for the balance of the contract on the anniversary date of the commencement of the contract.

Question 16

Page 18, Item 2.2.4 – Would the City please establish a specific list of services to be provided so that all proposers may offer pricing for the same specification? Specifically, how does the Program address:

- (a) Ongoing daily deliveries of carts to new homes after the initial rollout.**

Answer: Through the cart maintenance program

- (b) Exchanges of one cart size for another**

Answer: City does not plan to offer the exchange of cart sizes during Phase 1.

(c) Billing for parts or replacement carts in cases of fire, abuse, theft and/or vandalism

Answer: This level of detail will be discussed during transition planning phase.

(d) City's policy on the cleaning and restocking of used carts that the City orders retrieved from existing customers

Answer: This level of detail will be discussed during transition planning phase.

(e) Procedures for dealing with repair work orders when the customer fails to leave the cart accessible for service

Answer: This level of detail will be discussed during transition planning phase.

(f) Response time – we recommend a three to four business day response time to reduce the City's cost.

Answer: The carts are expected to be repaired before the customers next recycling day. City will have a weekly pickup. This will give the contractor five (5) business days response time.

Question 17:

Page 30, under “Financing and Cart Maintenance Services” – Database Review: What form of database will be provided by the City? How recently has it been updated? Will this database be available 6 weeks before the start of cart deliveries?

Answer: City has a very good database of address in GIS format. This database is updated on daily basis. The City will work with the winning contractor to provide this database in a format compatible with the contractor's software. This database can be provided 6 weeks before the program start date or even earlier if the contractor chooses.

Question 18

Page 31, Attachment C: Form 1A - What is meant by “Add for content on the inside of the lid” and “Add for content on the outside of the lid”?

Answer: “Add for content” shall mean additional dollar value to cover the costs of adding the content.

- Also, lids are not available in 100% Recycled Content. We request that this percentage be amended to 40%.

This specification stands as written in the original RFP. However, the proposers have the opportunity to file exceptions to any test listed in the RFP. The evaluators will give due consideration to the exceptions.

Question 19

1.5 Quantities

Phase 2 and Phase 3: Is the city considering front load or rear load collection? If front load, would the city consider plastic commercial containers for the 2, 4, 6, and 8 yard containers?

Answer: City does not have the specifications on the 2, 4, 6 and 8 yard dumpsters at this time.

Question 20

We understand that there will be an RFP published for the RFID technology. We cannot find it on your website. Can the cart contractors submit the On Truck RFID Technology in response to the Cart RFP?

Answer: Yes. Although not required as part of the RFP, the contractors may include the On Truck RFID technology in response to the Recycling Cart RFP. Please be advised that at the time of publishing this information, the City does not know the number or type of collection vehicles that will be utilized for collection. For estimation purposes, approximately 27,000 to 30,000 customers will be served during Phase 1.

Additional Clarifications

Samples

The current specification 1.10 reads

“Proposers shall arrange for delivery of three sample 64/65 and 94/95 gallon carts. Proposer is also encouraged, but not required, to provide three samples of smaller carts of 35 to 48 gallon capacity. These carts should be received by the contract administrator no later than proposal submission deadline. These samples shall become the property of the City and may be used for product testing, including destructive testing.”

The corrected specification 1.10 shall read

“Proposers shall arrange for delivery of one sample each of 64/65 and 94/95 gallon carts. Proposer is also encouraged, but not required, to provide a sample of smaller carts of 35 to 48 gallon capacity. These sample carts should be similar to the carts that are being proposed by the proposer in response to the RFP. These carts should be received by the contract administrator no later than proposal submission deadline. These samples shall become the property of the City and may be used for product testing, including destructive testing.”

Transition Period: The carts shall not be delivered before the contract start date, which is October 1 2010. City wants to distribute the carts as early as a month. The cart distribution shall be completed no later than December 31 2010.

Attachment D (Brief description of job duties of various contractors in association with Single Stream Recycling)					
	Processing	Collection	RFID	Carts	
Primary Job	Process the single stream recyclables delivered to their facility. Market and sell them.	Collect the recyclables from the curb using the 65/95 gallon carts and deliver them to the processing facility	Install and maintain RFID readers on collection contractor's trucks. Install the database in City offices for city to retrieve information as and when needed	Manufacture 65/95 gallon carts to Decatur's specifications. Assemble and Distribute to all phase 1 customers.	<p>This document provides an overview of all the RFP'S that are published in association with City of Decatur's Single Stream recycling. The primary intent of publishing this sheet is to clarify the roles of potential contractors.</p> <p>Due to the complexity and concurrency of the RFP's, City has identified certain items as "issues in gray". City anticipates resolving the issues in gray after the finalizing the contractors but before entering into a contract (not later than 30 days prior to the contract start date).</p> <p>City anticipates resolving the "issues in gray" by holding a meeting with the winning contractors.</p> <p>Since this is an RFP and not a bid, Contractors are encouraged to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide feedback to the City on any additional "issues in gray" that they come across in the RFP's that are not already identified in this document. <p>You can do this by E-Mailing Vasudha Pinnamaraju @ vpinnamaraju@decaturil.gov or by phone 217-424-2778 by June 20 2010.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide separate itemized cost (increase/decrease) on the "issues in gray".
Payment	City will receive a fixed amount per ton on a monthly basis.	City will pay a fixed amount on a monthly basis	City will pay the contractor upfront to buy the technology. Maintenance fee will be paid annually	City will buy the carts directly or through financing option. Monthly charges for maintenance	
Incentives	If the city delivers more tonnage than anticipated, the contractor will receive a percentage discount as an incentive	If the contractor delivers more tonnage than anticipated, the contractor will receive a percentage increment as an incentive			
Reporting	Needs to provide monthly reports to the City in electronic format. It should contain daily information on truck number, date, time and tonnage of material tipped at the tipping floor. Monthly totals of tonnage and percentages of type of recyclables, residual, revenue received. It should also contain purchasers of the material	Needs to provide monthly reports to the City in electronic format. It should contain daily information on truck number, date, time and tonnage of material tipped at the tipping floor.	The system should be able to provide the city with information on household participation, GPS location of every stop made by the collection truck, misplaced bins, and percentage of participation per route.	The cart contractor should update the City's address database based on field observations while delivering the carts. The maintenance program should provide number of new cart requests, cart service requests and warrant covered services on a monthly basis.	
Education	Must provide an education plan – Primarily address life cycle of recycle products generated in Decatur.	Must provide an education plan – Primarily address clean recycling practices.	City will use the information provided by the RFID system to do targeted education.	Information on the carts will act as an educational tool	
Information needed from the City		Will need City's help in defining the collection routes.		Will need City's help in identifying accurate database of addresses.	
Information to be provided to other contractors	Processor needs to provide paper tickets to the collection contractor for each truck load delivered. It should contain Truck number, date, time and tonnage of material tipped at the floor.	Need to provide feedback on the carts to the Cart maintenance contractor based on field observations.		Marry RFID's to house numbers and provide that database in a electronic format compatible with RFID reader technology to RFID contractor. Marry RFID's to the house number per each additional cart delivered/ replaced thereafter and provide updated database to RFID contractor /City contract administrator	
Issues in gray	RFID and Collection				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who should be in charge of the RFID equipment on the contractors vehicles If the City chooses to not go with RFID technology, the collection contractor is responsible for the following additional reporting 				

	○ Number of stops made per route.	
Issues in gray	Carts and Collection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who will determine if the damage to the carts is occurred due to collection contractor negligence? • Who will be responsible for the service calls (like distribution of carts requested after the initial distribution phase etc) 	