Request for Quote: Storage Area Network

City of Mukilteo

11930 Cyrus Way  Mukilteo, WA  98275
INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Quote Deadline
Quotes will be received by the City of Mukilteo, Finance Department, 11930 Cyrus Way, Mukilteo, Washington 98275 until 2:00 p.m., June 8, 2012, for the provision of a Storage Area Network.

General Information
The City of Mukilteo is a municipal corporation that operates under an elected mayor and an elected seven-member City Council. The City’s Finance Department is responsible for providing accounting and IT services to a staff of approximately 110 employees.

The City has a need to improve our IT services by increasing our storage capacity, establishing off-site replication, as well as creating a means to provide business continuity and disaster recovery. To address these service needs the City is requesting quotes for an updated storage area network (SAN) which will provide us the ability to improve our recovery point objective and reduce our recovery time objective.

A SAN is a type of local area network (LAN) designed to handle large data transfers. A SAN typically supports data storage, retrieval and replication on business networks using high-end servers, multiple disk arrays and Fiber channel interconnection technology. Traditional SAN installations include having physical units in different locations which provide for data replication, business continuity and disaster recovery.

Proposers must identify a SAN solution where:
- There are two separate physical units (arrays) that are designed to communicate with each other over a fiber channel connection between two physical buildings
- Each array must have a minimum of 12TB of storage
- Built in replication between the arrays is innately included
- The arrays are designed to integrate with, MS Exchange, MS SharePoint, MS SQL Server, and VMware including VDI.
- The arrays use flash SSD technology to accelerate performance
- The arrays have built in compression methodologies
- The arrays are monitored by the manufacturer for performance and for system faults
- The firmware upgrading process on the arrays is performed by the manufacturer
- The arrays are scalable
- The arrays have the capacity to perform deduplication
- Cost for both arrays before tax does not exceed $67,000
- There is a three year 4hr response maintenance package with associated cost
- There is assistance with the initial setup of the arrays with associated cost
Proposer Questions
The responsibility for determining and obtaining the full extent of all information needed to respond to the Request for Quotes (RFQ) rests with the Proposer.

All questions concerning this RFQ must be directed to the RFQ Coordinator listed below:

Dave Varga
City of Mukilteo, Information Technology Manager
11930 Cyrus Way
Mukilteo, WA 98275
425-263-8037
Fax: 425-212-2069
dvarga@ci.mukilteo.wa.us

Any oral communications will be considered unofficial and non-binding on the City of Mukilteo. Proposers should rely only on written statements issued by the RFQ Coordinator.

Preliminary Timeline
Request for Quotes Issued – May 16, 2012
Quotes Due – 2:00 p.m., June 8, 2012
Recommendation of Award by City Administrator – June 19, 2012

The City reserves the right to change any or all of the dates above.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

Quote Response Date and Location
The Finance Department must receive the firm’s quote, in its entirety, not later than 2:00 p.m., Pacific Time in Mukilteo, Washington, on June 8, 2012. Firms submitting quotes assume all risk related to the method of dispatch chosen. The City of Mukilteo assumes no responsibility for delays caused by any delivery service. Postmarking by the due date will not substitute for actual quote receipt. Quotes may not be delivered by facsimile transmission or other telecommunication or solely by electronic means.

Single Response
A single response to the RFQ may be deemed a failure of competition, and in the best interest of the City of Mukilteo, this RFQ may be terminated and re-advertised.

Quote Rejection
The City of Mukilteo reserves the right to reject any or all quotes at any time without penalty, or waive any irregularities and informalities in the quotes submitted and accepted by the City. The issuance of this RFQ does not compel the City to enter into a contract with any Proposer.

Errors in Quote
The City will not be liable for any errors in quotes. Firms will not be allowed to alter quote documents after the deadline for quote submission.
City-Requested Clarifications
The City reserves the right to request clarification of information submitted and to request additional information from any proposer.

Withdrawal of Quotes
Firms may withdraw a quote that has been submitted at any time up to the quote closing date and time.

Non-Endorsement
As a result of the selection of a vendor, the City is neither endorsing nor suggesting that vendor’s services are the best or only solution. The vendor agrees to make no reference to the City of Mukilteo in any literature, promotional material, brochures, sales presentation or the like without prior express written consent from the City.

Response Property of the City of Mukilteo
All quotes and accompanying documentation will become the property of the City of Mukilteo. Selection or rejection of a quote does not affect this right.

Proprietary Quote Material
Any information contained in the quote that is proprietary must be clearly designated. Marking the entire quote as proprietary will be neither accepted nor honored. If a request is made to view a firm’s quote, the City will comply according to the Open Public Records Act, Chapter 42.17 RCW. If any information is marked as proprietary in the quote, such information will not be made available until the affected firm has been given an opportunity to seek a court injunction against the requested disclosure.

Cost of Preparing Quotes
The City of Mukilteo is not liable for any costs incurred by firms in the preparation and presentation of quotes in response to this RFQ.

Number of Quote Copies Required
Firms responding to this RFQ are to submit one (1) original copy of the complete quote package. An electronic copy of the quote in either Adobe Acrobat or Microsoft Office 2010 compatible formats must also be submitted.

Legal Disputes
In submitting a quote, the Proposer agrees that in the event of litigation concerning or arising out of the above-referenced agreement or this RFQ, quotes in response to this RFQ or related process, the sole venue of any legal action shall be Snohomish County Superior Court, and the laws governing the interpretation of the agreement, this RFQ or related process shall be Washington Law.

Indemnification
In submitting a quote, the Proposer agrees to indemnify and hold the City harmless of all liability, risks, costs, claims, actions, suits, demands, losses expenses, injuries and damages of any kind arising directly or indirectly out of, or in connection with, the City’s handling of the RFQ process, including, but not limited to, the rejection of any or all quotes.
Quote Opening
All quotes must be submitted to the Finance Department, 11930 Cyrus Way, Mukilteo, Washington 98275 no later than 2:00 p.m., June 8, 2012 and must be clearly marked:

QUOTES FOR SAN
Attn: Dave Varga

Review of quotes
All qualified quotes will be reviewed and representatives from the highest-ranking vendor may be invited to present their quotes to the City on June 19, 2012.

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

Content and Format
Quotes should be prepared simply and economically, providing a straightforward, concise description of provider capabilities to satisfy the requirements of the RFQ. Emphasis should be on completeness and clarity of content.

Quotes in response to this RFQ must include the following:

Executive Summary
An overview of your quote and summary statements associated with the key elements of the RFQ. The purpose of the executive summary is to help the evaluation committee determine the quote’s distinguishing characteristics compared to other quotes.

Quote Certification Form
The quote certification form must be complete and signed by the proposer representative authorized to make contractual obligations.
I have read the Request for Quote (RFQ) for Storage Area Network and fully understand its intent. I understand that our ability to meet the criteria and provide the required services shall be reviewed by the City, which will develop a recommendation for City Administrator’s consideration regarding the selection of the most advantageous Storage Area Network. It is understood that all information included in, attached to, or required by this RFQ shall become public record upon delivery to the City.

With my signature, I certify the following:

1. I am authorized to commit my firm to this Quote and that the information herein is valid for 45 days from this date.
2. That all information presented herein is accurate and complete and that the services and equipment can be delivered as presented in this quote upon the City’s request.
3. That I have had an opportunity to ask questions regarding this RFQ and that those questions have been answered.
4. That I understand that any material omission of required forms or information may result in rejection of this quote as non-responsive.
5. That this quote is made without prior understanding, agreement, or connection with any corporation, firm, or person submitting an offer for this quote, and is in all respects fair and without collusion or fraud.
6. That the completion of the Quote is a binding commitment to provide a Storage Area Network and related services requested as proposed herein.

Proposer Signature ___________________________ Date ___________
Name (printed) ______________________________ Title __________________
Financial Institution ____________________________________________
Address _________________________________________________________
Phone __________________________ Fax ____________________________
Email Address ___________________________________________________