



**Request for Proposal
RFP-4862-21-SH**

Utility Billing Printing & Mailing Services

RESPONSES DUE:

February 2, 2021 prior to 2:30 P.M.

Accepting Electronic Responses Only

**Responses Only Submitted Through the Rocky Mountain E-Purchasing
System (RMEPS)**

www.bidnetdirect.com/colorado

(Purchasing Representative does not have access or control of the vendor side of RMEPS. If website or other problems arise during response submission, vendor **MUST** contact RMEPS to resolve issue prior to the response deadline. 800-835-4603)

Due to recent developments with increased COVID-19 cases in Mesa County, public in-person bid openings are temporarily being suspended until further notice. Bid openings will take place on their designated date and time virtually, and bid tabulations will be posted for public view/access. The virtual link is noted below to attend the bid opening. Public may attend via video or via phone for audio only.

Please join Utility Billing Printing & Mailing Services RFP-4862-21-SH on GoToConnect from your computer using the Chrome browser.

<https://my.jive.com/meet/876587549>

You can also dial in using your phone.

US: (571) 317-3116

Access Code: 876-587-549

PURCHASING REPRESENTATIVE:

Susan Hyatt
susanh@gjcity.org
970-244-1513

This solicitation has been developed specifically for a Request for Proposal intended to solicit competitive responses for this solicitation and may not be the same as previous City of Grand Junction solicitations. All offerors are urged to thoroughly review this solicitation prior to submitting. Submittal by **FAX, EMAIL or HARD COPY IS NOT ACCEPTABLE** for this solicitation.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

SECTION 1.0: ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION & CONDITIONS FOR SUBMITTAL

- 1.1 **Issuing Office:** This Request for Proposal (RFP) is issued by the City of Grand Junction. All contact regarding this RFP shall be directed to:

RFP Questions:

Susan Hyatt

susanh@gjcity.org

The City would like to remind all Contractors, Sub-Contractors, Vendors, Suppliers, Manufacturers, Service Providers, etc. that (with the exception of Pre-Bid or Site Visit Meetings) all questions, inquiries, comments, or communication pertaining to any formal solicitation (whether process, specifications, scope, etc.) must be directed (in writing) to the Purchasing Agent assigned to the project, or Purchasing Division. Direct communication with the City assigned Project Managers/Engineers is not appropriate for public procurement prior to award and may result in disqualification.

- 1.2 **Purpose:** The purpose of this RFP is to obtain proposals from qualified professional firms to provide Utility Billing Printing and Mailing Services for the City of Grand Junction, CO, area as described in Section 4.0.
- 1.3 **Compliance:** All participating Offerors, by their signature hereunder, shall agree to comply with all conditions, requirements, and instructions of this RFP as stated or implied herein. Should the City omit anything from this packet which is necessary to the clear understanding of the requirements, or should it appear that various instructions are in conflict, the Offeror(s) shall secure instructions from the Purchasing Division prior to the date and time of the submittal deadline shown in this RFP.
- 1.4 **Procurement Process:** Procurement processes shall be governed by the most current version of the City of Grand Junction [Purchasing Policy and Procedure Manual](#).
- 1.5 **Submission:** Please refer to section 5.0 for what is to be included. **Each proposal shall be submitted in electronic format only, and only through the Rocky Mountain E-Purchasing website, www.bidnetdirect.com/colorado. **The uploaded response shall be a single PDF document with all required information included.** **This site offers both “free” and “paying” registration options that allow for full access of the City’s documents and for electronic submission of proposals.** (Note: “free” registration may take up to 24 hours to process. Please Plan accordingly.)** For proper comparison and evaluation, the City requests that proposals be formatted as directed in Section 5.0 “Preparation and Submittal of Proposals.” Submittals received that fail to follow this format may be ruled non-responsive. (Purchasing Representative does not have access or control of the vendor side of RMEPS. If website or other problems arise during response submission, vendor **MUST** contact RMEPS to resolve issue prior to the response deadline. **800-835-4603**)
- 1.6 **Altering Proposals:** Any alterations made prior to opening date and time must be initialed by the signer of the proposal, guaranteeing authenticity. Proposals cannot be altered or amended after submission deadline.

- 1.7 Withdrawal of Proposal:** A proposal must be firm and valid for award and may not be withdrawn or canceled by the Offeror for sixty (60) days following the submittal deadline date, and only prior to award. The Offeror so agrees upon submittal of their proposal. After award this statement is not applicable.
- 1.8 Addenda:** All Questions shall be submitted in writing to the appropriate person as shown in Section 1.1. Any interpretations, corrections and changes to this RFP or extensions to the opening/receipt date shall be made by a written Addendum to the RFP by the City. Sole authority to authorize addenda shall be vested in the City of Grand Junction Purchasing Representative. Addenda will be issued electronically through the Rocky Mountain E-Purchasing website at www.bidnetdirect.com/colorado. Offerors shall acknowledge receipt of all addenda in their proposal. Addenda and solicitations are posted on the City's website, www.gjcity.org/business-and-economic-development/bids, for informational purposes.
- 1.9 Confidential Material:** All materials submitted in response to this RFP shall ultimately become public record and shall be subject to inspection after contract award. "**Proprietary or Confidential Information**" is defined as any information that is not generally known to competitors and which provides a competitive advantage. Unrestricted disclosure of proprietary information places it in the public domain. Only submittal information clearly identified with the words "**Confidential Disclosure**" and uploaded as a separate document shall establish a confidential, proprietary relationship. Any material to be treated as confidential or proprietary in nature must include a justification for the request. The request shall be reviewed and either approved or denied by the City. If denied, the proposer shall have the opportunity to withdraw its entire proposal, or to remove the confidential or proprietary restrictions. Neither cost nor pricing information nor the total proposal shall be considered confidential or proprietary
- 1.10 Response Material Ownership:** All proposals become the property of the City upon receipt and shall only be returned to the proposer at the City's option. Selection or rejection of the proposal shall not affect this right. The City shall have the right to use all ideas or adaptations of the ideas contained in any proposal received in response to this RFP, subject to limitations outlined in the section titled "Confidential Material". Disqualification of a proposal does not eliminate this right.
- 1.11 Minimal Standards for Responsible Prospective Offerors:** A prospective Offeror must affirmably demonstrate their responsibility. A prospective Offeror must meet the following requirements:
- Have adequate financial resources, or the ability to obtain such resources as required.
 - Be able to comply with the required or proposed completion schedule.
 - Have a satisfactory record of performance.
 - Have a satisfactory record of integrity and ethics.
 - Be otherwise qualified and eligible to receive an award and enter into a contract with the City.
- 1.12 Nonconforming Terms and Conditions:** A proposal that includes terms and conditions that do not conform to the terms and conditions of this Request for Proposal is subject to rejection as non-responsive. The City reserves the right to permit the Offeror to withdraw

nonconforming terms and conditions from its proposal prior to a determination by the City of non-responsiveness based on the submission of nonconforming terms and conditions

- 1.13 Open Records:** All proposals shall be open for public inspection after the contract is awarded. Trade secrets and confidential information contained in the proposal so identified by offer as such shall be treated as confidential by the City to the extent allowable in the Open Records Act.
- 1.14 Sales Tax:** City of Grand Junction is, by statute, exempt from the State Sales Tax and Federal Excise Tax; therefore, all fees shall not include taxes.
- 1.15 Public Opening:** Proposals shall be opened in the City Hall Auditorium, 250 North 5th Street, Grand Junction, CO 81501, immediately following the proposal deadline. Offerors, their representatives and interested persons may be present. Only the names and locations on the proposing firms will be disclosed.

Due to recent developments with increased COVID-19 cases in Mesa County, public in-person bid openings are temporarily being suspended until further notice. Bid openings will take place on their designated date and time virtually, and bid tabulations will be posted for public view/access. The virtual link is noted below to attend the bid opening. Public may attend via video or via phone for audio only.

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SECTION 2.0: GENERAL CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 2.1. Acceptance of RFP Terms:** A proposal submitted in response to this RFP shall constitute a binding offer. Acknowledgment of this condition shall be indicated on the Cover Letter by the Offeror or an officer of the Offeror legally authorized to execute contractual obligations. A submission in response to the RFP acknowledges acceptance by the Offeror of all terms and conditions, as set forth herein. An Offeror shall identify clearly and thoroughly any variations between its proposal and the City's RFP requirements. Failure to do so shall be deemed a waiver of any rights to subsequently modify the terms of performance, except as outlined or specified in the RFP.
- 2.2. Execution, Correlation, Intent, and Interpretations:** The Contract Documents shall be signed by the City and Contractor. By executing the contract, the Contractor represents that they have familiarized themselves with the local conditions under which the Work is to be

performed, and correlated their observations with the requirements of the Contract Documents. The Contract Documents are complementary, and what is required by any one, shall be as binding as if required by all. The intention of the documents is to include all labor, materials, equipment, services and other items necessary for the proper execution and completion of the scope of work as defined in the technical specifications and drawings contained herein. All drawings, specifications and copies furnished by the City are, and shall remain, City property. They are not to be used on any other project.

- 2.3. Acceptance Not Waiver:** The City's acceptance or approval of any work furnished hereunder shall not in any way relieve the proposer of their present responsibility to maintain the high quality, integrity and timeliness of his work. The City's approval or acceptance of, or payment for, any services shall not be construed as a future waiver of any rights under this Contract, or of any cause of action arising out of performance under this Contract.
- 2.4. Change Order/Amendment:** No oral statement of any person shall modify or otherwise change, or affect the terms, conditions or specifications stated in the resulting contract. All change orders/amendments to the contract shall be made in writing by the City Purchasing Division.
- 2.5. Assignment:** The Offeror shall not sell, assign, transfer or convey any contract resulting from this RFP, in whole or in part, without the prior written approval from the City.
- 2.6. Compliance with Laws:** Proposals must comply with all Federal, State, County and local laws governing or covering this type of service and the fulfillment of all ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) requirements. Contractor hereby warrants that it is qualified to assume the responsibilities and render the services described herein and has all requisite corporate authority and professional licenses in good standing, required by law.
- 2.7. Debarment/Suspension:** The Contractor hereby certifies that the Contractor is not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Governmental department or agency.
- 2.8. Confidentiality:** All information disclosed by the City to the Contractor for the purpose of the work to be done or information that comes to the attention of the Contractor during the course of performing such work is to be kept strictly confidential.
- 2.9. Conflict of Interest:** No public official and/or City employee shall have interest in any contract resulting from this RFP.
- 2.10. Contract:** This Request for Proposal, submitted documents, and any negotiations, when properly accepted by the City, shall constitute a contract equally binding between the City and Offeror. The contract represents the entire and integrated agreement between the parties hereto and supersedes all prior negotiations, representations, or agreements, either written or oral, including the Proposal documents. The contract may be amended or modified with Change Orders, Field Orders, or Amendment.
- 2.11. Cancellation of Solicitation:** Any solicitation may be canceled by the City or any solicitation response by a vendor may be rejected in whole or in part when it is in the best interest of the City.

- 2.12. Project Manager/Administrator:** The Project Manager, on behalf of the City, shall render decisions in a timely manner pertaining to the work proposed or performed by the Offeror. The Project Manager shall be responsible for approval and/or acceptance of any related performance of the Scope of Work.
- 2.13. Contract Termination:** This contract shall remain in effect until any of the following occurs: (1) contract expires; (2) completion of services; (3) acceptance of services or, (4) for convenience terminated by either party with a written *Notice of Cancellation* stating therein the reasons for such cancellation and the effective date of cancellation at least thirty days past notification.
- 2.14. Employment Discrimination:** During the performance of any services per agreement with the City, the Offeror, by submitting a Proposal, agrees to the following conditions:
- 2.14.1.** The Offeror shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, color, sex, age, disability, citizenship status, marital status, veteran status, sexual orientation, national origin, or any legally protected status except when such condition is a legitimate occupational qualification reasonably necessary for the normal operations of the Offeror. The Offeror agrees to post in conspicuous places, visible to employees and applicants for employment, notices setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.
- 2.14.2.** The Offeror, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Offeror, shall state that such Offeror is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
- 2.14.3.** Notices, advertisements, and solicitations placed in accordance with federal law, rule, or regulation shall be deemed sufficient for the purpose of meeting the requirements of this section.
- 2.15. Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 and Immigration Compliance:** The Offeror certifies that it does not and will not during the performance of the contract employ illegal alien workers or otherwise violate the provisions of the Federal Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 and/or the immigration compliance requirements of State of Colorado C.R.S. § 8-17.5-101, *et. seq.* (House Bill 06-1343).
- 2.16. Ethics:** The Offeror shall not accept or offer gifts or anything of value nor enter into any business arrangement with any employee, official, or agent of the City.
- 2.17. Failure to Deliver:** In the event of failure of the Offeror to deliver services in accordance with the contract terms and conditions, the City, after due oral or written notice, may procure the services from other sources and hold the Offeror responsible for any costs resulting in additional purchase and administrative services. This remedy shall be in addition to any other remedies that the City may have.
- 2.18. Failure to Enforce:** Failure by the City at any time to enforce the provisions of the contract shall not be construed as a waiver of any such provisions. Such failure to enforce shall not affect the validity of the contract or any part thereof or the right of the City to enforce any provision at any time in accordance with its terms.

- 2.19. Force Majeure:** The Offeror shall not be held responsible for failure to perform the duties and responsibilities imposed by the contract due to legal strikes, fires, riots, rebellions, and acts of God beyond the control of the Offeror, unless otherwise specified in the contract.
- 2.20. Indemnification:** Offeror shall defend, indemnify and save harmless the City and all its officers, employees, insurers, and self-insurance pool, from and against all liability, suits, actions, or other claims of any character, name and description brought for or on account of any injuries or damages received or sustained by any person, persons, or property on account of any negligent act or fault of the Offeror, or of any Offeror's agent, employee, subcontractor or supplier in the execution of, or performance under, any contract which may result from proposal award. Offeror shall pay any judgment with cost which may be obtained against the City growing out of such injury or damages.
- 2.21. Independent Firm:** The Offeror shall be legally considered an Independent Firm and neither the Firm nor its employees shall, under any circumstances, be considered servants or agents of the City. The City shall be at no time legally responsible for any negligence or other wrongdoing by the Firm, its servants, or agents. The City shall not withhold from the contract payments to the Firm any federal or state unemployment taxes, federal or state income taxes, Social Security Tax or any other amounts for benefits to the Firm. Further, the City shall not provide to the Firm any insurance coverage or other benefits, including Workers' Compensation, normally provided by the City for its employees.
- 2.22. Ownership:** All plans, prints, designs, concepts, etc. shall become the property of the City.
- 2.23. Oral Statements:** No oral statement of any person shall modify or otherwise affect the terms, conditions, or specifications stated in this document and/or resulting agreement. All modifications to this request and any agreement must be made in writing by the City.
- 2.24. Patents/Copyrights:** The Offeror agrees to protect the City from any claims involving infringements of patents and/or copyrights. In no event shall the City be liable to the Offeror for any/all suits arising on the grounds of patent(s)/copyright(s) infringement. Patent/copyright infringement shall null and void any agreement resulting from response to this RFP.
- 2.25. Remedies:** The Offeror and City agree that both parties have all rights, duties, and remedies available as stated in the Uniform Commercial Code.
- 2.26. Venue:** Any agreement as a result of this RFP shall be deemed to have been made in, and shall be construed and interpreted in accordance with, the laws of the City of Grand Junction, Mesa County, Colorado.
- 2.27. Expenses:** Expenses incurred in preparation, submission and presentation of this RFP are the responsibility of the company and cannot be charged to the City.
- 2.28. Sovereign Immunity:** The City specifically reserves the right to sovereign immunity pursuant to Colorado State Law as a defense to any action arising in conjunction to this agreement.
- 2.29. Public Funds/Non-Appropriation of Funds:** Funds for payment have been provided through the City's budget approved by the City Council/Board of County Commissioners for

the stated fiscal year only. State of Colorado statutes prohibit the obligation and expenditure of public funds beyond the fiscal year for which a budget has been approved. Therefore, anticipated orders or other obligations that may arise past the end of the stated City's fiscal year shall be subject to budget approval. Any contract will be subject to and must contain a governmental non-appropriation of funds clause.

- 2.30. Collusion Clause:** Each Offeror by submitting a proposal certifies that it is not party to any collusive action or any action that may be in violation of the Sherman Antitrust Act. Any and all proposals shall be rejected if there is evidence or reason for believing that collusion exists among the proposers. The City may or may not, at the discretion of the City Purchasing Representative, accept future proposals for the same service or commodities for participants in such collusion.
- 2.31. Gratuities:** The Contractor certifies and agrees that no gratuities or kickbacks were paid in connection with this contract, nor were any fees, commissions, gifts or other considerations made contingent upon the award of this contract. If the Contractor breaches or violates this warranty, the City may, at their discretion, terminate this contract without liability to the City.
- 2.32. OSHA Standards:** All Offerors agree and warrant that services performed in response to this invitation shall conform to the standards declared by the US Department of Labor under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (OSHA). In the event the services do not conform to OSHA Standards, the City may require the services to be redone at no additional expense to the City.
- 2.33. Performance of the Contract:** The City reserves the right to enforce the performance of the contract in any manner prescribed by law or deemed to be in the best interest of the City in the event of breach or default of resulting contract award.
- 2.34. Benefit Claims:** The City shall not provide the awarded Firm/s any insurance coverage or other benefits, including Worker's Compensation, normally provided by the City for its employees.
- 2.35. Default:** The City reserves the right to terminate the contract immediately in the event the Contractor fails to meet delivery or completion schedules, or otherwise perform in accordance with the accepted proposal. Breach of contract or default authorizes the City to purchase like services elsewhere and charge the full increase in cost to the defaulting Contractor.
- 2.36. Cooperative Purchasing:** Purchases as a result of this solicitation are primarily for the City. Other governmental entities may be extended the opportunity to utilize the resultant contract award with the agreement of the successful provider and the participating agencies. All participating entities will be required to abide by the specifications, terms, conditions and pricings established in this Proposal. The quantities furnished in this proposal document are for only the City. It does not include quantities for any other jurisdiction. The City will be responsible only for the award for our jurisdiction. Other participating entities will place their own awards on their respective Purchase Orders through their purchasing office or use their purchasing card for purchase/payment as authorized or agreed upon between the provider and the individual entity. The City accepts no liability for payment of orders placed by other participating jurisdictions that choose to piggy-back on our solicitation. Orders placed by participating jurisdictions under the terms of this solicitation will indicate their specific delivery and invoicing instructions.

2.37. Public Disclosure Record: If the Proposer has knowledge of their employee(s) or sub-proposers having an immediate family relationship with a City employee or elected official, the proposer must provide the Purchasing Representative with the name(s) of these individuals. These individuals are required to file an acceptable "Public Disclosure Record", a statement of financial interest, before conducting business with the City.

2.38. Keep Jobs in Colorado Act: Contractor shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with Article 17 of Title 8, Colorado Revised Statutes requiring 80% Colorado labor to be employed on public works projects. Contractor shall, upon reasonable notice provided by the City, permit the City to inspect documentation of identification and residency required by C.R.S. §8-17-101(2)(a). If Contractor claims it is entitled to a waiver pursuant to C.R.S. §8-17-101(1), Contractor shall state that there is insufficient Colorado labor to perform the work such that compliance with Article 17 would create an undue burden that would substantially prevent a project from proceeding to completion, and shall include evidence demonstrating the insufficiency and undue burden in its response.

Unless expressly granted a waiver by the City pursuant to C.R.S. §8-17-101(1), Contractor shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with Article 17 of Title 8, Colorado Revised Statutes requiring 80% Colorado labor to be employed on public works projects. Contractor shall, upon reasonable notice provided by the City, permit the City to inspect documentation of identification and residency required by C.R.S. §8-17-101(2)(a).

2.38.1. "Public Works project" is defined as:

- (a) any construction, alteration, repair, demolition, or improvement of any land, building, structure, facility, road, highway, bridge, or other public improvement suitable for and intended for use in the promotion of the public health, welfare, or safety and any maintenance programs for the upkeep of such projects
- (b) for which appropriate or expenditure of moneys may be reasonably expected to be \$500,000.00 or more in the aggregate for any fiscal year
- (c) except any project that receives federal moneys.

SECTION 3.0: INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Insurance Requirements: The selected Contractor agrees to procure and maintain, at its own cost, policy(s) of insurance sufficient to insure against all liability, claims, demands, and other obligations assumed by the Contractor pursuant to this Section. Such insurance shall be in addition to any other insurance requirements imposed by this Contract or by law. The Contractor shall not be relieved of any liability, claims, demands, or other obligations assumed pursuant to this Section by reason of its failure to procure or maintain insurance in sufficient amounts, durations, or types. Contractor shall procure and maintain and, if applicable, shall cause any Subcontractor of the Contractor to procure and maintain insurance coverage listed below. Such coverage shall be procured and maintained with forms and insurers acceptable to the City. In the case of any claims-made policy, the necessary retroactive dates and extended reporting periods shall be procured to maintain such continuous coverage. Minimum coverage limits shall be as indicated below unless specified otherwise:

(a) Worker Compensation: Contractor shall comply with all State of Colorado Regulations concerning Workers' Compensation insurance coverage.

(b) General Liability insurance with minimum limits of:

ONE MILLION DOLLARS (\$1,000,000) each occurrence and
TWO MILLION DOLLARS (\$2,000,000) per job aggregate.

The policy shall be applicable to all premises and operations. The policy shall include coverage for bodily injury, broad form property damage (including completed operations), personal injury (including coverage for contractual and employee acts), blanket contractual, products, and completed operations. The policy shall include coverage for explosion, collapse, and underground hazards. The policy shall contain a severability of interests provision.

(c) Comprehensive Automobile Liability insurance with minimum limits for bodily injury and property damage of not less than:

ONE MILLION DOLLARS (\$1,000,000) each occurrence and
TWO MILLION DOLLARS (\$2,000,000) aggregate

(d) Professional Liability & Errors and Omissions Insurance policy with a minimum of:

ONE MILLION DOLLARS (\$1,000,000) per claim

This policy shall provide coverage to protect the contractor against liability incurred as a result of the professional services performed as a result of responding to this Solicitation.

With respect to each of Contractors owned, hired, or non-owned vehicles assigned to be used in performance of the Work. The policy shall contain a severability of interests provision. The policies required by paragraph (b) above shall be endorsed to include the City, and the City's officers and employees as additional insureds. Every policy required above shall be primary insurance, and any insurance carried by the City, its officers, or its employees, or carried by or provided through any insurance pool of the City, shall be excess and not contributory insurance to that provided by Bidder. No additional insured endorsement to any required policy shall contain any exclusion for bodily injury or property damage arising from completed operations. The Bidder shall be solely responsible for any deductible losses under any policy required above.

SECTION 4.0: SPECIFICATIONS/SCOPE OF SERVICES

- 4.1 General:** The City of Grand Junction, Colorado (City) is seeking proposals from qualified firms with the experience, resources, and expertise to provide printing and mailing services of electronic invoices for the Utility Billing Division of the Utilities Department.

The Utilities Department is responsible for water and wastewater services, which include delivering high quality drinking water and irrigation water to customers and collecting and treating wastewater in a manner that is protective of public health and the environment.

The Utilities Department is organized into two main divisions: Water Services and Wastewater Services. The Water Services division includes the water supply, treatment, distribution, irrigation, and utility billing functions. The Wastewater Services Division includes wastewater collections, treatment, industrial pretreatment, and environmental laboratory functions. Utility Billing is included within the Utilities Department.

- 4.2 Scope of Work:** The City is soliciting Proposals from capable firms to provide an all inclusive printing and mailing system with the following capabilities/features. All inclusive means postage is included in the contract prices, as well as printing, perforating, folding, envelope stuffing, insertion, etc.

- 4.2.1** Receive electronic PDF files from the City which contain the billing information for each customer.
- 4.2.2** The electronic file shall be provided by the City between noon and 3:00 P.M. on Thursdays.
- 4.2.3** Utility Billing software is NorthStar, a division of Harris Computer Systems.
- 4.2.4** Print the bills (invoices) for each individual customer.
- 4.2.5** Fold the bill and add occasion inserts and stuff into envelopes.
- 4.2.6** Mail the bill to the appropriate customer address
- 4.2.7** Envelope printing is also included in this contract
- 4.2.8** Field formatting should not be required.
- 4.2.9** Each invoice has OCR Scanline using OCR-A or OCR-B font.
- 4.2.10** Weekly batches are normally every Thursday, but once per month there is an additional Monday batch.
- 4.2.11** Contractor will be required to follow current Post Office procedures and pursue available discounts.

- 4.3** The average number of Utility Bills is 37,000 per month. Each piece consists of:

- 4.3.1** One 8-1/2" x 11" bill.
- 4.3.2** Invoices are normally one page in black and white on 20 LB bond paper.
- 4.3.3** One #9 return envelope
- 4.3.4** One #10 mailing envelope
- 4.3.5** Inserts will be required in almost every cycle and will also require printing and folding
- 4.3.6** The size of inserts vary. Some are 1/3 page, some are 1/2 page and some are full page. All are printed on 20 LB bond and usually printed in black ink
- 4.3.7** There is a group in every cycle that prefers online payment. This group does not get a return envelope..
- 4.3.8** Contractor shall place bill, inserts (if applicable), and #9 return envelope in the #10 mailing envelope. Envelope will them be sealed.

- 4.3.9 Bundle, prepare for carrier route discount, mail, complete the appropriate paperwork and deliver to Post Office.
- 4.3.10 Bills must be kept in exact order throughout the process.
- 4.3.11 Provide City with a copy of the paperwork from Post Service.
- 4.3.12 The number of utility bills sent our per week will vary depending on the billing cycle. There are five billing cycles per month.

4.4 The awarded Contractor shall provide a comprehensive automated printing system that is compatible to all existing City-owned computer equipment and software. Contractor must be able to accept the electronic PDF file in a format City systems are capable of producing.

4.5 The awarded Contractor shall:

- 4.5.1 Receive, print, warehouse and inventory #10 window envelopes, #9 return envelopes, preprinted/perforated statements as directed by the City. Either normal or micro perforation is acceptable. Perforation must stay 7-3/8" from the top edge.
- 4.5.2 Receive weekly electronic PDF files from City.
- 4.5.3 Sort data as needed, certify mailing addresses, print received billing data onto statements. Add insert materials as required. Fold statements and inserts (if required) and insert into #10 window envelopes along with a #9 return envelope, and any other inserts as directed.
- 4.5.4 Use CASS software that verifies and corrects defective addresses such as misspelled street names, missing directional, incorrect suffix, etc. to obtain the lowest postage rate.
- 4.5.5 Have the ability to process addresses through NCOA_48 and provide weekly address updates.
- 4.5.6 Provide the most cost effective mail sort processing.
- 4.5.7 Deliver to Post Office within one working day of file receipt. **Contractor shall provide next day mail service.**
- 4.5.8 Fax or email weekly copies of US Postal Service acknowledgement of mailing certificates.
- 4.5.9 Provide weekly report detailing how many bills were mailed.
- 4.5.10 Provide information on quality control measures.

4.6 Contractor shall maintain confidentiality on all data collected or processed in administration of this contract. Data shall not be released to any 3rd party without prior written consent of the City.

4.7 Contractor shall have the ability to update/correct customer information upon request and notification for the City. Their system shall comply with all applicable laws and regulations, including but not limited to Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

4.8 RFP Tentative Time Schedule:

- Request for Proposal available on or about January 12, 2020
- Inquiry deadline, no questions after this date January 21, 2021
- Addendum issued, if needed January 25, 2021
- Submittal deadline for proposals prior to 2:30 PM February 2, 2021
- Evaluation of proposals Feb 3 – Feb 10, 2021
- Selection of agency February 12, 2021

4.9 Questions Regarding Scope of Services:

Susan Hyatt

susanh@gjcity.org

4.10 Contract: The initial contract period shall be for one (1) year from **February 12, 2021 through February 11, 2022**. The awarded Firm(s) and the City agree the contract may, upon mutual agreement of the Firm(s) and the City, be extended under the terms and conditions of the contract for three (3) additional one (1) year contract periods, contingent upon the applicable fiscal year funding.

SECTION 5.0: PREPARATION AND SUBMITTAL OF PROPOSALS

Submission: Each proposal shall be submitted in electronic format only, and only through the BidNet website, www.bidnetdirect.com/colorado. This site offers both “free” and “paying” registration options that allow for full access of the City’s documents and for electronic submission of proposals. (Note: “free” registration may take up to 24 hours to process. Please Plan accordingly.) (Purchasing Representative does not have access or control of the vendor side of RMEPS. If website or other problems arise during response submission, vendor **MUST** contact RMEPS to resolve issue prior to the response deadline; **800-835-4603**). For proper comparison and evaluation, the City requests that proposals be formatted as directed. The uploaded response to this RFP shall be a single PDF document with all required information included. Offerors are required to indicate their interest in this Project, show their specific experience and address their capability to perform the Scope of Services in the Time Schedule as set forth herein. For proper comparison and evaluation, the City requires that proposals be formatted **A** to **E**.

- A. Cover Letter:** Cover letter shall be provided which explains the firm’s interest in the project. The letter shall contain the name/address/phone number/email of the person who will serve as the firm’s principal contact with City’s Contract Administrator and shall identify individual(s) who will be authorized to make presentations on behalf of the firm. The statement shall bear the signature of the person having proper authority to make formal commitments on behalf of the firm. By submitting a response to this solicitation the Contractor agrees to all requirements herein.
- B. Qualifications/Experience/Credentials:** Proposers shall supply their qualifications for consideration as a contract provider to the City of Grand Junction. Include experience with other similar contracts.
- C. Strategy and Implementation:** Describe your interpretation of the City’s objectives with regard to the RFP. Describe the proposed strategy and/or plan for achieving the objectives of this RFP. The Contractor may utilize a written narrative or any other printed technique to demonstrate their ability to satisfy the Scope of Services. The narrative should describe a logical progression of tasks and efforts starting with the initial steps or tasks to be accomplished and continuing until all proposed tasks are fully described and the RFP objectives are accomplished.
- D. References:** A minimum of three (3) **references** with name, address, telephone number, and email address that can attest to your experience in projects of similar scope and size. Include a brief narrative of the relationship.
- E. Fee Proposal:** Provide total cost using Solicitation Response Form found in Section 7.
- F. Additional Data (optional):** Provide any value-added products or services/modules in addition to the RFP scope of work.

SECTION 6.0: EVALUATION CRITERIA AND FACTORS

- 6.1 Evaluation:** An evaluation team shall review all responses and select the proposal or proposals that best demonstrate the capability in all aspects to perform the scope of services and possess the integrity and reliability that will ensure good faith performance.
- 6.2 Intent:** Only respondents who meet the qualification criteria will be considered. Therefore, it is imperative that the submitted proposal clearly indicate the firm's ability to provide the services described herein.

Submittal evaluations will be done in accordance with the criteria and procedure defined herein. The City reserves the right to reject any and all portions of proposals and take into consideration past performance, if available. The following parameters will be used to evaluate the submittals (in no particular order of priority):

- **Responsiveness of submittal to the RFP.**
(Contractor has submitted a proposal that is fully comprehensive, inclusive, and conforms in all respects to the Request for Proposals (RFP) and all of its requirements, including all forms and substance.)
- **Understanding of the project and the objectives**
(Contractor's ability to demonstrate a thorough understanding of the Owner's goals pertaining to this specific project.)
- **Experience**
(Firm's proven proficiency in the successful completion of similar projects.)
- **Necessary Resources/Capability**
(Firm has provided sufficient information proving their available means to perform the required scope of work/service; to include appropriate bonding, insurance and all other requirements necessary to complete the project.)
- **Strategy & Implementation Plan**
(Firm has provided a clear interpretation of the Owner's objectives in regard to the project, and a fully comprehensive plan to achieve successful completion. See 8.0 Submittal Requirements and Instructions, Item C. – Development Plan Approach for details.)
- **References**
(Proof of performance in projects of similar scope and size from previous clients)
- **Fees**
(All fees associated with the project are provided and are complete and comprehensive. Most competitive fees will be ranked the highest.)
- **Additional value-added products and services/modules**
(Firm has addressed other areas of expertise.)

- 6.3 Oral Interviews:** The City may invite the most qualified rated proposers to participate in oral interviews. Video conferencing will be considered.

- 6.3 Award:** Firms shall be ranked or disqualified based on the criteria listed in Section 6.2. The City reserves the right to consider all of the information submitted and/or oral presentations, if required, in selecting the firm.

SECTION 7.0: SOLICITATION RESPONSE FORM
RFP-4862-21-SH

Offeror must submit entire Form completed, dated and signed.

Utility Billing:

Print & fold invoice, perforate, insert, return envelope, optional insert seal, bundle & mail:	\$ _____/m
	\$ _____/ea
Printing Inserts	\$ _____/m
	\$ _____/ea
Folding Inserts	\$ _____/m
	\$ _____/ea
Printing #9 return envelopes	\$ _____/m
	\$ _____/ea
Printing #10 window envelopes	\$ _____/m
	\$ _____/ea

The City reserves the right to accept any portion of the work to be performed at its discretion

The undersigned has thoroughly examined the entire Request for Proposals and therefore submits the proposal and schedule of fees and services attached hereto.

This offer is firm and irrevocable for sixty (60) days after the time and date set for receipt of proposals.

The undersigned Offeror agrees to provide services and products in accordance with the terms and conditions contained in this Request for Proposal and as described in the Offeror's proposal attached hereto; as accepted by the City.

Prices in the proposal have not knowingly been disclosed with another provider and will not be prior to award.

- Prices in this proposal have been arrived at independently, without consultation, communication or agreement for the purpose of restricting competition.
- No attempt has been made nor will be to induce any other person or firm to submit a proposal for the purpose of restricting competition.
- The individual signing this proposal certifies they are a legal agent of the offeror, authorized to represent the offeror and is legally responsible for the offer with regard to supporting documentation and prices provided.
- Direct purchases by the City of Grand Junction are tax exempt from Colorado Sales or Use Tax. Tax exempt No. 98-903544. The undersigned certifies that no Federal, State, County or Municipal tax will be added to the above quoted prices.
- City of Grand Junction payment terms shall be Net 30 days.
- Prompt payment discount of _____ percent of the net dollar will be offered to the City if the invoice is paid within _____ days after the receipt of the invoice.

RECEIPT OF ADDENDA: the undersigned Contractor acknowledges receipt of Addenda to the Solicitation, Specifications, and other Contract Documents.

State number of Addenda received: _____.

It is the responsibility of the Proposer to ensure all Addenda have been received and acknowledged.

Company Name – (Typed or Printed)

Authorized Agent – (Typed or Printed)

Authorized Agent Signature

Phone Number

Address of Offeror

E-mail Address of Agent

City, State, and Zip Code

Date

Please join Utility Billing Printing & Mailing Services RFP-4862-21-SH on GoToConnect from your computer using the Chrome browser.
<https://my.jive.com/meet/876587549>

You can also dial in using your phone.
US: (571) 317-3116

Access Code: 876-587-549