

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS #2020-043
Electric Vehicle Charging Stations for USM
RESPONSE ADDENDUM # 2
March 25, 2020**

CLARIFICATION

QUESTIONS

Q1: There are no quantities listed in the spreadsheet. The main document does refer to quantities on the spreadsheet but I do not see any.

A1: Due to the nature of the project, the University of Maine system is not able to provide number of EV charging stations needed at this time. Once bids are in with equipment and service estimates, more concrete decisions can be made regarding the number of stations needed. If there is discounted pricing for more charging stations purchased and installed, that can be included in your pricing. The budget for purchasing charging stations is unknown and undefined at this time. The University may decide not to purchase any charging stations for a few years. I think a piece by piece cost estimate would make the most sense – then we can efficiently compare one supplier to another. It would also be nice to see bulk price offers in addition to the piece by piece prices. We are looking primarily for hardware and software price quotes. If installation quotes are included, they should assume that all make-ready work (electrical and groundwork) has been completed. To ensure that we can compare quotes effectively, price quotes should be broken out into detailed sections (e.g. Hardware, Software, Installation, on-site hourly costs, recurring fees, etc.)

Q2: The document does not mention make ready work ie bringing power from the panel to the site of the charging station. Is that something you are envisioning the respondents to this RFP to complete or will the USM staff do this work?

A2: We are looking primarily for hardware and software price quotes. If installation quotes are included, they should assume that all make-ready work (electrical and groundwork) has been completed. To ensure that we can compare quotes effectively, price quotes should be broken out into detailed sections (e.g. Hardware, Software, Installation, on-site hourly costs, recurring fees, etc.)

Q3: The RFP is looking for a turn-key solution for purchasing EV Charging to include the charger, installation and operations/maintenance/warranty. I do not see any specific locations identified and determining installation pricing for a project like this becomes difficult if this is not reviewed prior to bid submittal. I am unclear if each campus has enough power in your panels to accommodate chargers, if the installer needs to run conduit for a specific location or if the installer is just responsible for 'final assembly' of the charger which would be mounting the charger and connecting power at the specific

location of the charger. Will there be a pre-bid site walk at each of the three campuses to determine the locations of the chargers and quantity of chargers desired?

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Q4: There is no mention of the number of desired chargers in this request and this could help determine any potential discounts. Can you please identify the quantity you are looking for and if you are looking for single or dual stations?

A4: Due to the nature of the project, the University of Maine system is not able to provide number of EV charging stations needed at this time. Once bids are in with equipment and service estimates, more concrete decisions can be made regarding the number of stations needed. If there is discounted pricing for more charging stations purchased and installed, that can be included in your pricing. I would like to see piece by piece price quotes for various equipment types (e.g. single plug, dual plug, wall-mount, pedestal-mount, etc.) We need to understand what each supplier has to offer so we know who to go with once we identify our charging locations.

Q5: The scope of work appears generally related to hardware and service elements and not construction/installation. Does this RFP anticipate that the university will provide the installation/construction related services? If not, where would a respondee include this information as part of their quote?

A5: The University will install or at least provide electrical/IT runs up to a connection point.

Q6: The RFP calls for Stainless Steel construction. We would like to offer a station made of anodized aluminum. Will that be acceptable? What about hard plastic?

A6: Stainless construction is preferred; Station made of anodized aluminum is acceptable but must be specified as such. Hard plastic stations are not acceptable. NO PLASTIC!

Q7: We would like to respond with a few different options of stations from different manufacturers. This will provide different price points for USM to choose from. Is that allowed?

A7: This is not allowed because It will be difficult to guarantee prices into the future If you are not the primary EVSE supplier.

Q8: With reference to 1.1.4 Specifications / Scope of Work, does the scope include: make-ready construction, electrical conduits run, trenching etc.? [if so, a site assessment will be required to assess construction cost]

A8: The University will contract the electrical/IT run to the specified location whenever the question arises. The Vendor would just need to provide connection. Sites assessments are not scheduled at this time. The vendor can provide hourly rate for the connection. We are looking primarily for hardware and software price quotes. If installation quotes are included, they should assume that all make-ready work (electrical and groundwork) has been completed. To ensure that we can compare quotes effectively, price quotes should be broken out into detailed sections (e.g. Hardware, Software, Installation, on-site hourly costs, recurring fees, etc.)

Q9: With reference to 1.1.3 Purpose: “Though this document is primarily for University of Southern Maine all campuses in the University of Maine System must be afforded the use of this solution, with all the same terms and conditions applicable to the various University locations.”

- a. **Could you quantify the number of stations to be deployed at University of Southern Maine campuses.**
- b. **Could you quantify the number of stations to be deployed at other campuses**
- c. **Could you confirm approx. planned timeline for deployment on other campus site(s)?**

A9: We do not know the number of stations at this time. The University reserves the right to purchase no stations or more than 30 stations. We want prices to hold steady for five years, as USM and many other campuses may not purchase any charging stations for a few years. How many the University purchases and where they place them will mostly depend on the prices you offer.

Q10: What is the expectation of the respondent presentations?

A10: The University will make the presentation requirements clear to the selected finalists at a later time. Presentations will likely include a Presentation and a showing of the applicable physical units for our examination.

Q11: Per Appendix C General Instructions #5, does this language apply to the 1-year contract renewals?

A11: The contract renewal is upon mutual written agreement, see Appendix D, section 2.

Q12: USM has three campus locations, which location or locations are you pursuing installations for?

A12: We are currently considering installations on our Portland or Gorham campuses. In the future, we may consider Lewiston as well, but are not actively considering it at this time.

Q13: How many stations are being pursued and how many cars per station?

A13: See answers above.

Q14: At what point in the process will site visits be allowed?

A14: No site visits are schedule for now.

Q15: Are we to provide you assumptions on what our turnkey solution would be as we have not been provided any criteria (quantity, locations, wall mount/pedestal, distance from service, is new service required, etc.)?

A15: See answers above.

Q16: Does each charger need a corresponding ADA spot? If so, does the University realize that entire parking lots may need to be resurveyed and restriped?

A16: If by ADA, you mean Americans with Disabilities Act, we do not need a corresponding spot for each charging station. If it's determined that adjacent ADA parking is necessary, then the cost of resurveying and restriping is not included under your scope. The height of the charger control surfaces (e.g. keypad, plugs, etc.) do need to conform to ADA specifications.

Q17: Can you please expand on your definition of Power Measurement (p.7) What do you mean by +/- 2% from 5% to full scale (30A) with 15-minute interval recording and seamless integration with 3rd party operating systems?

A17: We would like the ability to measure the power used by each station. Ideally, this information would be collected by the charging unit itself and stored for later/real-time retrieval.

Q18: What is meant by "stainless steel construction?" (p.7) Do you mean the EV charging units themselves or that any construction materials should be stainless steel, or both?

A18: The EV charging unit. Ideally, all hardware that is exposed to the elements should be stainless steel - including the charger housing and the pedestal (if a pedestal is being offered) - also see answers above

Q19: Are you anticipating installation costs to be part of this RFP response or are you primarily looking for hardware/software solutions? If you are looking for installation costs, will you be providing additional details on the specific sites?

A19: We are looking primarily for hardware and software price quotes. If installation quotes are included, they should assume that all make-ready work (electrical and groundwork) has been completed. To ensure that we can compare quotes effectively, price quotes should be broken out into detailed sections (e.g. Hardware, Software, Installation, on-site hourly costs, recurring fees, etc.)