

DPL Answers to vendor questions received relating to USAC Form 470 #240010703 (Category One Services) and USAC Form 470 #240010706 (Category Two Services)

The Library's Form 470s may be found here:

<https://data.usac.org/publicreports/Forms/Form470Rfp/Index>

General Questions

Are you looking to award your erate to a single vendor for everything or will this be broken out in sections, Smartnet, APs, Installation/training, and UPSs etc?

Vendors may bid for any one component of our requests as defined below– or any combination that works for them. We will evaluate each component separately.

1. [WAN \(Data Transmission Services\)](#) (which includes any construction and installation needed)
2. Internet Access (which includes any construction and installation needed)
3. [Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections](#) (Smartnet or equivalent)
4. [WiFi network hardware refresh](#) and licensing/maintenance (which includes surveys and installation)
5. Ad Hoc Data Cabling pulls through the year
6. [UPS Units and Maintenance for Data Closets](#) (which we intended to install ourselves, but are open to seeing the installation costs broken out as part of the bid)

WAN (Data Transmission Services) Questions

My question relates to the WAN portion of the above 470.

Will the Denver Library only accept a layer 2 solution or would a layer 3 solution be considered?

A layer 3 solution could be considered as well.

Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections Questions

Below is the screenshot of the DNA auto populating for your agency. These are not on your list; do you want these quoted as well?

No, that isn't necessary. We will handle this next funding year or release a separate 470 just for these.

APEX and ISE are no longer on the new list. Do these still need to be quoted?

No

WiFi Refresh Questions

Project Overview and Planning:

- Will detailed facility drawings be provided to assist the pre-installation survey process? Is the objective to maintain existing AP locations or implement a completely new design?

Yes, we can provide drawings to the winning bidder but we will not make them generally available prior to awarding the bid. If pre-installation surveys determine the current AP placement is sufficient, they will stay in the same locations. But if any substantial coverage issues are discovered, we will adjust AP placement accordingly.

- Could you specify the type of wireless survey you require for both pre-installation and post-installation assessments? Are you seeking a passive, active, or predictive survey, or a combination of these?

Active surveys would be preferred.

- What specific format is required for as-built documents?

PDF is fine

- Installation and Infrastructure:
 - For new cable drops, is the preference for a surface-mounted box and a jumper cable to the access point?

No, we'll want to terminate the cable runs to an RJ45 modular plug on the AP side.

- Should we assume existing patch panels can accommodate new cabling, and would using CAT6A cabling on a CAT6 patch panel present be okay with DPL?

The existing patch panel capacity for new cabling would need to be determined per location. Cat6a cabling on Cat6 patch panels is fine.

- The RFP notes termination onto an RJ45. Is this an RJ45 Modular plug or an RJ45 Jack?

RJ45 modular plug.

- Are APs generally accessible by 12ft ladder?

Generally, yes, though there may be a few exceptions. In our Central Library, Green Valley Ranch, Sam Gary, and Schlessman branch libraries we would highly recommend a scissor lift. Potential bidders should allow for a lift in at least some locations.

- Pricing and Proposal Structure:
 - Considering the variability in the number of required drops, would a per-drop pricing model for white Systimax CAT6a cabling, including a full box of CAT6a and wire molding, be acceptable?

Yes

- How should the proposal be structured? Available options include:
 - Pricing per cable in a drop ceiling.
 - Pricing per cable with wire mold.

You may use pricing per cable in a drop ceiling. There are a few places without drop ceilings, but you should be able to pull through the existing conduit in those cases.

- Additionally, considering our bid is based on a 100% WAP replacement scenario, how should we account for the potential need for new cable installations? While we plan to utilize existing cabling wherever feasible, we acknowledge the likelihood of requiring new installations in certain areas. Would it be appropriate to provide a separate quote for the worst-case scenario per drop, capturing the maximum potential costs for additional cabling? This separate quote would serve as a supplementary element to our primary quote, clearly detailing potential upper-limit costs for new installations.

Please submit your proposal as suggested, provide a separate quote for the worst-case scenario per drop, showing the maximum potential costs for additional cabling.

- Technical Specifications:
 - Could you specify the desired functionalities for integrating 802.1x with Cisco ISE and Meraki systems?

802.1x authentication is used for our internal wifi networks, with both Active Directory and Certificate-based authentication. The Meraki dashboard manages the APs and public wifi splash pages but the 802.1x authentication is done through ISE.

- What brand does this RFP replace?

Meraki

- What type of antennas are currently being used in the outdoor environment?

We have one location that originally had an outdoor WAP serving a roof courtyard, however we are unsure of the antenna that was used. Based on the surveys and discussion with our Public Services staff on the desired outdoor reach of our WiFi, we can add outdoor APs and Antenna, if needed. Since this is unknown, you can provide a

sample price for an outdoor antenna if you wish, but we anticipate that none will be needed since we don't use them today.

- What is currently being used for AAA?

Cisco ISE (RADIUS)

- How many SSIDs are currently in production?

5 at most branches, 9 at our main site.

- What are the current PoE switches and what is the power budget on those ports?

The branches use C9200-48PXG switches that support up to 30W per port over PoE+. The dual PSUs provide a total of 1440W per switch. Our main site uses C9300-48UXM switches that support up to 60W per port over UPoE. The dual PSUs provide a total of 1625W per switch. There are a couple exceptions where we use C9400 series switches but they support 60W UPoE as well.

- What brand and model numbers is the existing switch infrastructure?

Cisco Catalyst C9200-48PXG, C9300-48UXM, C9407R, and C9410R

UPS Units for Data Closets Questions

Is the successful bidder required to provide both the IT and UPS equipment or can the UPS'/EBM's be quoted separately?

EBM is an unfamiliar term. For this section, we are requesting only UPS Units with optional installation/configuration. We intended to install them ourselves, but are open to bids that include installation.

Rack mounting hardware:

- a. 4-Post Racks Tripp Lite SMART1500RMXLN UPS & BP48VRM2U EBM both include 4-Post Rail Universal Adjustable Shelf Kits.
- B. 2-Post Racks Optional 2-Post Rack Mount Kit – Part Number 2POSTRMKITWM – Not Included

Since we don't have a current count of how many data closet racks are 4 post or 2, please price out 36 of each and then we can specify quantities once the bid has been awarded.

What is the quantity of 4-Post Racks and 2-Post racks needing mounting hardware?

We'll need to verify some of the branches. It's between 22-28 for 2-post and between 8-14 for 4-post.

Will the UPS Vendor be installing the UPS'/EBM's in the provided racks?

We did not anticipate installation and configuration to be included. However, we would very much appreciate pricing for just equipment only (which is what was expected) as well as what the cost for vendor installation and configuration would be.

- If yes, are we replacing existing equipment in the racks or installation only?

Replacing

- Is work to occur during normal business hours or after-hours?

This can be done during normal business hours as long as we coordinate with the other library staff.

- Can work occur concurrently?

Yes

- If there is existing UPS equipment, is the UPS Vendor to remove equipment from site for recycling or will the removed equipment remain onsite?

Whatever is most convenient. We have a recycling service and can make use of it if that is easiest.

- Are background checks, training or other pre-requisites applicable?

If there is installation, then it would have to follow the [City and County of Denver's prevailing wage requirements](#).

- If UPS installation is by others, is the equipment to ship to one central location or is delivery to each facility required?

One central location is fine but we are also happy to have them shipped to each branch if that is not any more expensive and is more convenient for the vendor.