



STATE OF VERMONT
OFFICE OF THE SERGEANT AT ARMS
STATE HOUSE

To: House Corrections and Institutions
From: Janet Miller, Sergeant at Arms
CC: Kevin Moore, Director of Information Technology
Date: February 14, 2020
Subject: Update of House Chamber Public Address System Project

Pursuant to Act 42 (2019) Sec. 17, the Sergeant at Arms was authorized to issue a request for proposal (RFP) to replace the aging stand-alone sound system within the House Chamber.

The RFP was issued on July 15, 2019, after collaboration with the Office of Legislative Council and the Office of Legislative Information Technology. The RFP provided information about the requirements of the project, the date of a vendor walk-through, a project time frame, and detailed information about the existing environment.

Proposals were due on or before August 16, 2019. Once a proposal was received, it was reviewed for acceptance by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms.

Prior to awarding the contract, the Chairs of the House Corrections and Institutions and Senate Institutions committees were informally briefed about the responses and the intent to award the contract to a specific vendor. No objections were raised, and the contract was awarded to K2 Audio, LLC, of Colorado on September 4, 2019.

The scope of work was framed as a “Design/Bid Package Development” project. This means K2 developed a detailed design, developed a bid package, and is required to provide hands-on assistance with pre-qualifying contractors, support for construction, final adjustments, acceptance testing, as well a site visit for the final commissioning of the public address system. K2 will not be bidding on the actual integration work (the actual project). That work will be conducted by a different vendor.

The initial work product was delivered on September 19, 2019 via e-mail to the Office of the Sergeant at Arms. After an internal review of the work product, the Sergeant at Arms office requested verification that K2 had spoken with the Office of the State Curator regarding Historic Preservation. K2 provided this verification on November 17, 2019.

Over the course of the next several days, the content of the work product was discussed in detail with internal stakeholders. Due to some concern surrounding the size of the existing conduit under the floor of the House Chamber, an electrical contractor was brought on-site to assist the Office of Legislative Information Technology in assessing what existed. It was determined that the existing conduit could not accommodate a portion of the project as designed.

After some internal discussion, along with a conversation with K2, the Office of the Sergeant at Arms conducted some research on what the potential costs may include should the conduit need to be replaced. This estimate was substantial and therefore the Office of the Sergeant at Arms, in coordination with the Office of Legislative Information Technology, the Joint Fiscal Office, and the Office of Legislative Council, decided to seek an alteration of the initial design in order to provide another option to the committees of jurisdiction.

The altered design is currently in process, and the Office of the Sergeant at Arms should receive the additional work product in the coming weeks.

Due to the nature of the work product, the Office of the Sergeant at Arms cannot discuss the pre-bid documentation on the record, as it may disadvantage the State of Vermont to publicly release this information prior to releasing it to the general public for bid.