Listed below are vendor questions that were received prior to the requested deadline and the corresponding answers for RFB# AA17-RH-5134 – Contract: Develop and Implement Interactive Exhibit Services for the Multi-Screen Digital Wall located in the Old Chapel per the following specifications or approved equal.

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Because the answers to the questions listed below are going to require some research and extra time, the date to post all vendor questions on Addendum # 2 has been REVISED to post on Tuesday, September 20, 2016.

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The original bid opening date was scheduled for September 22, 2016 @ 1:00 pm EDT

The bid opening date has been REVISED to open on: Monday, September 26, 2016 @ 1:00 pm EDST

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Question #1: Who is responsible to provide the hardware (display, signage, player, mounts, cabling) for the digital wall?

Answer # 1:

Question #2: Are vendors able to bid only on the content development for the digital wall?

Answer # 2:

Question #3: Is there a database of assets (photography, video, etc.) available to view in developing content budgets?

Answer # 3:

Question #4: What are the proposed purposes of the Chapel? Having a list could help with content ideas. Thank you.

Answer # 4:

Question #5: Is there a budget for the content development?

Answer # 5:

Question # 6: The RFB mentions a form factor in terms of a screen array. Has hardware been specified already? Do you have an AV specification/integration partner yet? Is do, whom have you selected? If not, is there a timeline for that?

Answer # 6:
Question # 7: we’ve often found projects of this type are most successful when an owner on the client side is collating the stakeholders and managing the project. Has a department or entity been assigned the management of the project for Mass?

Answer # 7:

Question # 8: Who are the stakeholder entities? (people, departments, etc.) who will be reviewing and approving the project’s creative decisions?

Answer # 8:

Question # 9: The RFB identifies the Old Chapel as part of the National Register of Historic Places. Our experience with historical buildings is that any structural/technical installations can be quite complex in terms of making accommodations for new technology. Have you made any allowances in your renovations for this array of screens, computer and attendance hardware? E.g. Rigging of the System, HVAC, Power, A-Room/Area for show control? Will requests need to be made to outside preservation authorities to approve any changes by the vendor for the above?

Answer # 9:

Question #10: You mentioned a lot of types of content development in the RFB. Is the expectation that the selected vendor to design and program the interactive wall will also shoot, edit, program, etc. the content? Will the University handle that or is that a different vendor?

Answer # 10:

Question #11: Are you open to partnerships of companies?

Answer # 11:

Question #12: If we are a certified MBE in New York is that sufficient at this time, or are you looking for local companies?

Answer # 12:

Question #13: How many bidders have you invited to participate?

Answer # 13:

Question #14: Do you have a rough order of magnitude on budget allocated for this budget?

Answer # 14:
Question #15: What are the specs for the touchscreen overlay interface (drivers requirement and physical interface type)?

Answer # 15:

Question #16: Are there speakers and amplifiers already installed that would need to be utilized for the audio portion of the content, and if yes – how many channels? Alternatively – do we need to spec a sound system, and if yes – what are the requirements – power output, number of audio channels, size and number of speakers, directional or omni-directional dispersion pattern?

Answer # 16:

Question #17: How do we submit with the bid some of the samples of our interactive application (both – examples of the previous work in similar spaces, as well as some of the available templates) so we can provide a visual illustration of ideas / concepts we are recommending?

Answer # 17:

Question #18: Is this RFP to include just software development, or is a hardware bid requested as well?

Answer # 18:

Question #19: What are the hardware specifications of the wall? (Screen brands, touch technology, computer specs, etc.)

Answer # 19:

Question #20: The scope says that “firms will develop fully one or more elements”. How should the bids be structured to ensure that price comparisons between bidders are accurate? For instance, if one firm includes one piece of functionality and another includes five.

Answer # 20:

Question #21: Is there a base minimum list of functionality that is required? For instance, the interactive map of campus and the portraits.

Answer # 21:

Question #22: Will the UMass staff be providing all necessary content research or will the firms need to provide content research and development?

Answer # 22:
Question #23: Are there any special permits, union labor, etc. needed to work on campus at UMass?

Answer # 23:

Question #24: Will the equipment (computers, etc.) be located in close proximity to the wall, or will it be placed in a remote AV closet?

Answer # 24:

Question #25: Has the area surrounding the video wall already been designed? Is there any need for further exhibit design for this area?

Answer # 25:

Question #26: In regards to a Content Management System (CMS) – does the University have hosting capabilities for this system or should a content hosting cost be a part of this bid?

Answer # 26:

Question #27: Will internet be available at the location so the wall can be remotely managed?

Answer # 27:

Question #28: For purposes of teaming up, can you share the sign in sheet of vendors who were at the site visit?

Answer # 28: Due to the public bidding process, this information will be released to the award vendor.

Question #29: Will firms that are MBE and WBE be weighted differently than firms that are not?

Answer # 29: No. All bid responses will be weighted on the same criteria that is in in Section 1.3 of the RFB.

Question #30: How will the winning vendor be selected? Is there a point system being applied to the proposals?

Answer # 30:

Question #31: Who will be the main contact on the client’s side for the duration of the project? What will the client’s working group look like?

Answer # 31:
Question # 32: How will reviews and approvals be processed on the client’s end?

Answer # 32: