July 31, 2025

Re: **2025-2030 Snow and Slush Removal and Ice Control Services in Bronx and New York Counties- IFB MET 081425**

Questions and Answers:

Below is a compilation of the questions received for this bid. Questions that were repeated, or of a recurring nature, were consolidated. Thank you very much for your interest.

1. **Question: Will this contract be invoiced per event or one seasonal price per year?**

   Answer: Pricing will be based on per event. Payment will be based on actual services rendered. Job tickets are to be presented to the Plant Superintendent, Site Manager (SM), or representative upon completion of service. Please refer to page 25 of the IFB, Section V. Accounting for further details.

2. **What are the triggers for service for snow and slush removal and ice control? Is this at the contractor's discretion, or must OPWDD provide authorization before each service call?**

   Answer: Snow and slush removal will automatically commence at the accumulation of 2 inches at the contracted site. It is the Contractor's sole responsibility to ensure they are aware of when each site on this contract has accumulated 2 inches of snow or slush.

   The Site Manager or designee has the right to call for additional service as deemed necessary for safety concerns as part of this contract. Such calls for service are in addition to the automatically triggered 2 inch snow and/or slush removal requirement.

   Additionally, at the conclusion of a weather event, all maintained surfaces will be cleared to bare pavement. For example, if a storm drops 5 inches of snow and the vendor has provided service 2 times to remove 2 inches of snow each time at a site, they will need to clear the final inch of snow ("all maintained surfaces cleared to bare pavement"). Please refer to IFB, Qualifications & Scope of Work, page 21, Section II. Service and Accumulation Requirements, Part 1. Snow and Slush Removal Services for further details.

   Ice control may be performed as a stand-alone process, e.g., ice storm, sleet, freezing rain, melting snow and slush that refreezes, or whenever frozen water occurs, as well as during snowfall events.

   Additionally, ice control services may be initiated at the request of the Site Manager or designee as deemed necessary to maintain proper safety for program participants, staff, and visitors. Please refer to IFB, Qualifications & Scope of Work, page 23, Section III. Detailed Specifications, Part 2. Ice Control Services for further details.

3. **Is there a guaranteed minimum number of snow and slush/ice events per season that vendors will be compensated for, even during light snowfall years?**

   Answer: There is not a guaranteed minimum of snow and slush/ice events per season that vendors will be compensated for. The number of services per year listed in the cost proposal is only an estimate, and payments will be based on actual services rendered.

4. **Will ice prevention services (e.g., salting, brining, de-icing) be billable if no snowfall occurs but icy conditions are present?**

   Answer: Ice control may be performed as a stand-alone process, e.g., ice storm, sleet, freezing rain, melting snow and slush that refreezes, or whenever frozen water occurs, as well during snowfall events. Ice Control may be initiated at the request of the Site Manager or designee as deemed necessary to maintain proper safety for program participants, staff, and visitors. Please refer to IFB, Qualifications & Scope of Work, page 23, section 2 Ice Control Services for further details.

5. **Are vendors allowed to apply separate billing rates for salt-only events, or must all costs be bundled into the per-incident base price?**

   Answer: Contractors can bill for snow and slush removal when there is a snowfall event. Snow and Slush Removal Services will be billed at the price that is listed in the Cost Proposal under Snow and Slush Removal Service Price Per Event.

   Ice control can be billed for as a stand-alone process as well as in addition to a snowfall event. Ice Control Services (e.g., salting, brining, de-icing) will be billed at the price that is listed in the Cost Proposal under Ice Control Service Price Per Event.

   Each snow/slush removal service is considered a job ticket and each ice control service is a job ticket. The signed ticket acts as a verification of services, a requirement for payment. Please refer to IFB, Qualifications & Scope of Work, page 25, section V. Accounting, part A. Job Tickets for further details. Payments will be based on actual services rendered.

6. **Will OPWDD permit subcontracting for snow and slush removal and ice control services at specific locations as long as the subcontractors meet all labor and insurance requirements?**

   Answer: As stated in the Qualifications & Scope of Work, page 19, section I. General Requirements, Part 2, "**The Contractor selected to do the work set forth herein will not assign or sub-contract any or all parts of said work without written permission from OPWDD's Contract Management Unit.** OPWDD does not typically allow subcontracting but will consider requests to subcontract when there are extenuating circumstances. Requests to subcontract would need to include an explanation of the circumstances and a justification for the request and will then be reviewed and considered by OPWDD on a case-by-case basis. If you place a bid for IFB MET 081425 and plan on subcontracting any portion of the work, you will need to submit a justification for the

request to subcontract with your bid. When bidding, please keep in mind that there is no guarantee that subcontracting requests will be accepted. Please refer to IFB, page 12, Section J. Prime Contractor's Responsibility for further details.

7. **Are contractors permitted to use their discretion in selecting types of ice melt (e.g., pet-safe, calcium chloride), or are there environmental or product restrictions at certain sites?**

   Answer: "The Contractor will submit the specifications of the ice melt to be used to the DDSOO Plant Superintendent's Office for approval prior to the usage of equivalent material. Sodium Chloride (rock salt) is not to be used on decks or concrete areas. Calcium Chloride is to be used on stoops and porches." Please refer to IFB, Qualifications & Scope of Work, page 23, section 2. Ice Control Services for further details.

8. **Are any of the sites shared with third-party tenants or agencies, and could that affect access timing, snow placement, or service coordination?**

   Answer: None of the sites are shared with third-party tenants or agencies.

9. **Will OPWDD conduct a site walkthrough or orientation for awarded contractors prior to the first service event to confirm service boundaries and expectations? Can OPWDD provide site maps or diagrams to clarify areas to be cleared, especially at shared curb zones or mixed-use facilities?**

   Answer: As stated in the IFB, page 4, section 6. Site Inspections, "It is the Bidders obligation to visit any and all sites they wish to bid on. OPWDD will make **no allowance or concession** to the Bidder for any alleged misunderstanding or deception because of quality, character, location, or other conditions. It is the responsibility of the bidder to know the site(s) requirements based upon the service being requested. The telephone number for each site has been provided. It is the Bidders responsibility to set up an appointment with each Site Manager to determine the specific requirements of all aspects of the sites in relation to the service to be provided."

   OPWDD does not have property maps for these sites, but if prospective bidders visit each property, they should be able to identify the areas to be cleared.

10. **If a snow and slush or ice event occurs on the first day of contract performance (e.g., 12:01 am on the effective date), is the awarded contractor expected to respond even if a kickoff meeting has not yet occurred?**

    Answer: The Contractor must meet with each Site Manager or designee to discuss the specific site requirements. This should be done before the contract start date of November 1, 2025. As stated in the IFB, Qualifications & Scope of Work, page 20, Section II. Service and Accumulation Requirements, part 3., **"Contractor must be able to provide snow and slush removal and ice control services on a seven days per week, 24 hours a day basis."**

11. **What is considered an event? Is every visit to the site considered an event? For example, if there is a 6-inch snow event and the contractor makes two (2) trips to the same facility, will the contractor invoice for three (3) events in accordance with the cost proposal?**

    Answer: Every visit to the site is considered an event. A visit can include both snow/slush removal and ice control servicing. A visit also can be just for snow/slush removal, or it can be just ice control.

    If there is a 6-inch snow event, OPWDD requires the vendor to visit and remove snow/accumulation three (3) times since there is a 2-inch automatic removal. There may be need for ice control services as well.

    It is possible due to the needs of the residents at the site or OPWDD staff that additional calls for service could be made as well. Each storm is unique in its accumulation, duration, and precipitation type.

12. **Can OPWDD share the previously awarded contract pricing for the sites included in Clusters 1 & 2? Specifically, we are interested in the annual and/or per-incident rates charged under the prior contract(s).**

    Answer: The scope of services for the last contracts awarded for these services was structured for seasonal pricing and the current IFB is structed for per event pricing. Due to these variances, it is advised that past bids and contract amounts should not be considered as they are not comparable.

    This procurement is in a restrictive period, such records will not be provided and are exempt from FOIL until the contract(s) resulting from this IFB are fully executed.

Respectfully,

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