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QUESTION & ANSWER # 2

Date: April 7, 2026 @ 1:00pm

To:

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From: Charles C. Ganim

VMC Consultants, Inc.

Re: Cattaraugus County IFB for

Provision of Transportation Service on Behalf of the Cattaraugus County Aging & Youth Services Department and the Cattaraugus County Health Department

RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS #1 THROUGH #29

1. Will there be a public opening of the RFP where unit pricing will be read aloud?

Yes, Friday, April 17, 2026 at 2:00pm. 303 Court St., 3rd floor Conference room, Little Valley, NY

2. Have the current contractor(s) been able to maintain sufficient driver and aide staffing?

It is expected that the awarded bidder(s) will provide sufficient driver and aide staffing at all times for those Destination Zones to which they have been awarded.

3. Page 9, regarding Terms. Notes that you are positioning annual contract increases on CPI or limited at 2%. Would you be willing to amend this to allow contractors to state their proposed unit rates for each year of the initial four-year term or not limit to 2%? We are experiencing wage pressure that exceeds typical CPI due to competing forces

with new employers entering market for commercial drivers and warehouse workers. As example Amazon that is causing wages to outpace inflation.

We will not be amending this provision.

4. Page 10 item 2. Requires an FCC license number to be provided. Would you be willing to allow cellular based radios or communication via tablet like Nextel?

In lieu of two-way radios, cellular-based radio communication or communication via Nextel Tablet (for example) is allowed, provided it is “two-way”.

5. Page 20, item U. Do you require the GPS system to interface with the agency or VMC routing system? If so, what requirements?

No. However, GPS routing information must be provided to the County or its Agent upon request.

6. Page 21, Item C. Details explicit procedures for parent no-shows and drivers must return the child to terminal to seek guardian pick up and further steps. How often are these situations occurring?

Very infrequently.

Is the contractor able to charge for the extra time to return for the students when parents are not home, etc.?

No.

7. Page 21, Item D, item ii. Are you requiring us to contact the home if a passenger does not come out, and then further call the agent at the county to check in before leaving? This looks like a protracted process and would cause route delays.

Please see Q&A #2 (Amendment #1)

8. Page 22, item E. Is this stating you want us to have phone coverage 2 hours prior to pick up times?

Yes.

Are families required to contact the contractor at least two hours prior?

Yes.

If there is a cancellation with more than 2 hour’s notice are we still paid for the trip?

No.

9. Page 23. Item G. For school cancellations. Whose responsibility is it to determine if a child is crossing through school districts that are closed?

It is the transporter's responsibility.

9 b. What changes occur if a route travels through a district with delayed opening?

This situation has not yet occurred with the PKSE program.

A modification to the current weather policy, to account for this particular situation, is to be determined by the County.

10. Page 37. Regarding Bonds. Can a bid bond be provided as part of our response. Or are we limited to providing a cashiers check?

Per page 37, "A \$1,000 Bid Bond WILL BE REQUIRED. The bid bond may be in the form of a cashier's check or a certified check."

11. Page 38, item XII. If bids are rejected because they exceed the current cost. Is the next step to re-issue the bid? Is there a time when the existing contractor is required to continue to provide service at their existing price which may not be sufficient for their needs hence the reason for a higher cost bid submission?

Yes as to the first question, no as to the second in so far as it would materially alter the existing contract.

12. Page 43, item B. regarding Full Day vs. Round Trip Days pricing. For Full days how many runs are you expecting to occur. Or are you expecting us to price for an elapsed full day of service starting from the first child pickup to the last drop off in after the last pm school release time?

For "Full-day" pricing, it is expected that the vehicle will be available for use

for the entire day (e.g. AM-IN, MIDDAY OUT, and PM-OUT)

For "Roundtrip" pricing, it is expected that the vehicle is available for only 2 trips

each day (e.g. AM-IN, and PM-OUT)

NOTE: It cannot be determined at this time how many "Full Day" runs are expected, but Per Appendix E, Section III, Letter A."

“iv. Each bidder MUST provide the bid prices requested in all four columns (a total of six (6) bid prices). Bid Sheets that do not have all six bid prices will not be considered for the contract award.”

13. Page 44 item two regarding vehicle types. We suggest you modify the vehicle types and pricing items. As example, a route from 5 to 16 passengers could have varying vehicle types. These types could vary in capital cost. As example a 5 to 9 passenger route could be operated in a 10-passenger van. However, any capacity larger would require a lighted yellow school bus.

There will be no modifications or additions to the two (2) Vehicle Types in this IFB.

Information Request

14. Page 50, regarding the bid sheets. They note the pickups could be anywhere in the county for each local school. Are students always routed to the closest school to their home. Or could there be expectations to provide rides from across the county. How are we to feasible estimate a route cost without adding tremendous risk if there is not a defined pick up travel time and mile limitation.

Per pg. 11, Appendix A, Section 1.B, Scope:

“No Run will exceed fifty (50) miles, unless it is appropriately certified that necessary services cannot be provided at a site within fifty (50) miles, and without the prior consent of the department, no Run will exceed ninety (90) minutes.”

15. Are there AM and PM sessions students requiring midday out and midday in transportation?

Yes. There are instances where a child will be AM session only, or PM session only (i.e. “AMIN-MIDOUT” or “MIDIN-PMOUT”).

Are the routes operated full day?

If a vehicle does both “AM-IN” and “PM-OUT” trip, and also does a “mid-day in” and/or “mid-day out” run, it would be considered a “Full-Day” vehicle (i.e. 3 or more trips in a given day)

A run that services only an AM and PM session would be defined as a “Round-Trip” run ?

Yes.

16. Can you please provide a copy of the current contract(s) with pricing sheet and some invoices for our review? Ideally October 2025 and June, July, and August 2025 for summer school.

This information can only be released upon a properly filed FOIL request.

17. Can you please provide a copy of the transportation line-item budget?

This information can only be released upon a properly filed FOIL request.

18. Given that the consultant creates the routes. Can you please provide the turn-by-turn directions with garage decisions, for each route sorted in time order by bus. Please include the time and mileage. The time and mileage is necessary to calculate labor and fuel cost and understand route origination points. Please note addresses and special equipment on the route sheet.

Please see Q & A #2 (Attach. #1 - Runs, Mileages, Stu. Loads, and Destination Zones)

19. Can you please provide a listing of the current routes by zone, noting the vehicle type and capacity, number students, number car seats required, number of harnesses, buckle guards, number of monitors, any wheelchairs. Please provide for the current school year and past summer.

Please see Q & A #2 (Attach. #1)

Note 1: Car seats are required for all children, and monitors not required for 2 or less children transported on a vehicle.

Note 2: One child is in a harness, and any usage of buckle-guards would have to be stated in the child's EIP.

Note 3: There are currently no Wheelchair buses being utilized.

20. Does the county have other passenger transportation program needs that could be connected with this work today or in the future? As example trips for the elderly, dial-a-ride, microtransit, adult disabled, etc.

No.

21. Can you please provide the historical liquidated damage performance penalties incurred to the contractor (s)?

There was one Liquidated Damage Penalty assessed (one vehicle for one day) over over the period of the current contract

22. How many days will the cost evaluation be based for school year and summer?

The Lowest Bid Determination by Destination Zone is explained in Appendix E, Section III. A-C (pgs. 48-49), if that is the question.

23. Does the county have a set minimum number of days it must operate in person?

There are 210 operating days for the programs annually.

How many remote learning days in lieu of in-person learning can the district allow or expend during the school year before needing to make up in person days?

There are no “remote learning days” in lieu of “in-person learning” for the PKSE population referred to in this IFB.

How many days for school year and summer?

There are 180 operating days for school and 30 days for summer session for a total of 210 days

24. Can you provide the current calendar for the school year and summer session? Do you have any early release or late start days?

For the regular school year, programs typically begin the 1st week in September and end the 3rd week in June.

For summer session, Programs typically begin the 2nd week in July and end after the 2nd week in August (6 weeks)

There are occasional days throughout the year (e.g. Parent/Teacher Conferences, Graduations,etc.) where the programs will have “Early Releases”, however, they are typically scheduled well in advance.

25. Can you clarify if there any added shuttle routes, late runs, or middays in addition to the route list?

There are no shuttle routes or late runs included in this IFB.

As addressed in the answer to question #15, there are occasional mid-day trips that are necessary due to the addition of children that attend ½ day program sessions.

26. Does the program run Monday-Friday or Mon-Thurs?

All programs run Monday thru Friday.

27. Do you have a projection of the number of field trips and athletic trips used, mileage and hours for the 2024-25 school year you could share?

There are no field trips or athletic trips included in this IFB.

28. Can you please provide the current listing of vehicles provided by the current contractor(s). Please include the vehicle age, seating capacity, fuel type, brake type, configuration of wheelchair buses (seated and wheelchair capacity), if they require air-conditioning and if any are non-yellow buses or cars, age, etc.

The list of vehicles cannot be provided at this time. Please refer to the Question #18 response for current run loads.

NOTE: Per Appendix A, Section IV. Letter O. Equipment Requirements (pg. 19):

“O. The Contractor will ensure that all of the vehicles used for the Runs during summer months will be equipped with air-conditioning, and that in the event any such air-conditioning unit malfunctions, the contractor will repair it or provide a replacement vehicle within twenty-four (24) hours.”

29. Please provide the total cost spent with current contractor (s) for the past two school years.

This information can only be released upon a properly filed FOIL request.

End of Question and Answer #2