



# City of Cambridge

## Purchasing Department

Cynthia H. Griffin  
*Purchasing Agent*

TO: ALL BIDDERS

FROM: CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

DATE: MARCH 14, 2011

RE: FILE NO. 5402 – SIDEWALK/PUBLIC AREA CLEANING AND  
GRAFFITI REMOVAL

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A pre-bid conference for the **Sidewalk/Public Area Cleaning and Graffiti Removal** contract was held at DPW on Wednesday, March 9, 2011. Attendees included Atlantic Power Cleaning, All Washed Up, and M&M Cleaning. Questions and answers from the meeting are listed below:

**Q:** What is the required Prevailing Wage rate for this contract? Note that pressure washing is not represented in the Massachusetts prevailing wage tables.

**A:** Laborer would be used for the prevailing wage.

**Q:** Do all service events need to be completed in one night?

**A:** Yes. Each service event needs to be completed in the scheduled night, between the hours of 12 midnight and 6am.

**Q:** Will there be an equipment and materials inspection prior to commencement of the contract?

**A:** No. The contract specifications require the use of hot water and detergent/deodorant – DPW will not inspect for this equipment and materials prior to commencement of the contract.

**Q:** What types of detergents/deodorants are permissible?

**A:** Cleaning products used must not violate surface water quality standards for the Charles River or Alewife Brook as established by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, storm water quality standards established by the Environmental Protection Agency as part of the Clean Water Act, or discharge limits established by the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority. Bidder shall use only products appropriate for the material to be cleaned, and all products must be approved by



the Public Works Department and/ or the Water Department prior to use. Bidder shall provide MSDS prior to commencement of contract.

**Q:** Is a sidewalk obstruction permit required?

**A:** A "blanket" sidewalk obstruction permit specific to this contract for the 2011 cleaning season is required. Fees will be waived. Note that the permit requires an MUTCD compliant work zone (signage, cones, lighting, etc.) in which pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicular traffic is protected at all times.

**Q:** What are the procedures for cleaning waste and recycling receptacles?

**A:** Public litter barrels: Remove the plastic liner and set aside. Wash and deodorize inside and outside of the steel receptacle. Any litter at the bottom of the receptacle to be removed. Replace the plastic liner.

BigBelly solar compactors: Wash and deodorize the exterior of the BigBelly. Open the door (key will be provided), remove the plastic liner and set aside. Gently wash and deodorize the interior compartment, paying particular attention to the hopper where users place their trash. Replace the plastic liner, close and lock the door.

Recycling containers: Wash and deodorize the outside of the receptacle. Remove the cover, then remove the plastic liner and set aside. Wash and deodorize inside the receptacle. Any material at the bottom of the receptacle to be removed. Replace the plastic liner, replace the cover.

**Q:** Does the contractor have to follow OSHA guidelines when working for the City?

**A:** Yes

**Q:** Hydrant use permits – what is the term of a hydrant use permit issued by the Cambridge Water Department?

**A:** In accordance with the rules and regulations of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and the City of Cambridge Water Department, the contractor is required to provide a backflow preventer and obtain a permit from the Water Department at (617) 349-4770 before using any hydrant within the City.

**Q:** Are there any noise restrictions?

**A:** Most commercial pressure washers are powered by a gasoline engine. Keeping the engine enclosed in a box van-type truck generally provides sufficient noise control. The contractor is expected to operate and maintain equipment in a manner that keeps noise to a minimum at all times. In the event of repeated noise complaints, the contractor is expected to make reasonable accommodations to reduce nuisance noise.

**Q:** Is the contractor expected to remove all gum from sidewalk areas?

**A:** DPW acknowledges that pressure washers are only moderately effective on gum removal. The contractor is expected to remove the gum that the equipment is capable of removing in an efficient manner.

**Q:** How does the contractor address debris, drains, and catch basins?

**A:** The contractor may not direct debris into any drain or catch basin. Debris is to be directed to the gutterline for collection by a street sweeper operating under separate contract. The contractor is expected to use necessary tools and materials, i.e. brooms, shovels, filter fabric, etc. to protect drains and catch basins from debris.

All other particulars remain unchanged.

  
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CYNTHIA H. GRIFFIN  
PURCHASING AGENT

ADDENDUM NO. 2