

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CITY OF RAPID CITY
STORAGE AREA NETWORK (SAN) AND VIRTUALIZATION
HARDWARE, SOFTWARE AND SERVICES**

Proposals for storage area network (SAN) and virtualization hardware, software, and services for the City of Rapid City will be accepted until 4:00 PM on December 30, 2008.

Completed proposals must be submitted to: City of Rapid City, Acting Information Technology Officer, Russ Tiensvold, 300 6th Street Rapid City, SD 57701, or e-mail russ.tiensvold@rcgov.org

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

The City of Rapid City currently has approximately 40 stand-alone servers running a variety of software applications; including Microsoft Exchange, Microsoft SQL. The purpose of this project is to use virtualization and storage area network (SAN) technology to reduce maintenance costs. The intent is to move as many of the current stand-alone servers as possible onto virtual servers at 2 locations. The primary location would be 300 Sixth Street, Rapid City, SD. The secondary location would be Rapid City Regional Airport, located approximately 10 miles east of Rapid City.

To provide adequate storage for the virtual servers, the City intends to utilize 2 SANs, one at each of the 2 locations. The primary location storage requirements are currently estimated to be approximately 4 TB. The secondary location storage requirements are currently estimated to be approximately 0.5 TB. The storage solution must account for the existing capacity, internal SAN redundancy, snapshots and growth.

The long-term goal of the City is to utilize the Rapid City Regional Airport location as a Disaster Recover Site (DR). The current 3 gigabit network circuit between the primary and secondary locations does not provide the necessary bandwidth to allow for this option at this time. The intent is to provide a scalable virtualization/SAN infrastructure at each location to provide for future expansion as a DR site when the network circuit is upgraded.

SECTION II: PROJECT PHASES:

Phase I: Design and install virtual server and SAN solution at secondary location (Rapid City Regional Airport) to support the current server and storage needs at that facility and move all applicable software and applications from existing stand-alone servers to virtual servers.

Phase II:: Design and install virtual server and SAN solution at the primary location (300 Sixth Street) to support the current server and storage needs at that facility and move all applicable software and applications from existing stand-alone servers to virtual servers. Phase II may be accomplished concurrently with Phase I.

Phase III: Expand the Airport virtual server and SAN solution to accommodate the disaster recovery needs for the City of Rapid City

To arrange a tour of the City of Rapid City Information Technology hardware and facilities, please contact the Acting Information Technology Officer Russ Tiensvold.

SECTION III: MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

It is anticipated that the solution will be comprised, but not limited to, the following components

- 1- A scalable SAN for the Airport and a scalable SAN for the City
 - a. Both Fiber Channel and iSCSI solutions will be considered
 - b. The solution must support asynchronous replication and be upgradeable to synchronous replication with minimal cost and downtime
 - c. Regardless of the hardware proposed (FC vs. iSCSI), the justification for that choice must be outlined
- 2- Virtual Server hardware
 - a. Both blade servers or standalone conventional servers will be considered, the justification for that choice must be outlined
 - b. Configuration and quantities of processors, RAM, NICs, boot configuration must be specified
- 3- Virtual Server software
 - a. All currently available server virtualization software will be considered that meets the following requirements:
 - i. It must be commercially available at the time of this proposal
 - ii. It must support “frozen configuration” or “snapshots” (preferably sequential snapshots with roll-back capabilities).
 - iii. It must be centrally manageable
 - iv. It must support a “high availability” configuration.
 - v. It must support load-balancing
- 4- Optional: It is possible that the Airport location will need self-contained rack enclosure(s) for the virtualization servers and SANs. The self-contained rack(s) may need to include UPS power sufficient to power the SAN and virtual server hardware for up to 30 minutes. In addition, the self-contained rack(s) may need to provide air-conditioning for the SAN and virtual servers within the rack(s). The air conditioning will also need to run for 30 minutes.

SECTION IV: SCOPE OF SERVICES:

The actual terms of the contract entered into shall be negotiated between the City of Rapid City and the person/group whose proposal is selected. However, the provisions that follow are to be incorporated into any contract unless it is stated and agreed to otherwise at the time of considering the initial proposal.

The scope of the required services shall consist of recommendations for storage area network (SAN) and virtualization hardware, software, and services for purchase, lease or lease purchase, installation, training on use of equipment and all applicable cost estimates. In addition the RFP shall include a service agreement to include costs and response times.

The City anticipates that the term of any agreement entered into pursuant to this RFP will be for a term of two years subject to similar terms of renewal.

SECTION V: SELECTION PROCESS

In order to be considered for the contract described in this Request for Proposals (RFP) the person or group making the proposal shall meet the following requirements:

- 1- Must have two or more years of experience with applicable storage area network (SAN) and virtualization hardware, software, and services.
- 2- Must have documented installations in Federal, State or Local government facilities.

Preferential consideration will be given to applicants that provide a turn-key solution that includes the SAN, the virtualization software, the installation services and training. In addition, it is preferred that the applicant take primary position in response to technical support calls. Applicants providing a response that includes subcontracted services will be given lower consideration.

Applicants not meeting this minimum requirement will be disqualified and their proposal will not be considered further.

The proposals will be reviewed by a committee made up of City staff. The committee, after reviewing the proposals, will make a recommendation to the City Council who will then either approve or reject the recommendation. It is possible that the City will accept only part, or the entire proposal. The applicant selected will then be contacted and an agreement will be drafted by the City Attorney's Office for review and signature.

SECTION VI: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE / CLARIFICATION

Any applicant requiring clarification of the information contained herein or who has questions about the RFP should contact:

Russ Tiensvold
Acting Information Technology Officer
City of Rapid City
300 6th Street, Rapid City SD 57701
Phone (605) 355-3068
E-mail: russ.tiensvold@rcgov.org

The City reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, to award the agreement to the proposal that is in the best interests of the City as determined by the City and to negotiate with any applicant submitting a proposal.

**City of Rapid City
Rapid City South Dakota
Request for Proposals
Storage Area Network (SAN) and Virtualization
Hardware, Software and Services**

City of Rapid City is requesting proposals for storage area network (SAN) and virtualization hardware, software, and services for the City of Rapid City. Proposals must be submitted pursuant to the guidelines contained in the Request for Proposals (RFP). Copies of the document are available upon request from the Rapid City Acting Information Technology Officer. Inquiries concerning any proposal or the terms contained in the RFP should be directed to Russ Tiensvold, Acting Information Technology Officer, 355-3068, or e-mail Russ.Tiensvold@rcgov.org

Proposals will be accepted at the City of Rapid City, Human Resources Office, 300 6th Street Rapid City, until 4:00 p.m. on December 30, 2008. Proposals can also be delivered via e-mail to Acting Information Technology Officer Russ Tiensvold.