



**December 20, 2022**

The purpose of this addendum is to modify the RFP documents only to the extent indicated herein. All other areas not changed or otherwise modified by other addenda, shall remain in full force and effect. This addendum is hereby made an integral part of the original Project Documents.

1. Any brand preference?

**Answer: Somewhat, we would prefer something from a manufacturer from a leading technology company (those with revenue in the billions). The current SAN is Dell.**

2. Can you please provide your peak memory usage and peak CPU GHz (from liveoptics) or the information from RV tools?

**Answer: Recent peak memory usage is 3.3 TB and peak CPU usage is 329 Ghz, both occurring just before and during monthly Windows Updates maintenance for those VMs.**

**There are 5 production ESXi hosts: one Dell R740xd, two Dell R730xd and two HPE DL380 Gen 9. The older hosts will be relocated to the offsite data center when newly ordered Dell R740 hosts are installed in February. The three new Dell R740 hosts have Emulex 32 Gb Fibre Channel cards. Current ESXi hosts have OEM QLogic Series 2600 Fibre Channel cards. The new Dell R740 hosts will have Emulex LPE 35002 32 Gb Fibre Channel cards.**

3. Are the 50TB requirements usable or raw? Before Data Reduction? Does the City of Albany require each of the new SSD storage systems to have 50tb of RAW capacity each or 50tb of effective capacity after data reduction? (Related to Requirement A.1)

**Answer: 50 TB usable before data reduction schemes. The system must be able to withstand two SSD failures without loss of data or access to data.**

4. You asked for automatic failover capabilities, how will the VMware clusters at both sides be setup for this?

**Answer: Veeam Disaster Recovery Organizer (DRO) is available to manage a VMware failover process between production and offsite data centers. It is not mandatory that this product be used. There is a vCenter at each site, one production and one integrated with Veeam DRO.**

5. Technical Requirements mention 25Gb SFP28 and 10Gb SFP+ connectivity, but RFP mentions Connectrix 16 Gb FC switches.

Answer: Two Dell Connectrix DS-6610-B 16 Gb Fibre Channel switches with Brocade 8.2 (or later) firmware are located at each location. There is no Fibre Channel connectivity between the locations. Each FC switch is standalone with no interswitch connection.

Ethernet is the connectivity technology between the two sites, using City switches. 10 GbE is available now and 25 GbE is our expected upgrade path.

If the provided storage units will connect directly to each other and not use the City Ethernet network, they will need to use Course Division Wave Multiplex with protocol of vendor's choice.

6. Which method will be used to connect servers to storage. Are both Ethernet and FC Connectivity needed?

Answer: Fibre Channel storage connectivity to the ESXi servers.

7. What make/model of Ethernet Switches are being used?

Answer: Cisco 4500x core switch and HPE 5700 top-of-rack 10 GbE switches with both SFP+ and 10GBase-T ports available.

8. Is one site completely Prod and one DR, or are both sites actively hosting VM's

Answer: One site is Production, with a few VMs at the offsite being the secondary or backup VM of a production workload. Typical offsite workloads are secondary domain controllers and DNS servers.

9. What version of VMware is currently installed?

Answer: vSphere Enterprise Plus Version 7.0 with the latest updates for vCenter and ESXi.

10. Is there a vCenter Server ESXi Hosts already in place at both sites?

Answer: Yes.

11. Should the connectivity (25Gb SFP28 Ethernet, 10Gb SFP+ Ethernet, 16Gb FC, etc) be the same for both sites?

**Answer:** The connectivity should be generally symmetrical at the two sites. This means that if FC is used to connect to the hosts at production it should be used to connect to the hosts at the offsite.

12. Can you provide more detail regarding the migration requirements? What storage do you have today? Will all current data be capable of vMotion? (Regarding A.13 Requirement.)

**Answer:** The migration plan would outline how city staff would do a move including creating LUNs on storage, presenting it to vSphere, and moving VM workloads using Storage vMotion. Migration is expected to be a process taught to city staff, then having city staff complete the process of moving VMs from one SAN to another. Existing storage is provided by two Dell SC7020 SANs at each location each connected to ESXi hosts at their respective locations by FC. ESXi hosts are connected to each other over 10 Gb Ethernet.

13. Based on the level of detail required to respond, would the City of Albany extend the deadline by two weeks after the addendum with questions and answers is posted? This extension will allow vendors the necessary time needed to put together the most thorough, compliant, and competitive response possible.

**Answer:** See below:

## **2.1 RFP SCHEDULE (See Revised RFP Document dated 122022)**

The following general timeline will be used for receiving and evaluating proposals and selecting a Contractor. The timeline listed below may be changed if it is in the City's best interest to do so.

RFP Advertised	December 12, 2022
Date to Submit Changes or Solicitation Protest	December 19, 2022, 2:00 p.m.
Last Day to Submit Questions	January 10, 2023, 12:00 p.m.
Last Day for Addenda Issued	January 12, 2023, 12:00 p.m.
Proposal Due Date	January 18, 2023, 2:00 p.m.
Evaluate Proposals	January 19-23, 2023
Presentations, Demonstrations, Interviews	January 24-31, 2023
Notice of Intent to Award	February 1, 2023
Protest Period ends (seven calendar days)	February 8, 2023, 12:00 p.m.
Council Award	February 22, 2023
Contract Award and Execution	February 23, 2023
Contract begins	March 1, 2023

14. Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) and Federal Information Processing Standards Compliance: Please clarify if this a mandatory qualification criterion for vendors to participate in the RFP?

Answer: This requirement is related the need for the related components to meet Federal Information Processing Standards Compliance (FIPS) 140-2 or 140-3 compliance (Security Requirements for Cryptographic Modules). The CJIS requirement relates to the City's need for the system meet State requirements that apply to us in CJIS Security Policy v5.9.1. The RFP goes into more detail about the CJIS needs for staff working on-site and helping with support.

15. What are the requirements around snapshot capabilities of the storage system?

Answer: We would like the system to do something like storage snapshots and have them managed by vSphere, Veeam, or with your solution. Currently we keep at least 15 days of storage snapshots, taken daily, for quick recovery.

16. Do the Buy America Preference requirements apply to this project?

Answer: No.