

City Responses to Questions Received [May 24, 2024]

RE: RFP 1234324 Pipe Bursting Annual Wastewater Repair Unit Price Solicitation

Q1: Why is there no consideration in the bid schedule for the depth of pipe being burst, and only the diameter and dimension ratio are shown?

R1: I am assuming that you are referring to the fact that the pipe depth affects the length and depth of the pit excavations (and lateral connections), so deeper pipe means more excavating and backfilling, hence higher prices for the pipe burst line item. Note that excavation and backfill are separate items, namely "structure excavation...", "roadway excavation...", and "Crushed Surfacing Top Course" (the last one is backfill material). Since the contract will be something called "unit priced," it means that the contractor's unit bid price for each line item will be the unit price of that line item for any work order. The quantities are somewhat arbitrary; for instance, the bid schedule says "10 tons" for CSTC, but in reality, over the course of the contract, the contractor might use hundreds of tons of CSTC, with each ton being the bid unit price.

Q2: Why is DR 11 pipe included in the bid schedule when that's rarely used in wastewater pipe bursting operations?

R2: This is a "cover your bases" item. In the event that the soil conditions demand high bursting strength, DR 11 might be necessary. It is in the bid schedule in case it is needed.

Q3: Why are there so many bid items?

R2: This is a "unit priced" contract, meaning that the unit bid on each item is what the City would pay for a unit of that item for any given work order. Some of those bid items may never actually get used, but they are to "cover all bases."

End of Questions and Responses