

## REQUEST FOR COMMENT

**RFC NUMBER:** 000460

**DATE:** November 9, 2016

**PLEASE ADDRESS COMMENTS TO DESIGNATED CONTACTS:**

Elaine Blanchet  
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**DUE DATE:** November 23, 2016, 2:30 PM, Eastern Time

**SUBJECT:** Request for Comment

**TO PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS:**

New York State (NYS) Office of Information Technology (ITS) is issuing this Request for Comment (RFC) to solicit commentary from vendors on specific sections of a draft Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Initiative described below.

Vendors interested in participating in any possible future opportunities are encouraged to respond to this RFC. Further information may be found at the New York State Contract Reporter site at <http://www.nyscr.org/Public/Index.aspx>.

**Purpose and Objective**

It is the objective of this RFC to obtain vendor feedback on all requirements including implementation timeframes, pricing, terms, and conditions presented in the draft RFP. Only comments specifically and explicitly related to the draft RFP content will be considered. Any collateral material such as brochures and marketing material submitted in a response will not be considered.

The State will use the feedback received from this RFC as potential input to finalize overall requirements. The intent of the RFP, if it is eventually published, is to replace the current New York State Mass Notification System (MNS) with a new vendor hosted solution. The State wishes to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) to seek Proposals from responsive and responsible to implement a vendor hosted web based public and private MNS using COTS products and associated services, and if necessary, customized products and services. The intent is any future RFP would result in a **5-year contract** plus the option to renew for a **five (5) year term**.

**Content of Response**

Vendors are asked to carefully review the content in the documents provided and complete the comment document attached entitled, "RFC Comment Response Form" (Attachment CRF). A response does not bind or obligate the responder or the State to any provision or procurement of areas referenced. No contract can or will be awarded based on submission of responses to this RFC.

Proposals submitted in response to this RFC are subject to the New York State Freedom of Information Law (Public Officers Law, Article 6; hereinafter FOIL). Pursuant to section 87(2)(d) of FOIL, records or portions thereof that "are trade secrets or are submitted to an agency by a commercial enterprise or derived from information from a commercial enterprise and which if disclosed would cause substantial injury to the competitive position of the subject enterprise" may be exempt from disclosure. In addition, pursuant to section 89(5)(a)(1-a) of FOIL, records or portions thereof that contain critical infrastructure information may be exempt from disclosure ("Critical infrastructure" is defined in §86[5] of FOIL). If the Submitter intends to seek an exemption from disclosure of claimed trade secret materials or claimed critical infrastructure information under FOIL, the Submitter shall at the time of submission, request the exemption in writing and provide an explanation of (i) why the disclosure of the identified information would cause substantial injury to the competitive position of the Submitter, or (ii) why the information constitutes critical infrastructure information which should be exempted from disclosure pursuant to §87(2) of the Public Officers Law. Acceptance of the identified information by the State does not constitute a determination that the information is exempt from disclosure under FOIL. Determinations as to whether the materials or information may be withheld from disclosure will be made in accordance with FOIL at the time a request for such information is received by the State. Where such claimed material is embedded in the Response, it shall be the responsibility of the Submitter, at its sole cost and expense, to submit redacted versions of the Response within five (5) days of a request by ITS.

**Please submit your electronic response to this RFC no later than November 23, 2016, 2:30 PM, Eastern Time to:**  
its.sm.ITS\_BIDS@its.ny.gov Attention: ELAINE BLANCHET.

The State of New York thanks you for your assistance in this information collection process.