

BROADBAND STUDY RFQ - ALL ANSWERS
7-Oct-20

No.	Question or Issue:	Response
A	<p>1. Has a regional governance council been developed to oversee broadband expansion/deployment/connectivity beyond the campus? If so, who are the members?</p> <p>2. What cities, counties and towns are now committed to participate in the regional approach?</p> <p>3. Are these cities able to contribute broadband infrastructure assets and/or willing to participate in a regional consortium for wholesale broadband access?</p> <p>4. Will the District require 100Gbps from the start or is it anticipated to start at 10Gbps and ramp to 100Gbps with increased regional demand?</p> <p>5. Have programs been developed on campus to train a local tech workforce and are there partnerships with tech companies for mentorship and jobs placement?</p> <p>6. Is it known if Indio will restart their broadband master planning effort?</p>	<p>As mentioned in the RFQ, the District is a part of the Coachella Valley Economic Partnership (CVEP), which also is looking at broadband needs. While there is not a formalized "governance council" for broadband purposes, it is anticipated that collaboration between the District and other CVEP members will continue. See https://cvep.com/ for more information. The District also expects to be in close collaboration with CENIC and its governing organization.</p> <p>Information about the interests and needs of other entities in the region is being gathered as part of a separate CVEP-sponsored study, the relevant results of which are hoped to be available on a timely basis to the District and its selected Consultant(s).</p> <p>Information about available assets is being gathered as part of a separate CVEP-sponsored study, the relevant results of which are hoped to be available on a timely basis to the District and its selected Consultant(s).</p> <p>The District's interest is to be able to provide 100Gbps service at the Palm Springs Development Project site reasonably near in time to the commencement of operations in order to support the workforce training plans for the site.</p> <p>These workforce training programs are in the development phase, as is the Palm Springs site. Partnerships are anticipated with other academic institutions and industry.</p> <p>The District does not have current information about the City of Indio's broadband master planning efforts at this time.</p>
B	<p>1. Does the District have an identified inventory of broadband network infrastructure services (both lit services and dark fiber) within the region, such that the focus of the consultant's analysis will be on the adequacy/gaps associated with the inventory? Or will the inventory of regional broadband network infrastructure need to be both created and analyzed by the consultant?</p> <p>2. What are the requirements for the broadband infrastructure? To interconnect all listed District buildings at 100Gbps, as well as to interconnect with Internet2? What about connectivity to commodity Internet? What about access connections from regional partners/customers to this backbone?</p> <p>3. Is there an identified list of regional partners who would participate in the broadband infrastructure service offering?</p>	<p>The District does not have this information at this time. Respondents should refer to the RFQ, District Attachment A, Scope of Work. Currently, the District has access to CENIC-generated maps: https://cenic.org/network/operations/maps</p> <p>The District does not have this information at this time. Respondents should refer to the RFQ, District Attachment A, Scope of Work.</p> <p>There is no identified list of regional partners at this time. As stated in the RFQ, the potential for regional partnerships is to be considered in the scope of work and will be informed by CVEP planning efforts, as well.</p>

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	4. Is the District considering acquiring broadband network services from regional service providers (e.g., 100Gbps metro ethernet), or acquiring existing fiber routes, or building new fiber routes, or all of the above? Does the District have existing vendor relationships with regional service providers or fiber providers? If so, who?	The District currently receives its broadband service from CENIC (Palm Desert Campus and Indio Center). One of the items in the scope of work would be consideration of supplementing this service with any regional providers if they have or are planning investments in the region that would meet any part of the District's needs.
	5. Does the District have existing vendor relationships with any metro optical networking vendors? If so, who?	Yes, Pacific Lightwave; used at Mecca/Thermal Observatory, Desert Hot Springs, PaCE at Westfield Mall and Temporary Palm Springs.
	6. Who is the District's vendor for core routing equipment?	Cisco
	7. Will access to Internet2 continue to be served via CENIC with the new broadband network deployment?	See response to question B.4.
	8. Will peering/interconnects be sought directly with commodity internet service providers as part of the new broadband network deployment?	One of the items in the scope of work would be consideration of alternatives (e.g., working with CENIC and/or commodity providers) for such services. Consultant(s) will be asked to advise on alternatives as part of the scope of work.
	9. Will the District manage access circuit connections from regional partners/customers in the region to the new broadband backbone network?	Most likely the District would <u>not</u> self-manage these connections, but we may look to the Consultant(s) to provide input on options.
	10. Would the District consider extending the 60 - 90 day timeframe for this study? Would a timeframe of 6 months be acceptable?	The District desires critical information within its stated 90-day period to inform site and facility design decisions at the PSPD. Future work may extend beyond 90 days. Respondents should describe their approach to an initial deliverable that can be provided within an initial 90-day period.
C.	1. The RFP indicates an initial engagement period followed by incremental services. Has the College determined and allocated a budget for the initial project and/or future years?	The District has not established budgets for this work.
	2. Has the College had detailed discussions with CVAG, local municipalities or other governmental entities beyond those described in the RFP? If so, is there support and funding available from those sources for implementation of the project?	The focus of this study is the District's needs. At this time, the District is in regular contact with other regional entities, but has not attempted to secure external funding from other entities.
	3. The RFP discusses potential middle-mile solutions. Does the College envision partnerships with the Public and/or Private sectors and potentially additional non-educational uses of their infrastructure?	The focus of this study is the District's needs. See the RFQ scope of work for consideration of potential partnerships.

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D.	1. The RFP references an Internet speed of 100 Gbps. Has a performance target been established for the Internet speed delivered to individual users?	Not at this time.
	2. The RFP references the potential of extending Internet access to the community surrounding the College of the Desert. Have any specific performance targets been established for geographic coverage limits, or for Internet speed vs. distance from there campus?	Not at this time.
	3. Is it the intention of the RFP to deliver geographically extended Internet access using fiber optic cable and wireless infrastructure?	The focus of this study is the District's needs. See the RFQ scope of work for discussion of potential regional considerations.
	4. Have specific Internet2 applications been identified for implementation?	Not at this time.
	5. Other than transport speed (e.g. 100 Mbps), have any other performance parameters for target applications been established, such as transport latency, network availability, our reliability? Has a requirement been established for aggregate network capacity?	Not at this time.
	6. Has a time frame for network implementation been established? Has a national project schedule with intermediate milestones been established?	The District desire to align delivery of the broadband infrastructure to the deliver of the Palm Springs Development Project, within the next three years (by the end of 2024).
E.	1. This RFQ is geared towards selecting a consultant to assist with the technical direction of network. That said, is there a construction component to the outside plant portion of the network, that will be in a separate RFP?	The District is in the process of engaging the Architect of Record for the Palm Springs Development Project. Related work will be addressed under separate procurement processes.
	2. Are you looking to operate your own datacenter or is that piece going to be contracted from a vendor?	A decision has not been made at this time. The District may look to the Consultant(s) to provide input on options.
	3. Is the interconnectivity between campuses going to be built out so you own the network or will it be contracted with a carrier?	A decision has not been made at this time. The District may look to the Consultant(s) to provide input on options.