

AMHERST COUNTY SERVICE AUTHORITY

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AMHERST COUNTY SERVICE AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE WATER METERING SYSTEM

RFP ADDENDUM #3

September 14, 2026

Responses to Additional Questions Received as of 9/14/2026, 12:00 pm: Note- Questions received since 9/14/2026 that have been addressed by Addendums 1 & 2 are not shown in Addendum 3.

- 1. What is the approximate square miles of the geographic area of the meters to be covered under this contract?**

Approximate geographic area: 40 square miles

- 2. Are water meters located inside (e.g. basements, mechanical rooms) or outside (e.g. "curbside" water meter pit)?**

Water Meters are located outside, in meter pits or fire vaults.

- 3. What is the age and primary make-up of service lines? (copper, plastic, galvanized)**

Service Lines are primarily copper; there are some plastic; 275 are galvanized.

- 4. Will the contractor need to identify the material of service lines?**

No

- 5. Will potholing be required to expose the service line material?**

No

- 6. Who takes possession of the old meters and registers?**

Meters are to remain the property of the ACSA (Amherst County Service Authority).

- 7. Will prevailing wage be required under this contract?**

No

8. Will the County provide an electronic listing of addresses, phone numbers, and account information?

Sensitive information will be shared with the successful provider as part of the AMI set up.

9. Is collection of GPS points required and if yes is a 1-5-meter accuracy acceptable?

Collection of GPS points are not required.

10. Please provide details about the building and storage space that Amherst County Service Authority will make available to the contractor during installation, including location, square footage, security provisions, access hours, climate control, and any restrictions on material storage.

ACSA will provide a 30LF (240 SF) conex (container express) box in a secure location. Access hours will not be restricted.

11. Do you have an Engineer's estimate for this project?

ACSA does not have a current Engineer's estimate.

12. Who is responsible for disposing the transmitters?

N/A (Not Applicable)

13. How are meters currently being read?

Meters are currently being read manually.

14. Will we be installing any additional product, i.e. broken stop valves, dual check valves, meter lids, meter boxes, set box to grade?

It is not the intent of this RFP for the successful provider to install additional products as mentioned (broken valves, meter boxes, set box to grade, etc.). However, there is the possibility that meter lids will have to be replaced by the successful provider, as a part of this RFP.

15. What percentage of meter boxes are located in concrete or asphalt?

This information is not available.

16. What are the soil characteristics (clay, rocky, sandy, etc.)?

Soil characteristics are mostly clay.

17. What is the composition of the meter boxes? (material)

Meter pit compositions vary throughout ACSA's system with the following types: concrete, metal, and

plastich<https://www.acsava.com/images/Documents/2023%20ACSA%20Specifications%20Combined.pdf>

18. What is the size of meter boxes?

Refer to question 17.

19. Do all settings have operable shut off valves before the meters?

ACSA is not aware of its setter installations without valves ahead of the meters.

20. Are all valves in the meter box?

Primarily, all valves are in the meter box. Meter installations for 1-1/2IN and 2IN meters may have valves located outside the meter pit. ACSA's current standard for installing 1-1/2IN & 2IN meters can be viewed at ACSA's website via the following link:

<https://www.acsava.com/images/Documents/2023%20ACSA%20Specifications%20Combined.pdf>

21. What is the procedure for any inoperable or broken valves?

Broken or inoperable valves are discovered during installation of AMI components are to be reported to ACSA to be addressed by in-house staff.

22. What is the average meter depth?

The average meter depth varies. Typical meter setter service connections are 30IN below grade, with the meter set 12IN to 18IN below grade. Refer to ACSA current standards for meter installations:

<https://www.acsava.com/images/Documents/2023%20ACSA%20Specifications%20Combined.pdf>

23. Are the meters in setters, or are they connected with straight meter couplings?

Meters are installed in meter setters. Refer to ACSA current standards for meter installations:

<https://www.acsava.com/images/Documents/2023%20ACSA%20Specifications%20Combined.pdf>

24. What is the type of setter?

Meter setter brands vary. Refer to ACSA current standards for meter installations:

<https://www.acsava.com/images/Documents/2023%20ACSA%20Specifications%20Combined.pdf>

25. What is the breakdown of size, quantity & type (compound/turbine) of meters to be replaced/retrofit? (especially for large meters 3"-12")

Refer to Addendums 1&2 for a breakdown of size and quantity. Meters larger than 1IN are compound meters.

26. Do you have drawings for the large meters 3" and above?

No

27. Do all meter settings have a bypass?

NO

28. Do the existing 1 ½" and 2" meters have flanged or threaded ends?

1-1/2IN & 2IN meters have flanged connections.

29. Are any of the large meters Fire Meters?

NO

30. If replacing backflows, will the city provide the locations where these backflows are located?

Replacing backflows are not applicable to this RFP.

31. Questions concerning Inside Meters:

ACSA does not have inside meters except for domestic meters installed in fire vaults.

32. Confirm that the 6,617 - 5/8" meters are 5/8"x1/2" and not 5/8"x3/4".

The aforementioned meters are 3/4IN X 5/8IN Sensus brand meters. Refer to ACSA's current standard for meter installations at:
<https://www.acsava.com/images/Documents/2023%20ACSA%20Specifications%20Combined.pdf>

33. Meter quantities - The pricing schedule totals 6,881 meter installations: 6,600 small meters, 133 one-inch, 112 one-and-a-half-inch, 27 two-inch, eight three-inch, and one six-inch. Please confirm that these quantities supersede the RFP's approximate total of 6,600 services.

6,600 meters are mentioned as an approximate value in the RFP; 6,881 meters superseded the approximate value.

34. WOMS – Who is providing WOMS?

The successful provider will provide WOMS if needed.

35. *Installation Consumables – Who is providing replacement lids, meter boxes, gaskets, etc.?*

Refer to question #14.

36. *Customer and Service side leaks- Who is responsible for leaks or failures discovered on the customer and service side? Is the contractor authorized to perform customer-side repairs, and how will authorization and payment be handled?*

Issues discovered during AMI component installations are to be reported to ACSA to be handled on an individual basis. Refer to question #21.

37. *Radio/lid configuration -Are radios to be mounted through meter-box lids, underneath composite lids, on pit walls, or remotely?*

The successful provider determines their best installation practice.

38. *Customer notifications and appointments -Who prepares and distributes customer notices and door hangers? Who operates the call center, schedules appointments, handles complaints, and communicates boil-water or service-interruption notices?*

ACSA will communicate with customers all notices and schedules.

39. *Access and return trips – How will locked gates, blocked meters, customer refusals, unsafe conditions, no-access locations, and unsuccessful appointments be compensated? May the contractor charge a return-trip fee?*

The successful provider will include access and return trips in their RFP response.

40. *Work hours - What standard work hours are permitted? Are weekend, evening, or after-hours installations required, and will those installations have separate pricing?*

Working hours are 7:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday, excluding state holidays.

41. *Installation data requirements – Please provide the required work-order fields, photographs, GPS accuracy, old/new serial-number scans, meter readings, condition codes, exception codes, and customer-signature requirements.*

The successful provider will communicate with ACSA staff serial no.s and meter readings at changeover. All other work order fields are not applicable to this RFP.

- 42. *Removed-meter disposition - Are removed meters to be returned, tested, recycled, or disposed of? If returned, must they be tagged, boxed, palletized, reconciled by serial number, and delivered to a designated location?***

Refer to questions no. 6 and 41. Successful providers are to coordinate with ACSA staff for returned meters.

- 43. *Production schedule – Is there a required minimum or maximum daily production rate? Must installations be completed by geographic route, billing cycle. What is the duration of the project?***

The successful provider determines their best estimate for production rates. Installations will be coordinated with ACSA staff by the billing routes. Refer to Addendum 1 for billing routes.

- 44. *Acceptance and payment - What constitutes an accepted installation for invoicing: physical installation, successful endpoint programming, communication with the network, data delivery to the head-end system, or final ACSA inspection?***

Progress payments are allowed by negotiated schedules.

- 45. *Permits, licenses, and registrations – Please identify all required Virginia contractor licenses, plumbing licenses, business licenses, permits, and SCC registrations applicable to the installation subcontractor.***

Refer to the AMHERST COUNTY SERVICE AUTHORITY REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE WATER METERING SYSTEM.

- 46. *Wage requirements - Is the installation work subject to Virginia prevailing-wage requirements, federal Davis-Bacon requirements, project labor agreements, or any locality-specific wage requirements?***

Virginia prevailing-wage requirements, federal Davis-Bacon requirements, project labor agreements, or any locality-specific wage requirements are not applicable to this RFP.

- 47. *Bonding – Are bid, performance, or payment bonds required? If so, please provide the required percentages and confirm whether bonds apply to the full AMI contract or only the installation subcontract.***

A payment performance Bond will be required, guaranteeing completion of the project.

- 48. *Damage and preexisting conditions - What process will be used to document preexisting meter-box, service-line, landscaping, driveway, and customer-property damage before work begins?***

The successful provider will report damage and pre-existing conditions to ACSA. Each situation will be handled on an individual basis.

49. *Blackout Schedule – What is the duration of the blackout schedule?*

The successful provider will propose their best schedule to be evaluated.

50. *Any non-standard work on the installation side or is this a 1 for 1 meter replacement across board?*

This RFP is for a 1 for 1 meter replacement across the board.

51. *Funding source — VDH SRF, other state money, or ARPA?*

The funding source for this RFP is currently in-house. Should ACSA determine outside resources are required, the Virginia Resources Authority or private financing will be solicited.

52. *We would like to request a bid extension of at least 2 weeks following the response date from Amherst County to the questions submitted by the deadline of September 14, 2026.*

The receiving date for this RFP has not been extended.

53. *Would Amherst County be open for discussion about extending the substantial completion time of 300 days depending on material lead times, time of year, potential winter weather conditions, etc.*

The completion time for this RFP has not been extended.

54. *Will the large meters 1.5” and up have to be replumb to a new lay length in order to install?*

Refer to question #50. The successful provider will determine their best practice to achieve the goals of this RFP.

55. *Will any of the large meters require confined space entry in order to change them?*

The successful provider will adhere to all standard safety practices and OSHA guidelines for while performing work on behalf of ACSA.

56. *Will any of the large meters have to be dug up in order to change them?*

Refer to question #50. The successful provider will determine their best practice to achieve the goals of this RFP.

57. Can you give an example of the data the you will require when the exchange occurs?

Refer to question 41. The successful provider will present their best hand-off procedure for evaluation by ACSA.

58. Once the exchange takes place, how will the required data be exchanged to your billing software? (Csv files, spreadsheets, work orders) How often will data need to be imported to the billing software? (monthly)

Refer to question #53. ACSA utilizes Tyler Technologies for its financial / billing software provider. The successful provider will coordinate data required by Tyler Technologies for the exchange.

59. Will there be any hourly rate work allowed for additional work.

Successful providers should provide their best approach for additional work to in their RFP response, to be evaluated by ACSA.

60. Will there be a skip charge if contractor deems the meter cannot be changed normal and the county is going to make the necessary repairs. (skip charge for time loss investigating and troubleshooting what needs to be done in order for the county to make necessary repairs)

Successful providers will include this determination in their RFP response.

61. Will there be Staging area for contractors' vehicles to be parked overnight.

Refer to question #10. Contractor's staging and vehicle overnight parking will be in the same vicinity of the storage container provided by ACSA.

62. Will the county provide a dumpster for all the trash to be put in or have access to a place to get rid of it.

The successful provider will legally dispose of their generated waste / trash.

63. Will the meter boxes or pavement be pre marked with blue paint or flags prior to the install so they will be easily identified? So, the contractor doesn't waste time trying to find them.

The successful provider will coordinate meter locations with ACSA. ACSA can provide GPS coordinates for meter location. Special requirements should be listed in RFP responses for evaluation.

64. Will there be some one from the county assigned to the project to answer question in a timely manner about locations of meters, account information and any other questions that might arise.

ACSA will assign a project coordinator. The successful provider should define special requirements, such as the definition of a timely manner in their RFP response to be evaluated.

65. If the County's assets, including water tanks are to be used for the installation of AMI equipment, is the AMI system proposer or subcontractor to include the costs in their proposal for Project Management, Professional Services, Engineering, Engineering Certifications, Structural Analysis, Site Preparation, Mounting Hardware, Permitting, Welding & Drawings to mount the AMI equipment to the County owned water tank assets?

Yes.

66. Is the AMI system provider or subcontractor required to be a licensed contractor in the State of Virginia and provide evidence with their proposal?

Yes.

67. If the AMI system provider or subcontractor plans to affix any equipment to the County water tank assets, should they be required to be a licensed engineering firm in the State of Virginia and provide evidence with their proposal?

Plans and specifications must be provided by the successful bidder. Construction documents must be sealed by a certified Engineer, licensed in the State of Virginia.

68. Is the AMI system provider or subcontractor be fully responsible for the warranty and support of the AMI system including software, hardware, endpoints and water meters regardless of their future relationship with the meter manufacturer or AMI system provider chosen at the time of project execution?

Yes.

69. As the County service area is subject to storms and extreme weather activity does the County require a minimum level of triple redundancy of cellular coverage for at least three cellular carriers or Base Stations or Data Collector Units to allow the County to read meters, track water main breaks, and identify properties that are still using water during major weather events?

No.

70. For the billing Interface, is the AMI system provider or subcontractor responsible for working with the Utilities CIS system and completing the AMI side AND the Utilities CIS side of the interface? If so, are the costs to complete

the AMI side and the CIS side of the interface to be included as a line item in the pricing sheet?

Yes. Refer to Addendum #2, Question 10.

71. During the replacement of the water meters, the CIS will need to be updated to reflect the new water meters and endpoints that have been installed. This process can be automated instead of manually having to update the accounts. The automation takes place by creating a Meter Exchange / Installation file interface. Is the AMI system provider or subcontractor responsible for creating this interface and should this cost be included as a line item in the pricing sheet?

Yes. Refer to Addendum #2, Question 10.

72. If a height greater than 30 feet above ground level (agl) is required to mount the Base Station or Data Collector antenna, shall the AMI system provider or subcontractor add the cost to purchase AND install monopoles as a line item in the Project Proposal Summary Sheet?

The successful provider should provide their best proposal to achieve goals listed in the RFP.

73. If monopoles are required at a location beyond the County asset location, is it the AMI system provider or subcontractor's responsibility to include in their proposal the cost to purchase property sites and/or site leases for the location of monopoles over the entire life of the project - minimum 15 years?

Yes.

74. Are all Base stations and Data Collector Units to be fully warranted including batteries over the life of the system?

Yes.

75. If a cellular AMI system is being proposed, shall the cellular Network provide multi-carrier cellular support which provides cellular communications from a field-deployed Cellular LTE-M Endpoint on a minimum of three (3) multiple cellular carriers?

The successful provider should provide their best proposal to achieve goals listed in the RFP.

76. Is the AMI system provider or subcontractor to provide a Consumer Engagement Portal that provides County customers with Web-Based viewing of their water consumption? Shall the cost be included as a line item in the pricing sheet?

Yes. Refer to Addendum #2, Question 10.

77. In the event a water meter with a composite/polymer thread is provided and the meter body threads are stripped, shall it be required that the water meter be covered under warranty for repair or replacement over its useful life (minimum 15 years)?

Yes.

78. If a water meter with composite/polymer threads are acceptable, and the stripping of threads are NOT covered under a full water meter replacement warranty, do you require the proposer to instead provide a metal-bodied water meter?

Refer to Question no. 77.

79. Are all data collection and transmitting equipment regardless of technology including but not limited to Base stations, Data Collectors, Repeaters, endpoints, etc., be covered under warranty for field repair or replacement including batteries over the life of the system (minimum 15-years)?

Yes.

80. If a technological upgrade of the AMI equipment is needed, is the cost to replace the equipment over the life of the system the responsibility of the AMI system provider or subcontractor?

The successful provider should provide their best proposal to achieve goals listed in the RFP. If a technological upgrade of the AMI equipment is needed, is the cost to replace the equipment over the life of the system is the responsibility of the AMI system provider.

81. Should the proposer provide as part of the managed services requirement - Daily Monitoring with notifications to identify critical and severe end-customer consumption events? The notifications will be 365 days a year via email and contain Customer Account #, type of event, meter description, and description of event severity in gallons, percentage, duration, etc. as applicable?

The successful provider should provide their best proposal to achieve goals listed in the RFP. Daily monitoring and reporting are critical to ACSA's desired performance.

82. Is the proposer responsible for providing the field labor and on-site field resources to maintain or replace water meters, endpoints and Base Stations or Data Collectors, under a service level agreement (SLA) performance guarantee to maintain the County's meter reading performance at a minimum of a 98.5% read rate over a three-day period for a minimum of fifteen (15) years using the proposers' resources? Is the cost to provide this service included in the project proposal summary as a line item?

The successful provider should provide their best proposal to achieve goals listed in the RFP. Refer to Addendum #2, Question 10.

*** The receiving date for this RFP has not been extended!**