

Los Angeles Unified School District

Request for Information



Date: December 6, 2019

To: Interested Parties

Subject: Addendum No. 1 to Request for Information No. 202010
Solicitation Name: School Bus Routing Solution

This Addendum No. 1 is issued to provide answers to questions.

Q&A listed below:

#	Question	Answer
1	The system shall interface with the LAUSD Bus Operation system for route, bus and driver information. (Can you explain the bus operation system? What interface would be expected with what data?)	BusOps integrates with MapNet for bus location, bus route assignment, and driver information Bus
2	The system will interface with the external route optimization process (UCLA). (What is the external route optimization process? Is this software based? What would be expected in the interface?)	The UCLA Interface is a system that optimizes routes based on data provided from MapNet. More information will provide during the Demonstration/Proof of Concept Phase.
3	Alert users of temporary street closures. (Does this imply a live connection to an external system that is aware of street closures or simply alerting or routing issues of user entered street closures?)	The intent is to optimize Route Planning whether the software provides or it needs to connect to an external system.
4	The system may use a single boundary to make different types of assignments. (can you provide an example?)	the same boundary can be used as ineligibility zone for one school and eligibility zone for another school
5	The transition from the current route to the planned route shall be automatic without manual intervention. (please explain what is meant by this? What is the current route vs the planned route?)	This has to do with the anticipated routes based on school semesters; Summer, Fall, etc.
6	The system will update school and bell time schedule information from LAUSD location and bell time database. (is this intended to be a dynamic interface that occurs daily, weekly, monthly? - What would be the expectation from the routing system if bell changes occur?)	The schedule expected to be updated on a daily basis. The expectation is that the route changes accordingly.
7	Reports: Plan rider list. (Is this referring to planning a rider list or just providing a rider list of the assigned students?)	Its providing a rider list of assigned students.
8	How many buses operate daily for general education students?	500
9	How many buses operate daily for special education students?	1150
10	Do you anticipate the vendor constructing your general education routes for you?	Yes.
11	Do you anticipate the vendor constructing your special education routes for you? How often do these routes change significantly?	Yes, routes change significantly beginning summer and fall semester
12	Do you intend to leverage our consulting services to review your transportation operation, or just our training/consulting services as it pertains to implementing the software?	Yes, we intend to leverage the consulting services to review the transportation operations to streamline and optimizing routes.

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13	How many routers do you currently employ, and how many of them do you intend to train on the software?	15
14	Data comes from the Data Ridership Forecast System. Would only students who require ridership show in the Routing System?	Yes.
15	Does the district require direct access to the backend SQL Database?	Yes.
16	Would LAUSD prefer to fully host the application or do they prefer the vendor to provide hosting services?	We are open to both vendor hosting or on-premise.
17	Can all required integration systems produce a CSV/TXT/Excel file for integration purposes?	Yes.
18	Can all required integration systems consume a CSV/TXT/EXcel file for integration purposes?	Yes.
19	Do all required integration systems have a REST API for integration purposes?	Not all systems have REST API.
20	Does the district operate on-premise Microsoft Active Directory Domain Controls?	Yes.
21	Do you have a new map source that you prefer to utilize as your electronic map or will it be vendor's choice?	The District has no preference.
22	Will the new Routing Software package need to interface with your Synovia GPS system and with Synovia student tracking?	Yes.
23	Please describe the nature of the Synovia GPS hardware and is the district looking to replace/update the hardware?	We are not looking to replace it but if the overall solution is more cost effective, the District will consider it.
24	May proposers include a title page with their submission?	Yes.
25	In addition to the RFI's required sections, may proposers include an appendix and / or extra materials to further describe their software/routing system's functionality as appropriate?	Yes.
26	On Page 4 of the RFI, the District states that proposer's software should "preserve field data according to the established business rules." Are "business rules" defined by the District or are they defined in collaboration with the proposer? If they are defined by the District, could the District please share these rules with proposers?	They are defined in collaboration with the proposer.
27	On Page 6 of the RFI, the District asks proposers to provide a "dry run evaluation sheet." Can the LAUSD please elaborate as to what a "dry run evaluation sheet" entails?	it is a customized report with route, trip and stop information
28	Can the District please provide the LAUSD's total fleet size?	The District has 1300 district owned buses and 600 contracted buses.
29	Can the District please share with potential offerors their expected annual budget or a range the District anticipates they will spend on the software for this procurement?	No, the District does not share budgetary information.
30	Does the District have an expected service launch date for the new routing software? If so, can the District please share it with proposers?	No, the District is in the planning stages of this project.
31	Is the District open to solutions that might replace multiple components of the District's routing and information	The District is always looking to consolidate and optimize software solutions.

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	system, if the proposed solution was better integrated and saved the District costs?	
32	Can the District please provide additional context on its aversion to proprietary mapping software? We use multiple mapping sources, some of which are proprietary and some of which are not, to generate the most accurate, up-to-date maps for our customers. If the District could explain its goal in discouraging proprietary mapping technology, it would be helpful to our understanding of this requirement.	The District is open to proprietary software.
33	Can the District please provide additional context on its aversion to proprietary databases? If the District could explain its goal in discouraging proprietary databases, it would be helpful to our understanding of this requirement.	The District is open to proprietary databases.
34	Is the District interested in two way (inbound and outbound) integration with the District's SIS?	Yes.
35	Is the District interested in two way (inbound and outbound) integration with the District's Special Education system?	Yes.
36	Is the District interested in streamlining its general education and special education systems into one student database that can manage routing requirements for students of all abilities?	The student database is outside the scope of work.
37	Can the District please provide additional context on the requirement that the system interface with "the external route optimization process"? We understand route optimization to be the responsibility of the procured vendor; can the District please explain further?	Yes, we are looking for a software that optimizes routes.
38	Is the District interested in routing solutions that can incorporate real-time information (traffic information, late-coming student absences, etc.) into its routing decisions? We have found that this capability drives efficiency gains for the system and generally reduces vehicle miles traveled.	Yes
39	Is the District interested in a mobile application for parents / caregivers? Such a mobile application could, for example, show real-time school bus locations, reveal student boarding information (whether and the time at which a student has boarded a bus), allow a parent to indicate that their child will not be riding the bus on a particular day, allow a parent to alter their home address (if the District wished), etc.?	We have the Synovia software that performs this function but the District is open to cost effective solutions.
40	Is the District interested in a mobile application for students? Such a mobile application could, for example, show real-time school bus locations, ensure that the correct student boarded the correct bus using QR code boarding technology, ensure that students were not waiting outside for longer than necessary but yet didn't miss the bus, etc.	We have the Synovia software that performs this function but the District is open to cost effective solutions.
41	Is the District interested in detailed student attendance monitoring? Our student attendance monitoring / tracking software uses QR codes to ensure that the correct student gets on the correct vehicle. We also have the potential to communicate this real-time information to parents / caregivers and to the District.	We have the Synovia software that performs this function but the District is open to cost effective solutions.

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42	Is the District interested in a mobile application for bus drivers, which eliminates the need for paper manifests and allows routes to adjust to late-coming information such as traffic, newly discovered road closures, student absences, etc.	We have the Synovia software that performs this function but the District is open to cost effective solutions.
43	In addition to MapNet, is the District open to replacing any or all of the following system components: Synovia GPS System, Traveler, FileNet, MyData/DSS, Vehicle Tracking, ETL Merge, and student ridership initiative? To be clear, none of the functionality achieved through these programs would be eliminated; they would all flow through one integrated routing and communication system.	The District is open to cost effective solutions.
44	On Page 4 of the RFI, the District states that proposers should offer "integration with the District's student information system"" and have the "ability to establish periodic, unattended downloads from the District's student information system into the software." Can the district please confirm that the only student information system used for general education students by the LAUSD is MISIS?	Yes, MISIS.
45	On Page 4 of the RFI, the District states that proposers should offer ""integration with District's Special Education system"" and provide the ""ability to establish periodic, schedule job downloads from the District's Special Education system into the software." Can the District please confirm that the only Special Education system used by the LAUSD is Welligent?	Yes, Welligent.
46	On Page 4 of the RFI the District states that proposers' software should "automatically create stops on downloading of special education students and create mirror stops at user discretion." Can the LAUSD please provide the definition of "mirror stop"?	In the morning stops in one side and in the afternoon stops on the opposite side.
47	Can the District please share some of the perceived limitations of MapNet?	MapNet has been in operation over 20 years.

ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE REQUEST FOR INFORMATION SOLICITATION SHALL REMAIN THE SAME.

Thank you,

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