



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
Department of Purchasing
JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR

NOTICE OF REJECTION OF ALL BIDS

From: Prajkta Waditwar, Construction Procurement Manager

Date: 3/2/2020

Re: Invitation for Bids (IFB) 20-48: Fire Alarm Repairs and Maintenance for the City

The City of Somerville (the City) is rejecting all bids received in response to IFB 20-48 – Fire Alarm Repairs and Maintenance for the City.

As stated in the bid package, Section 1.5 General Terms, subsection “Right to Cancel / Reject Bids, “The City of Somerville may cancel this solicitation, or reject in whole or in part any and all bids, if the City determines that cancellation or rejection serves the best interests of the City.”

Petricca Construction Co. v. Commonwealth, 37 Mass. App. Ct. 392 (1994) established limited justifications for an awarding authority to re-bid a contract: insufficient funds, ambiguous specifications and new specifications on re-bid.

In the case of IFB 20-48, the bid package issued by the City was ambiguous and did not clearly state that bidders must per statute submit official documents from DCAMM (Certificate of Eligibility and DCAMM Update Statement) as part of the sealed bid in order to be accepted.

As a result, the City determined that it must reject all the bids received and update the bid package with clear reference to all required documents that must be included in the sealed bid, including proof of DCAMM certification and a DCAMM Update Statement.

The re-bid package will be advertised in the Central Register, local newspaper, and CommBuys. It will be available for download from the City of Somerville’s Purchasing web page at <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/finance/purchasing>. All interested and qualified contractors are encouraged to submit a bid.