



Finance Department | Purchasing Division

44 E Downer Place | Aurora, Illinois & 60507

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DATE: January 19, 2021
TO: Prospective Proposers
FROM: Jolene Coulter, Director of Purchasing
RE: **CITY OF AURORA REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL 21-02 – Addendum #1
Request for Professional Services to Clean and Restore Murals at the G.A.R.
Memorial Hall.**

This notice forms a part of the Request for Proposal 21-02: Request for Professional Services to Clean and Restore Murals at the G.A.R. Memorial Hall. All other information pertaining to this Request for Proposal shall remain the same.

Proposer must submit an original proposal response, marked as "original" and one (1) complete paper copy and one on a USB drive and shall have provided all requested information and submitted all appropriate forms, certificates, affidavits and addendum acknowledgements in each copy in order to be considered responsive.

In a separate sealed envelope, submit one (1) set of the proposal pricing.

Sealed Proposals will be received at the Purchasing Division office, 44 East Downer Place, Aurora, Illinois 60507, until **2:00 pm, CST, Wednesday, January 27, 2021** to determine proposals for the anticipated above named purchase. It is the sole responsibility of the Proposer to see that his Proposal is received by the due date and time. No Late proposals will be accepted.

Proposals can be dropped off Monday through Friday by contacting the Purchasing Division office at 630-256-3550 and someone will come to the door off Water Street Mall to take the sealed envelope from you.

Proposals will be opened via a non-mandatory teleconferenced live stream at 2:00 pm. Zoom information for this opening will be posted 24-48 hours prior.

Please acknowledge this addendum on your proposal form. Failure to do so may subject Proposer to disqualification.

Response to questions received by **8:00 am, CST, Friday, January 15, 2021:**

1. Are the cabinets in the room against the walls of the murals able to be moved about 2-3 feet away from those walls?

[No, the cases will not be moved for this project.](#)

2. Will we have a chance to change the proposal numbers of the prevailing rates change before the start or completion of the project?

No, prevailing wage rate is locked in at the time of proposal. Changes to the prevailing wage rates, after submission of proposals, will not impact this project

3. If the cabinets can be moved, will that be able to be done by someone other than the proposer

The cabinets will not be moved.

4. The RFP mentions structural foundation repairs during the GAR building renovation, but were all known structural issues addressed, including any issues with the masonry walls, that may have impacted the murals? Are structural and/or architectural reports and drawings of the renovation work available for review by the proposers?

An historic structure report is available. All known structural issues have been corrected. Renovation work previously completed is not available at this time due to the limited timeframe the City has to submit documentation. Again, all known structural issues have been addressed. Historic Structure Report is available as attachment to bid.

5. Does the City desire to uncover any additional portions of the murals that may be beneath overpaint as part of the restoration?

At this time the City only desires to clean and restore what can currently be seen. Some portions of the visible frescoes have been painted over and the City does wish for proposers to remove the non-original paint. If sections of the frescoes are damaged underneath these painted sections proposers are expected to restore them as well.

6. Does the City desire to have a new varnish applied after cleaning and treatment?

Yes, a new layer of varnish to protect the frescoes is required. The City is hopeful that there is a varnish that will not produce a glare. If not possible, the City hopes to reduce the amount of glare the current layer of varnish produces.

7. Does the City have an anticipated start and/or completion date that is desired?

The City hopes to have this projected completed as soon as feasibly possible. The project must be completed by June 30, 2021

8. Will the museum be open or closed to the public during work? If open, is there an expectation that the room be on view to the public?

This is dependent on numerous factors. The museum is planning on re-opening on Memorial Day 2021. If the museum is unable to open due to COVID restrictions, then the museum will remain closed. If the museum is able then it is dependent on the proposer's timeliness for completion. The public will be allowed to peer into the room, but the room will be off limits otherwise to ensure minimal liability.

9. Has any testing or paint analysis been carried out on the murals and if so, can you share those results?

Testing was completed in 1999. The reports are not available to view, even by City staff. A single newspaper article details, quite briefly, the professional who examined them and the conclusion that a large majority of the original paintings are not able to be restored or recovered.

10. Are any past treatment or condition reports available?

No.

11. Were there any repairs to the surrounding walls themselves from past water intrusion?

Any damage that occurred would have been from the early phases of restoration, and efforts have already been made to repair and stabilize the walls. The crack on the South Wall is from when the Hall was twisting prior to restoration. The City does not believe there to be any concern regarding water intrusion, or the crack on the South Wall. The walls were painted green in 2012 and were previously painted white at some point in the 1960s.

12. Any restrictions based on the NHR status?

Not that the City is aware of.

13. Are you able to provide any structural assessment or information on the construction of the wall and the repair work that has been done previously? We would like to make sure that the south wall is structurally sound.

City staff involved in the original restoration of the Hall are unaware of any other structural issues regarding this wall. Substantial efforts were made to ensure the building is structurally sound, inside and out.

14. Are you able to provide us with archival photos of the murals?

The only historic photograph of the south fresco is heavily obscured. See attached photograph in Exhibit A.

15. Where can supplies be brought in the building?



The exterior entrance measured 59.5 inches wide.



The entryway into the angel room from the stair tower measured 33 inches

EXHIBIT A

