



DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES
DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES
 STATE OF MAINE

PROCUREMENT JUSTIFICATION FORM (PJF)

This form must accompany all contract requests and sole source requisitions (RQS) over \$5,000 submitted to the Division of Procurement Services.

INSTRUCTIONS: Please provide the requested information in the white spaces below. All responses (except signatures) must be typed; no hand-written forms will be accepted. See the guidance document posted with this form on the Division of Procurement Services intranet site (Forms page) for additional instructions.

PART I: OVERVIEW

Department Office/Division/Program:		DAFS/MaineIT/Network Services			
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Jason Box			
(If applicable) Department Reference #:		N/A			
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)		\$ 41,100.24	Advantage CT / RQS #:		BPO 18B 20220429*0979
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	3/31/2024	Proposed End Date:	3/31/2025	
AMENDMENT	Original Start Date:	Click or tap to enter a date.	Effective Date:	Click or tap to enter a date.	
	Previous End Date:	Click or tap to enter a date.	New End Date:	Click or tap to enter a date.	
GRANT	Project Start Date:		Grant Start Date:		
	Project End Date:		Grant End Date:		
Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name, City, State:		Consolidated Communications Inc 5 Davis Farm Rd Portland, ME 04103			
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Ethernet Private Line Service for IBM MFaaS			

PART II: JUSTIFICATION FOR VENDOR SELECTION

Check the box below for the justification(s) that applies to this request. (Check all that apply.)

<input type="checkbox"/>	A. Competitive Process	<input type="checkbox"/>	G. Grant
<input type="checkbox"/>	B. Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/>	H. State Statute/Agency Directed
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C. Single Source/Unique Vendor	<input type="checkbox"/>	I. Federal Agency Directed
<input type="checkbox"/>	D. Proprietary/Copyright/Patents	<input type="checkbox"/>	J. Willing and Qualified
<input type="checkbox"/>	E. Emergency	<input type="checkbox"/>	K. Client Choice
<input type="checkbox"/>	F. University Cooperative Project	<input type="checkbox"/>	L. Other Authorization

Please respond to ALL of the questions in the following sections.

PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

1. Provide a more detailed description and explain the need for the goods, services or grant to supplement the response in Part I.

In 2022, the state required two ethernet private lines, physically and logically diverse, to support the retirement of the on-premise mainframe system. The processes which were being supported by the state's on-premise mainframe have been migrated to a remote data center provider and these circuits support the connections necessary to perform the application process and work cycle. The application team had originally ordered a 10Mbps service via RFQ 18B 2204070000000000270 "Ethernet Private Line Service for IBM MFaaS," but found the originally requested bandwidth was not sufficient for the data processes required by the application. The application team has requested an increase in bandwidth to 100Mbps to reduce synchronization time and increase performance of their application. Recently the application team advised they will not have completed the project by the original cutoff date and the new project end date requires an extension to the circuit's operational lifespan.

2. Provide a brief justification for the selected vendor to supplement the response in Part II. Reference the RFP number, if applicable.

This service was procured via RFQ and Consolidated was the only vendor that responded. Consolidated Communications (CCI) is uniquely positioned to provide the level of service needed for this application between State of Maine telecommunication core distribution centers and the TN located datacenter locations. CCI was the only respondent to RFQ 18B 2204070000000000270 "Ethernet Private Line Service for IBM MFaaS," and subsequent amendments established a 100Mbps circuit, thus creating the path and infrastructure to offer the state an expedient timeline to increase the circuit bandwidth to support the needs of the application.

3. Explain how the negotiated costs or rates are fair and reasonable; or how the funding was allocated to grantee.

Consolidated quote. Previous RFQ for a lower bandwidth was awarded to CCI as the only respondent. Amendments brought the bandwidth up to 100Mbps on the same RFQ. We're now asking for an extension on the life of the service to meet the project requirements.

4. Describe the plan for future competition for the goods or services.

The circuit should no longer be needed after the established project date.

PART IV: AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) / MAINE JOBS & RECOVERY PLAN (MJRP)

Does this request utilize ARPA/MJRP funds?

Yes, MJRP funds (023) – If Yes, please attach the approved Business Case(s).

Yes, ARPA funds (025) – If Yes, please be aware of the requirements from awarding federal agencies.

No – If No, proceed to Part V.

PART V: APPROVALS

The signatures below indicate approval of this procurement request.			
Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner (or designee):	DocuSigned by: <i>Nicholas Marquis</i> A29C99359A37464...		
	Typed Name:	Nicholas Marquis, Chief Information Officer	Date: 2/8/2024
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	DocuSigned by: <i>Joseph Zrioka</i> EA813178102243C...		
	Typed Name:	Joseph Zrioka, Director of IT Procurement	Date: 2/7/2024