



Clarification Questions – Regular School Bus Transportation Bid

To ensure our proposal fully aligns with the District's expectations, we respectfully request clarification on the following items:

1. Would the District be willing to provide a copy of the October invoices for reference? **No we will not share another companies invoices, but I can provide the current contract with rates from the current provider.**
2. Are the current routes available on the District website, or can they be shared separately with bidders? **Yes, routes are available on the District website: <https://www.north-reading.k12.ma.us/departments/finance-operations/bus-transportation>**
3. Please confirm whether a copy of the current transportation contract can be made available for review. **Yes, I will make available via the district website under bids and contracts. <https://www.north-reading.k12.ma.us/departments/finance-operations/bids-and-contracts>**
4. Does the District anticipate requiring any summer transportation services, and if so, should those services be considered as part of this procurement? **No, we do not anticipate that and it is not part of this procurement.**
5. Can the District confirm the scheduled times for late bus service? **The Late bus pick-up at the MS/HS is 4:00 p.m. and we ask that the route and bus return to the lot by 5:00 p.m. routes are also listed on the district website for your reference.**
6. Has the current transportation provider been assessed liquidated damages at any point during the existing contract term? **No.**
7. Are there any anticipated plans to reduce the vehicle count during the upcoming contract period? **No.**
8. Is town-provided bus parking available only during the school year, or does it extend beyond the academic calendar? **Only during the academic 180-day school year.**
9. Page 7, Section 2.18: Can the District confirm whether bus passes are currently being utilized? **Yes, we provide bus passes to all students.**



10. Please confirm whether the bid specifications require both a \$5,000 bid bond and a surety letter at the time of bid submission. **The district stands by the language as stated in section 1.05 page 3 in the bid specifications. "All bids must be accompanied by bid security. Bid security may be in the form of a certified check, a bid bond (Massachusetts Licensed Company) or a treasurer's or cashier's check of a bank. The sum shall be \$5,000 and shall be made payable to the Town of North Reading.**
11. Pages 8–9, Section 3.3: Can the District confirm that audited financial statements are not required with the bid submission and are only required upon contract award? **Yes, we standby the language as stated in section 3.3.**
12. Page 13, Section 4.19: Can the District identify the live-feed camera vendor currently in use? Additionally, how should bidders address this requirement if compliant cameras are already installed on their vehicles? **If live feed cameras can be shared and proved to be of equal quality then what the district has currently then that would be acceptable. The current software and company is Safety Vision and they work in partnership with Bus Right.**
13. Page 13, Section 4.20: Does the District require the routing/GPS software to be Bus Right, or is alternative software acceptable provided it receives approval from the Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations? **We require it to be approved by the District and currently the GPS software is Bus Right at this time and we have been very satisfied with the system and their services and are not looking to make a change.**
14. Page 13, Section 5.2: Would the District consider revising the language to require notice of service changes both verbally and in writing? Written notice provides clarity and protection for both the District and the contractor. **The district stands by the language currently stated in the bid in section 5.2**