



Sterling Community School
251 Sterling Road
Sterling, CT 06377

"Our mission is to foster a safe and
engaging learning environment"

Telephone: (860) 564-2728
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Theodore Friend, Superintendent
Cory Luba, IT Director

INVITATION FOR PROPOSALS

22-23 Radio System

Sterling Community School is seeking proposals from qualified contractors for the purchase, installation, and configuration of a new digital radio system.

Please return proposals to:

Sterling Community School
ATTN: Cory Luba
251 Sterling Road
Sterling, CT 06377

By Friday, June 23, 2023

LEGAL NOTICE

Sterling Community School invites sealed bids for a new digital radio communications system to support the needs of the school and town entities. The bidding process opens on Monday, May 24, 2023 (5/24/2023) and closes on June 23, 2023 (6/23/2023) at 11:00 AM EST. All bids must be submitted electronically, mailed, and/or hand-delivered before the bid deadline. Specific instructions for submitting bids are listed in this document.

A copy of the RFP is available at www.sterlingschool.org/rfp or in-person by visiting Sterling Community School, 251 Sterling Rd, Sterling, CT 06377. Please consult the school calendar for in-session days, typical business hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. You may call (860) 564-2728 to confirm whether the building is open.

Sterling Community School and/or the Town of Sterling retain the rights to modify or terminate this Invitation for Proposals, accept any or all portions of a proposal, reject all proposals, waive any informalities or non-material deficiencies in a proposal, and award the contract to the lowest proposal that meets the criteria specified in the Invitation for Proposals and serves the best interests of the school and/or town.

Background

Sterling Community School is seeking proposals from qualified contractors for the purchase, installation, and configuration of a new digital radio communications system to replace an existing analog system which experiences frequent abnormalities and has exceeded its rated lifespan. The scope of this proposal also includes construction, implementation, and configuration of a secondary transmission site at Sterling Community School.

The upgraded digital system will serve both Sterling Community School and the Town of Sterling, supporting vital departments such as fire, public works, and emergency management. During this time the district and town will move from FRS to a licensed frequency, which is also included in the scope of this project.

Location(s)

The district is looking to install two repeaters under this RFP/Project. The first repeater will directly replace our existing repeater located on the cell tower at 5 Exeter Dr, Sterling, CT 06377. There is 2-4U of rack space available in the AT&T shelter on-site where the existing repeater is housed. There is no battery backup available at this location.

The second repeater is to be installed at Sterling Community School 251 Sterling Rd, Sterling, CT 06377. This is a new installation and no existing repeater, antenna, or wiring exist. There are existing battery backup units at this location and a generator also exists, depending on where the equipment is powered from.

<u>Location #1</u> (Existing)	<u>Location #2</u> (New)
5 Exeter Dr, Sterling, CT 06377	251 Sterling Rd, Sterling, CT 06377

FCC License & Frequencies

An existing FCC license exists for the tower located at 5 Exeter Dr, Sterling, CT 06377 under [WPXD887](#) for a total of 2 frequencies:

- 453.3625
- 458.3625

An FCC license or extension for 251 Sterling Rd, Sterling, CT 06377 will need to be obtained for the secondary repeater location and included as part of the scope of work in the RFP.

The existing tower located at 5 Exeter Dr, Sterling, CT 06377 will need to have capacity for four (4) channels, with potential expansion in the future. The tower at 251 Sterling Rd, Sterling, CT 06377 will need capacity for 4 channels.

Radios

To replace our existing analog radios which will not work under the new proposed digital system, the school district and town will need to purchase new radios. The following chart contains a list by entity and the count/type for radio(s) needed.

The Fire Department has existing Tait DMR compatible portable radios which will be implemented into the new digital system. Implementation is to be done by the radio vendor/contractor, and not by the school district. A very small quantity of radios will be purchased for additional capacity for the fire department as many members already have existing, compatible radios.

Entity	Handheld	Mobile	Base Station
Sterling Community School	40	15	2
Fire Department	3	0	0
Emergency Management	2	0	0
Public Works	2	10	0

Handheld - Portable Handheld Radio (Walkie Talkie)

Mobile - Mounted radio for a vehicle.

Base Station - mounted radio for a desk or office.

Requirements

The following are requirements of the RFP:

- Proposals must be inclusive of radios, repeaters, power supplies, antennas, and all labor required to mount, configure, and install the new equipment.
- All mobile and base station units must be installed, mounted, and tested by the vendor or contractor performing the work. This includes school buses and offices.
- All proposals must include equipment which is currently supported by the manufacturer and not declared end-of-sale or end-of-life.

- The radio system must provide a minimum of 4 channels for the school, and 3 channels for the town departments (fire, public works, emergency management)
- A digital radio system which supports encryption or voice scrambling must be included in the proposal. Any costs associated with encryption or voice scrambling must be listed separately in the proposal.
- Pricing must be included with the proposal for earpieces and shoulder mics.
- All proposals should include a 1 year warranty with options to extend the warranty period up to 5 years.
- Proposals should include any hardware needed including, but not limited to: radios, antennas, repeaters, amplifiers, mounting equipment, cables, and anchors.
- The vendor or contractor shall perform testing throughout the town and school district to ensure the system is operating as intended, and provide confirmation of this test following the completion of services being installed.

Outcome

The desired outcome of this project would entail having the ability to communicate across the school district from the tower emanating on the school property. The coverage area is fairly small, and requires coverage in less than a 0.5 mile radius. The tower emanating from 5 Exeter Drive should reach the entire town from any Mobile radio or Base Station.

Questions

If any questions, comments, or clarification is needed, please contact Cory Luba via e-mail at cluba@sterlingschool.org. All questions, comments, and clarification must be received at least two days prior to the RFP's close date or by Wednesday, June 21st, 2023 at 11:00 AM EST.

Submission Instructions

All mailed, shipped, or delivered RFPs must be submitted in a sealed envelope and include the bidder's first and last name, company name, the words "**22-23 Radio System**". If mailing or shipping, please send your proposal to Sterling Community School ATTN: Cory Luba, 251 Sterling Rd, Sterling, CT, 06377. If you will be hand-delivering the proposal, please stop by Sterling Community School located at 251 Sterling Rd, Sterling, CT 06377 during normal business hours and inform the Main Office that this is a submission to the 22-23 Radio System RFP.

Bids may also be sent via e-mail to rfps@sterlingschool.org. Bids received via e-mail will be opened following any mailed, shipped, or hand-delivered proposals. A confirmation email will be sent on or after the closure of the RFP to verify receipt of any proposals. Proposals will not be opened until June 23, 2023 regardless of how it is submitted. Faxed bids will not be accepted for this RFP.