



Question 1

The Fabricator Performance and Material Requirements section 4.4 Vinyl Film of the Bid Documents paragraph 2 specifies:

3M™ High Intensity Prismatic Reflective Sheeting 3090DS (White) shall be used for all reflective sheeting printing. All signs shall be printed using only 3M™ Piezo Inkjet Series 8900UV Ink with an EFI H1625-RS printer. All sheeting surfaces shall be sealed with 3M™ Electrocut™ Film Series 1170 (Clear). All digitally printed vinyls shall be warranted from excessive fading, discoloring, cracking, crazing, peeling, and blistering, for 8 years from the fabrication date.

The reflective sheeting above according to 3M literature is an ASTM 4956 Type IX https://www.3m.com/3M/en_US/p/d/b00012074/

The Montana Department of Transportation Standard Specifications for Road And Bridge construction section 701_01.7 (attached) contains the specification for reflective sheeting requiring ASTM 4956 Type XI and paragraph (B) the specifications for digital printing of signs. Paragraph (E) of this section defines the acceptance procedures for reflective sheeting and digital printing.

We are requesting that a sole source product not be specified and instead the RFP follow the Montana Department of Transportation Standard Specifications section 704.1 Materials for Signs.

Answer - Bidders can substitute the current reflective vinyl specifications with reflective vinyl materials/products that are “of equal” or better quality. The products must also be listed in the Montana Department of Transportation Standard Specifications section 704.1 Materials for Signs.

Question 2

Will the standard 3M High Intensity Prismatic 3M3960 Blue suffice in place of digitally printing the Blue color on the 3090DS(White) as specified?

Answer - No the blue color specified in the bid document is specific to the Visit Big Sky brand color.

Question 3

We've been unsuccessful with sourcing the 3M 3090 film specified, but 3M4090DS is available. This is presumably a new code for the latest generation of the same product. Please confirm the 4090 film will be acceptable.

Answer - See answer to Question 1.

Question 4

Seams on sign types A.2 and B.3A: If seams are required due to aluminum panel size limitations, should they be sanded and filled prior to painting, or will butt seams be acceptable?

Answer - All seams must be filled and sanded smooth prior to painting. Butt seams will not be accepted.

Question 5

Unfinished steel support beams: Is there an expectation that the unfinished steel will be treated to match the existing steel beams? Or will it be acceptable to allow them to patina naturally?

Answer - It will be acceptable for the new steel beams to patina naturally.



Question 6

Permit requirements: Has it been determined what MDT or municipal permits will be required for the additional new signs?

Answer - Per MDT, fabricators are responsible to contacting Gallatin and Madison County for Encroachment Permits.

Question 7

Are there any prevailing wage/Davis Bacon requirements?

Answer - No.

Question 8

Will traffic control be required and to include this in our bid?

Answer - Yes, traffic control is required and must be included in bid submittals.

Question 9

Is DOT permitting required in addition to any other state and local permits for the signage?

Answer - See answer to Question 6.

Question 10

Should we assume that all new holes should be hydrovac'd to ensure no issues with potential underground utilities?

Answer - No. All fabricators are to assess and familiarize themselves with the existing conditions of all locations to determine what methods will be needed to dig holes for installation of the required signs. The fabricator is to determine the best method to use in their submittal.

Question 11

Should we include removal and disposal of old signage in our bid?

Answer - The existing panels will not be disposed of. The fabricator will be responsible for saving the sign panels and delivering them to Visit Big Sky.



Question 12

Is there a variance that all bidders should use when quoting the length of the potential poles for those on steep inclines?

Answer - Please quote the pole lengths as they are shown in the bid document. After the project is awarded, the fabricator will have an opportunity to evaluate all sign locations during their initial site survey. If the fabricator determines additional costs are needed for the pole length, this can be revisited with Visit Big Sky and Tangram Design.

Question 13

Do all the existing posts need to be shortened or just have an angle cut?

Answer - Only the A.2 sign types will require the existing posts to be cut to the specified height with no angle. All other sign types with existing posts (Sign Type B.1A & B.1B) do not need to be cut.

Question 14

Can the pre-bid presentation be shared?

Answer - Yes. A PDF of the presentation will be included along with the answers to the questions.

Question 15

Do prototypes need to be shipped to Colorado for Tangram to review or will Tangram come to the fabricator's shop?

Answer - Tangram's standard practice is to review all prototypes on-site at the fabricator's facility before anything is shipped out to be installed.

Question 16

Can bidders who attended the mandatory pre-bid meeting contact each other to create a bidding team if desired?

Answer - Yes, bidders who attended the mandatory pre-bid meeting can talk to each other and build a fabrication and install team. Please inform us that you are teaming up when submitting your bid response.

Question 17

Will permitting be an issue, since some locations involve existing signs?

Answer - See answer to Question 6.



Question 18

Are the old drawings of the existing concrete bases? This information would help engineers since they do not currently know how the existing ones were built.

Answer - Yes. A page of the existing sign shop drawings with footer details will be included along with the answers to the questions.

Question 19

Will there be a seam in the panel?

Answer - Yes. All seams must be filled and sanded smooth prior to painting.

Question 20

When is the installation of this project to be completed?

Answer - The fabrication and installation of the project is to be completed by December 31, 2024. If the awarded fabricator has concerns regarding this completion date, these items can be discussed when finalizing the approved schedule between the awarded fabricator, Visit Big Sky, and Tangram Design.

MDT Requirement

Per feedback from the MDT, all sign panel/aluminum panel thicknesses must be reduced from 1/4" to 1/8". All submittals must reflect this change to the sign panel/aluminum panel thicknesses.