



MACON COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA

Request for Quotations

Network and WiFi Equipment for County
Facilities in the Nantahala Township

RFQ No:	01-111623
Date:	November 16, 2023
Quotation Submission Deadline:	December 8, 2023, 4:00PM EST

Prepared for Macon County by Little T Broadband Services, Inc.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The County of Macon, North Carolina, seeks quotations from qualified IT service and sales providers to purchase and install Ubiquiti Unifi network, security, and WiFi equipment at 5 County facilities in the Nantahala Lake area.

This project will be used to provide high-speed internet services for collocated County agencies and to provide public WiFi hot spots in the area. Internet service to the 5 facilities will be provided via fiber through a development project with BalsamWest. Each facility will require protected WiFi, public WiFi, and IP security cameras with DVR capability.

The project will be coordinated and managed on the behalf of Macon County by Little T Broadband Services.

RFQ and Proposed Project Schedule

Date	Milestone	Description
11-16-2023	RFQ Release	RFQ Posted for general public release. Potential providers notified.
12-08-2023	RFQ Deadline to Respond	Response proposals submitted to the County.
12-15-2023	Vendor Selection	Responding vendors will be notified of selection

Submission and Contact Information

Coordination for quotations and management of the project will be handled by Little T Broadband services. Please direct quotations and any questions to the email address below.

Quotation Submission Deadline: December 8, 2023, 4:00PM EST

Quote Submission and Email Inquiries: MCBroadbandRFQ@littletbroadband.org

NANTAHALA COUNTY FACILITY NETWORK PROJECT

Macon County requests quotation for the purchase and installation of network equipment to support protected WiFi and Public WiFi at 5 County facilities in the Nantahala Lake area.

1. BACKGROUND

Macon County has recently signed an agreement with BalsamWest to provide fiber internet service to 5 County facilities in the Nantahala Lake area. BalsamWest is in the permitting process on the project and expects to begin fiber construction within the next month, with anticipation of active fiber service by early Q2 2024. The fiber internet service will be used at each facility to provide dedicated services for the resident agencies, and to provide public WiFi within and surrounding the facilities. In addition to WiFi network support, the County anticipates some number of hard wired ethernet connections, and 2 or more IP security cameras with DVR capability at each facility.

2. QUOTATION REQUESTED

Macon County seeks a quotation for the purchase and installation of the network equipment needed to provide the above capabilities. In 2022 similar network and hot spot systems were installed in 3 facilities in south Macon. The systems installed are Ubiquity Unifi, and Macon County IT prefers similar systems be installed in the Nantahala facilities.

3. PROJECT DETAILS

3.1. Scope

This project will include the purchase, installation, and activation of all required network equipment and materials for the 5 target County facilities.

3.2. Schedule

The County wishes to commence procurement activity immediately upon signing a contract with the selected vendor. BalsamWest has indicated early Q2 2024 for fiber network activation, and the County's goal is to have network equipment installed and ready prior to fiber activation.

Proposed milestone schedule

Date	Milestone	Description
11-16-2023	RFQ Release	RFQ Posted for general public release. Potential providers notified.
12-08-2023	RFQ Deadline to Respond	Response proposals submitted to the County.
12-15-2023	Vendor Selection	Responding vendors will be notified of selection
01-02-2024	Contract Completed	Formal agreement/contract signed. Procurement of equipment commences
04-01-2024	Network Install Complete	Equipment installation complete and networks active at all 5 facilities.

3.3. Nantahala County Facilities

Facility	Address	Description	Network Services Required
Nantahala Library /Community Center	36 White Oak Lane Topton, NC 28781	New library and community building under development/renovation	Wired for computers Security Cameras/DVR Protected WiFi Public WiFi
Nantahala EMS	1096 Junaluska Rd Topton, NC 28781	Existing regional EMS	Wired for computers Security Cameras/DVR Protected WiFi Public WiFi
Nantahala VFR	19036 Wayah Rd, Topton, NC 28781	Existing primary fire and rescue	Wired for computers Security Cameras/DVR Protected WiFi Public WiFi
Nantahala VFR Substation (North)	405 Windingstairs Rd Topton NC 28781	Existing fire substation	Wired for computers Security Cameras/DVR Protected WiFi Public WiFi
Nantahala Recreation Center	2341 Junaluska Rd Topton, NC 28781	Existing public outdoor recreation facility and EMS landing zone	Public WiFi Protected WiFi Security Cameras/DVR

3.4. Desired Network Equipment

The County has had success with Ubiquity Unifi systems at other facilities and wishes to use this product family for the Nantahala Network Project. The County will assume the monitoring and management of the facility networks once installed and activated. Any repair or upgrades services required will be contracted separately.

A proposed basic equipment list for the major network components required at each facility is shown below for reference. It is assumed that responding vendors will provide a complete proposed list of equipment and material required for each facility, including a lockable equipment rack and rack mount UPS.

The equipment rack provided should have sufficient space to accommodate a fiber gateway device supplied by BalsamWest and 2U of future expansion.

Equipment	Unifi Model or Equivalent	Description	Quantity
Router + DVR/POE Switch	UDM-SE	Combination Router, Gateway, DVR, and managed POE switch	1
Indoor AP	U6-LR	Existing regional EMS	2
Outdoor AP	U6 Mesh	Existing primary fire and rescue	1
Security Camera	UVC-AI-Pro	Existing substation	2

3.5. Required Installation Practices

- Equipment rack must be installed in location agreed upon with facility occupants/County.
- Equipment rack must accommodate fiber gateway device and rackmount UPS
- All exterior installation must be completed using standard weather tight electrical boxes and conduit
- All new building penetrations required for exterior equipment installation must be sealed
- All interior network cables should be hidden from view where applicable or run in conduit or other suitable enclosed raceway

3.6. Site Visits Prior to Quote Preparation

Interested vendors may request site visits prior to quote preparation. A site visit request can be made via the email address below, and a date and times will be coordinated with the Nantahala County facility managers.

3.7. Quote Submission and Contact Information

Coordination for quotations and management of the project will be handled by Little T Broadband services on behalf of Macon County. Please direct quotations in PDF format and any questions to the email address below.

Quotation Submission Deadline: December 8, 2023, 4:00PM EST

Quote Submission and Email Inquiries: [**MCBroadbandRFQ@littletbroadband.org**](mailto:MCBroadbandRFQ@littletbroadband.org)