



Ranch Park Event Center Technology Renovation Question & Answer Board RFP# 2023-02

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## Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Q). Which manufacturers does the City use?

A). Currently using Meraki for networking and QSC for AV.

Q). Who is going to support this network going forward?

A). IT Director.

Q). How many people does this network need to support at a typical event?

A). We'd like our largest capacity to support 250-500 vendors.

Q). What do you want to run over this network?

A). Corporate/AV/Vendors/Guests network segment.

## Monday, February 6, 2023

Q). On RFP Section 5.2, "Current System Configuration", there are listed venues as follows. Are each of these a separate building, or are they all within the same structure?

- o Large Covered Arena
- o Vendor Hall
- o Small Covered Arena
- o Concession Kitchens (2)
- o Large Event Room
- o Small Event Room
- o Technology Spaces (MDF/IDF)

A) These locations are all within the same structure.



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Q). Under the above Vendor Hall, there is Qty 1 Meraki Wireless Access Point. Is this the only existing Wifi AP at the facility(ies)?

A) There are 2 access points, the second is in the Large Event Room.

Project A: Network Questions/information:

The Event Center should have wireless connectivity throughout the facility and be capable to handle traffic for large events for vendors on a separate network than corporate:

Q). What is the maximum number of vendors you will need to support within the Event Center facility? (I saw a list that had the largest vendor size was 500 people)

A) We'd like our largest capacity to support 250-500 vendors.

Q). Will the Wifi AP network need to include the "corporate network users" connecting to the Event Center's AP's as well as the vendors? If so, how many additional corporate network users?

A) Yes, approximately 50.

Q). We will want to have a scaled diagram ("As Built Map" to scale) of the Event Center facility/facilities that show dimensions of the building, height of the ceiling to which the Wifi AP's will be mounted, and any hard structures within the Event Center (like walls/barriers) and the height of those. This will be needed for all areas that the Wifi AP solution will need to cover.

A). We're working to have these on site for the walkthrough 2/9.

Q). What is the composition of the Event Center? Meaning what type of structure is it (concrete walls, cinder block, corrugated metal, etc.)?

A) Metal and Cinder Block

Q). Is there an area outside of the walls of the Event Center that will need to be covered by the Wifi AP's, if so, provide guidance on the above diagram how much distance will need to be covered by any Outdoor Wifi AP's?

A). The RV Spaces located on the backside of the building. Outlined in map below in green.

Q). Will there be a need to support any Wireless Microphones connected to the Wifi AP's? If so, details on those devices and how many?



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A). We're requesting the addition of a 12-panel wireless microphone set up and configuration to Wifi may vary. We will also need a wireless LAV pack for a headset microphone that is omnidirectional.

Q). What will be the noise level within the venue?

A). The parameters are 85db from source or 65db at property line.

Q). Due to the distance from a "network POE switch" to the farthest point of any Wifi AP, is there sufficient power sources where additional POE switches will need to be placed to extend the distance limitation of any CAT5/CAT5e/CAT6 data drop (328' max)? This will need to take into consideration the data drop going across and up to the actual inside wiring direction to get to the Wifi AP's.

A). Successful applicant will add power sources or fiber connections for longer connectivity runs

Q). Add Wireless AP's throughout the facility and in the RV Park for network connectivity: Provide an aerial map showing the distance from the Event Center to the RV Park area?

A). See Image 1.

Q). Is there an existing Point-to-Point (or Multi-Point) connection between the Event Center and the RV Park area?

A). No.

Q). What are the coverage area for the RV Park?

A). See Image 1.

Q). What will the Wifi AP's be attached to within the RV Park area?

A). This can be the perimeter of the building, or open suggestions.

Q). What is the type of structure those Wifi AP's will be mounted/attached to; meaning is it a wooden pole or some other type of structure?

A). This can be the perimeter of the building, or open suggestions.

Q). What will be the distance between the Wifi AP's

A). This should be based on equipment specification and network design request.



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Q). Where will the electrical connections be placed within the RV Park for the power to the Wifi AP's? (show on diagram)

A). See Image 1

Q). Upgrade Switching capacity to support AV over IP needs:  
What is the existing switching infrastructure in place today?

A). 1 managed Meraki MS120-24P and 1 unmanaged 12 port.

Q). Where are the existing switches located within the various buildings?

A). 1 managed switch in server closet and 1 unmanaged switch in office space.

Q). What are the make/model of the existing network switches?

A). Meraki MS120-24P

Q). By the term "upgrade", is the intent to replace the existing switching infrastructure, or to only provide a switching infrastructure that will support the Wifi AP and AV solutions in more of a standalone network?

A). To expand coverage additional resources will need to be added.

Q). If the bidder is to use any of the customers existing switching infrastructure, are those switches POE?

A). Yes

Q). Assumption will be that the switching infrastructure will need to also provide for POE switches to extend the maximum distance limitation of a CAT5/CAT5e/CAT6 data drop to complete the extension of the Wifi AP's beyond the 328'?

A). Probably Yes

Q). Optimization of equipment racks:  
Diagram or picture of existing data racks or space where the additional equipment needed for the Wifi AP and AV system will be located?

A). See Image 1



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Q). If there is not sufficient room in your existing rack infrastructure, will the bidder need to provide the additional racking to support the equipment for the Wifi AP and AV solution?

A). Yes

Q). Are there multiple areas/buildings where the equipment will be located, if so, Explain?

A). Please rephrase.

## Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Q). The RFP references an Appendix One that is attached. I only see 18 pages of this RFP and nothing labeled as Appendix One. Can you confirm if this was released?

A). This has been added to the website.

## Friday, February 17, 2023

Q). Meraki equipment. Is that on table for replacement or willing to change it out?

A). Meraki is the preferred option, yet we'd look at other options as well.

Q). Have you delineated AP to use?

A).

How will you review your BID in cost of Meraki?

A).

How will you review is more accurate on assessment/

A). Please rephrase.

Q). What is life cycle of this phase?

A). 5 years



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Q). Will we provide conduit for wire?

A). We would prefer conduit, yet the cost may exceed the benefit to do the entire package, so we'd like to see the option price of including conduit. Protected areas like coming through ceilings into IDF is considered an industry standard and should be included.

Q). What kind of firewall?

A). Meraki MX80

Q). Do you guys have a budget?

A). No

Q). Horse stall area measurements?

A). Please rephrase.

Q). Do you need a heat map to show coverage?

A). Yes

Q). Where is firewall and Av closet?

A). Located in Large Event room closet.

Q). Touchpad in one spot or able to be controlled in each space?

A). We'd like to be able to make adjustment to the different zones from a mobile device like iPad, and most importantly be able to add client devices via Bluetooth in areas like the Arena, Large Event Room, Small Event Room, Vendor Hall.

Q). What alternate spaces for equipment's?

A). Announcer Booth and office near Small Event room.

Q). What speed fiber?

A). 100 mbps currently. Looking to upgrade.

Q). Is this being used for City Council Meetings and w/ Video conferencing?

A). Yes. The Large Event room will need video streaming and 12 panel wireless microphone set.

Q). Do you have a streaming service?



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A). Currently use Extron at City Hall and youtube.

Q). Are you happy with projector?

A). We will upgrade this in the future.

Do we want audio in kitchen?

A). Yes

Q). Where is office switch?

A). IDF Large Event room closet.

Q). New speakers in lobby?

A). Yes.

Q). Announcement/Music, same as arena

A). Yes

Q). AP added to this area (Lobby)?

A). Yes

Q). How many speakers in bathrooms?

A). Replace existing

Q). Open to two vendors?

A). Yes, vendors can bid for the network or av package or both.

Q). Don't reuse AP already?

A). Replace

Q). Outdoor speakers?

A). Yes, for paging

Q). How many VIP Booths?

A). 14 + 1 announcer booth



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Q). Video in VIP booths need to be working?

A). *If we can get them working, that would be great.*

Q). Wall input to projector in small event?

A). *This will be upgraded in the future.*

Q). CODS- Qualifications process required?

A). *Please see the RFP.*

Q). Is top of VIP boxes structurally sound to run lines?

A). *Yes*

### **Large Covered Arena**

Q). Is enhanced low-frequency audio performance desired throughout the entire arena? Or only in the bleacher area? If the entire arena requires enhanced low-frequency audio performance, then subwoofer speakers will need to be flown to accommodate this desire.

A). *I believe the current subs are flown. Our intent is to have high quality sound throughout the facility and other solutions are welcome in proposal.*

Q 2) Are there proposed locations for the floor located subwoofers? Obtaining even low frequency coverage of the space will require quite a number of subwoofers, objects that will likely be obstacles to the flow of people in and out of the space. Will a flown subwoofer solution be considered?

A). *Yes*

Q 3) What sound pressure level (SPL) is desired from the speaker system?

A). *We'll leave this to the professionals to hopefully set us up for success.*

Q 4) What sound pressure level (SPL) is desired from the floor subwoofers?

A). *We'll leave this to the professionals to hopefully set us up for success.*





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Q 5) Will the new sound booth be fabricated by others? Or will the selected contractor be required to provide/fabricate the sound booth? Has a location within the arena been identified for the sound booth?

A). There is a dedicated sound booth in the middle of the vip boxes. We also have sound controls in the IDF in the Large Event room. We hope to be able to control zones from a wireless device like an iPad and be able to add Bluetooth connections in the Arena, Vendor Hall, IDF, Sound booth, Large and Small Event rooms.

Q 6) Will the new wireless microphone antennas be required to provide wireless reception throughout 100% of the Large Arena? Or are there certain areas that are the primary areas where wireless mic systems will be used?

A). 100% of the large Arena

Q 7) In addition to the audio mixing console, does this space require a simplified operational system that utilizes a touch panel instead of the mixing console?

A). There is a dedicated sound booth in the middle of the vip boxes. We also have sound controls in the IDF in the Large Event room. We hope to be able to control zones from a wireless device like an iPad and be able to add Bluetooth connections in the Arena, Vendor Hall, IDF, Sound booth, Large and Small Event rooms.

Q 8) Do any other audio input devices need to be provided and installed? Bluetooth input? CD Player? Other?

A). There is a dedicated sound booth in the middle of the vip boxes. We also have sound controls in the IDF in the Large Event room. We hope to be able to control zones from a wireless device like an iPad and be able to add Bluetooth connections in the Arena, Vendor Hall, IDF, Sound booth, Large and Small Event rooms.

Q 9) What type of events will the audio system need to support?

A). Rodeo, Monster Truck, Agriculture Shows, Farmers Markets, Vendor Exhibitions, and other special events.



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**- VIP Booths**

Q 10) There are currently LCD TV's in the VIP Booths. Are these to be incorporated in the AV solution for these spaces? If so, what is the video input source? Do we need to provide a control system to control the display power on/off and other aspects of these systems?

A). If these can be activated with the infrastructure in place that would be ideal, or minimal investment.

**- Vendor Hall**

Q 11) What will be the input sources for the speakers in this area?

Looking for solution.

Will there be local mic or line inputs (for music playback)? Or will the only input be from the paging system?

This is a zone we should be able to add music to.

**- Concessions Kitchens**

For the displays at the Large Concessions Kitchens:

A). If these can be activated with the infrastructure in place that would be ideal, or minimal investment.

Q 12) What will the source material be for these displays?

A). A). If these can be activated with the infrastructure in place that would be ideal, or minimal investment.

Q 13) How will this source material be delivered to these displays? (AVoverIP, coax, digital signage player, other)

A). A). If these can be activated with the infrastructure in place that would be ideal, or minimal investment.

**- Large Event Room**

Recording/Streaming

Q 14) Are we to provide cameras to be utilized with the recording/streaming system? If so, what type of cameras (remote controlled PTZ or portable manned)? How many cameras total?

A). Open to solutions and need a minimum of two cameras unmanned. We'd also like to capture/stream what is shown on the projector, so possible third camera.



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Q 15) Are the requested editing/production tools to be provided as part of this RFP? If so, what computer platform is desired? What software platform is desired? What video formats need to be accommodated? How much video storage should be provided? In a typical recording/streaming system, a single piece of hardware is provided that facilitates the recording/streaming of the AV event. So video editing is above and beyond what would be typical in a recording streaming system.

**- Small Event Room**

Q 16) How many HDMI inputs (for laptop connection) is desired?

A). Bluetooth or Wi-Fi option is preferred with the ability to connect to either corporate or guest network.

Q 17) Are there any existing AV inputs that need to serve this space?

A). None Existing

Q 18) How many wireless microphones are desired? What type? Handheld? Lavalier? Headset? Desktop?

12 Panel mic should be for Large Event room, and we like Shure wireless gooseneck style.

**- Technology Spaces (MDF/IDF)**

Q 19) How is cabling to be managed? Will the installation of raceway/ladder tray be required? Or are standard J-hooks acceptable?

A). J-hooks acceptable

Q 20) Other than cabling to accommodate the new wireless access points, will any other hardwired data drops be required? If so, how many? Where will they be located?

A). No

Q 21) Is there a desire to replace the unmanaged switch with a managed switch?

A). No

Q 22) Where are the MDF/IDF closets located?

A). Large Event room closet, sound booth, and office near small event room.



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Q 23) The equipment rack contains a Netgear AV Series managed switch that serves the existing AV system. Is this switch to be replaced with a Cisco Meraki switch?

A). Not required.

**- Speakers**

Q 24) In areas such as the Horse Stalls and Livestock Arena, what audio bandwidth is required? Speech (250Hz-4kHz)? Music (100Hz-10kHz)? Extended (20Hz-20kHz)?

A). A). We'll leave this to the professionals to hopefully set us up for success.

Q 25) Will paging in areas outside of the building (RV Park and/or other parking areas) be required? What audio bandwidth is required?

A). Yes

**- Paging**

Q 26) Where will all pages originate from?

A). We should be able to page a few ways. The office and the announcer/sound booth at minimum.

Q 27) Will a paging control station be required?

A). Vendor Specific

**- Wireless Mics**

Q 28) There is currently a six wireless mic system that serves the Arena and the Large Event Room. With the addition of new wireless mic systems, are these wireless mics to be retained/re-used in some fashion?

A). These need to be replaced.

**- Network Questions**

Q 29) What network firewall does Ranch Park currently use?

A). Meraki MX80

Q 30) What is the size of the internet connection coming into the building?

A). 100 mbps



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Q 31) A typical vendor. How many devices do they bring?

A). 1 or 2 devices

a. Please list the wireless devices a typical vendor brings. (Laptop, Cellphone, Tablet, Smart Watch etc.)

A). Can be any of the above mentioned

b. Please list the amount of data that needs to be supported from each device.

Our primary concern for larger events is the ability for vendor to complete point of sale transactions from the devices.

1. Background Sync
2. Very Low (256 Kbps)
3. Low (1Mbps)
4. Normal (2Mbps)
5. High (4Mbps)
6. Very High (10Mbps)

Q 32) Typical corporate user. Same questions as the vendor.

A). Will experience all of 1-6 example listed above.

Q 33) Typical guest User. Same questions as the vendor.

A). Will experience all of 1-6 example listed above.

Q 34) RV area. How much data will be used and are they considered guests, vendors, or corporate?

A). Considered guests.

Q 35) SSID consideration. Are there areas of the building that we can limit SSID usage?

The more SSIDs creates more channel utilization due to overhead. General rule of thumb. No more than 3 per AP and in highly used areas less is better.

A). Open to solutions

Q 36) Wireless security. What wireless security levels do you want for each of the networks?

a. Guest (typically open with splash page)

A). Yes



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b. AV (typically WPA2-AES pre-shared key WPA3 is available if all devices support it)

A). Yes

c. Vendor (typically WPA2-AES pre-shared key WPA3 is available if all devices support it)

A). Yes we'd like the capability to assign these by vendor and mac address.

d. Corporate (typically WPA2-Enterprise require radius server, or WPA2-AES pre-shared key WPA3 is available if all devices support it)

A). Yes

Q 36) The current Meraki equipment. How much longer do you have it under contract?

A). 2 years

Q 37) Do you want to continue with Meraki are you satisfied with the capabilities of the system?

A). Yes, and open to other solutions.

Q 38) Meraki Licensing has renewal costs that as you know have to be kept up or the system does not function. Would you be open to a different vendor that does not have renewal costs?

A). Yes

Q). 1) The existing system in the Large Event Space has a Dante card in the QSC DSP. What other Dante devices are in use in the system/facility?

A). Not sure.

Q). One final question, I believe. In considering the AP coverage and in considering what lift will be needed for this project, the question of the placement of the AP's in the Large Indoor Arena and Warm Up Arena has come up. To provide optimal coverage for both the Large and Warm Up arenas, several of the AP's should be mounted in the center of these arenas. However, if coverage is not needed in the center of each arena, then we can mount the AP's on both sides of the arenas and still provide sufficient coverage. This option would require a smaller lift and a less expensive lift rental. We are certainly ok with either scenario, but please provide us with what you want in terms of arena coverage.

A). Coverage is needed the center of these space. They will become vendor areas as events change frequently here.

Q). Could you verify for us if the existing fiber that is already in place, is 4 strand or 6 strand?

A). Not sure.



**DRIPPING SPRINGS**  
Texas

Open spaces, friendly faces.

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Image 1

