



## Texas Association of School Boards

P.O. Box 400, Austin, Texas 78767-0400 • 512.467.0222 • [tasb.org](http://tasb.org)

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### **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Wireless Cell Sites and Related Services**

The Texas Association of School Boards, Inc. (TASB) requests information from qualified companies (Company or Companies) that currently provide, or would like to provide, wireless, cellular, communications, cell site planning, and related services and products (as explained herein) to Texas public school districts. TASB, through its Facility Services division, offers a number of facility-related services and is currently exploring the potential of expanding related offerings.

TASB's member school districts currently maintain approximately 9,100 educational campuses throughout the state of Texas. In addition, districts own an estimated additional 3,000 locations for auxiliary services such as maintenance, warehousing, transportation, and administration and future expansion. These locations, individually or in aggregate, may be desired by cell phone carriers and others in the wireless industry for network cell site planning, improvement, and expansion. With continued population growth in Texas, demand for wireless network coverage and capacity has increased. Ongoing improvements in technology require updating of old or outdated wireless infrastructure. In addition, entities are now improving communications within their own areas and communities through the development and construction of their own cell towers and networks.

TASB is interested in visiting with Companies that provide services related to wireless cell site planning, consulting, aggregation, acquisition, construction, management and related services for Texas public schools and other governmental entities. This request for information is intended to seek information from qualified firms about services available in the wireless and cellular marketplace in order to explore potential opportunities with Companies to provide new and/or expanded services to TASB members in collaboration with the TASB Facility Services program.

#### **A. Organizational Background**

Created in 1949, TASB is a private, voluntary, nonprofit, and statewide educational association that serves local Texas school districts. TASB's membership currently includes the boards of all 1,026 Texas school districts, as well as 20 regional education service centers, 50 community colleges, 20 central appraisal districts, 130 shared service arrangements, and 79 charter schools. TASB members represent the largest group of publicly elected officials in the state (more than 7,000 school board members) who preside over combined expenditures of more than \$69 billion annually, employ more than 745,000 people, and serve over 5.3 million Texas students. TASB has maintained more than 33 consecutive years of 100 percent participation of Texas public school boards. TASB's mission is to promote educational excellence for Texas schoolchildren through advocacy, visionary leadership, and high-quality services.

TASB provides a broad range of services and products. A list and description of these offerings can be found at [tasb.org/services](http://tasb.org/services). Facility Services offerings can be found at [www.facility.tasb.org](http://www.facility.tasb.org).

In addition, TASB serves as administrator to multiple interlocal cooperative entities including The Local Government Purchasing Cooperative d/b/a BuyBoard®. *Please note that this request for information is issued by and for TASB only and is in no way a part of, nor associated with any TASB affiliated entity, including BuyBoard, or any BuyBoard proposal invitation or contract.*



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### **B. Potential Future Services**

The following is a list of services TASB is exploring. TASB is seeking information from Companies interested in potential opportunities to collaborate with TASB to provide holistic and comprehensive planning, aggregation, and implementation solutions for wireless cell sites and networks to Texas school districts and other types of local governments. Companies submitting responses should be fully authorized and, if required, licensed in the State of Texas to provide the products and services included in the response.

TASB seeks experience in Texas, ability to support TASB member facilities across Texas, relationships with wireless service providers, marketing capabilities, access to capital for this project, experience with similar agreements, and financial benefit to TASB and TASB members.

### **Cell Site Development, Marketing, Management, and Maintenance Services**

TASB is seeking information on qualified Companies that provide wireless communications facility marketing, management, development, and maintenance services for wireless communications facilities. The purpose is to have a Company provide these services at no capital cost to TASB or TASB members.

It is anticipated that qualified Company(ies) would market TASB member facilities and properties, as authorized by the TASB member, to wireless carriers for development of new wireless facilities and develop, maintain, and manage new communications facilities (e.g., new sites) to support wireless installations, ensuring security and access to wireless facilities.

Additional services may include:

- Consultation on existing and future TASB member wireless services and agreements.
- Development and accommodation of TASB member-specific wireless services (Private LTE, campus WIFI, DAS, etc.).
- Coordination of facility use by non-profit/government entities.
- Management of wireless facility agreements including:
  - New cell site leases
  - Cell site lease extensions
  - Cell site lease audits
  - Cell site lease prepayments ("buyouts"), when permitted by applicable law
  - Cell site modifications
  - Cell site management

### **Wireless/Cellular Carriers:**

To assist members and other Texas local governments, TASB is also interested in teaming with firms with a presence in the Texas market as wireless and cellular service providers. As the drivers of wireless networks, we believe relationships with wireless service carriers would benefit TASB and firms TASB works with in assisting TASB members with the development and implementation of services related to cell site location and acquisition on member properties throughout the state.



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### **Wireless Systems and Tower Services:**

As technology changes, school districts and other governmental entities are adjusting to new developments in the wireless market. Today, school districts are improving their own communication and networks, as well as that of their communities, by installing wireless systems inside their buildings and on their properties. Experience and expertise in the following areas is desired:

- Cellular networks
- Wireless communication system design and development
- Small cell/distributed antenna systems
- Tower installation/construction
- Tower management and modification

### **Training:**

School district staff, parents, and community stakeholders may have concerns related to the safety of wireless transmission on school grounds or district property. Assistance is requested to provide information and training related to the safety and security of wireless transmissions.

**Other services** — If Company offers any other related services or products that the Company feels might be beneficial to TASB and TASB members, TASB requests information on those services as well.



**C. REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Submission Instructions**

TASB reserves the right to reject any and all responses and will not be liable for any cost incurred in the preparation of response. TASB reserves the right to waive any or all irregularities, formalities, or other technicalities and to be the sole and independent judge of quality and suitability of any services offered. TASB may accept or reject a response in its entirety, or may reject any part of a response without affecting the remainder of that response, and may award the individual items in any combination or in any way that provides the best offer to TASB, or choose to not award any items, in its sole discretion.

**Deadline:** 12:00 p.m. (noon), Friday, August 12, 2022

**Submission:** Responses must be sent **via e-mail** to [jeff.clemmons@tasb.org](mailto:jeff.clemmons@tasb.org).

**Response Guidelines:** Responses to this request for information should follow the outline below:

- 1. Response Cover Form**—Complete the C(1) response cover form and include as the first page of response.
- 2. Company Background**—Provide all relevant Company information.
- 3. Company Management and Ownership** - Provide a description of Company management and ownership (public/private), minority owned, business certification, etc.)
- 4. Company Financials**—A statement that Company is financially capable to perform the services identified in the response, including whether your Company has ever filed for bankruptcy. (Prior to entering into any agreement with a Company, TASB may require additional information related to the financial health and stability of the Company.)
- 5. Company Services**—Provide detailed information describing any of the services for which your Company is proposing to collaborate with TASB, including how long your firm has offered the service(s), Company license information (if applicable), and the types and number of clients that use the service(s) (i.e. school district, city, county, private business, etc. and numbers for each).
- 6. Company References**—For each service listed in Section C(5), provide the following information for each client you wish to serve as a reference:
  - a. Client name
  - b. Name, address, and phone number of client contact
  - c. Company team member(s) involved and nature of each team member’s responsibility
  - d. Explanation of service provided
- 7. Business Proposal**—For each service listed in Section C(5), provide a description of how your Company would propose to collaborate with TASB in providing the service to TASB members, including the roles and responsibilities you would propose your Company having and the roles and responsibilities you would propose TASB having. Also, include any historical and future growth projections you feel would be helpful in our evaluation.



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**Questions:** TASB will only respond to questions pertaining to this request for information submitted via e-mail to the address listed below. Communications and meetings to discuss this RFI are welcome prior to the Deadline.

Jeff Clemmons  
Director, TASB Facility Services  
[jeff.clemmons@tasb.org](mailto:jeff.clemmons@tasb.org)  
512-505-2850

TASB will post any addendum or additional information, if deemed necessary by TASB, at **[facility.tasb.org](http://facility.tasb.org)**, and it will be the Company's responsibility to obtain the information.

