



ITN Frequently Asked Questions

<p>Q. What is an ITN?</p> <p>A. An Invitation to Negotiate (ITN) is a formal competitive solicitation for the purchase of goods and/or services where factors other than price are to be considered in the award determination. An Invitation to Negotiate does not bind any parties – it is a first step in an exploratory process.</p>	<p>Q. What happens if someone gets the bid and then is unable to fulfill the stipulations of the agreement?</p> <p>A. The County leadership is committed to ensure that the services provided to the community continue at the highest quality level and that the pledge to save lives is at the forefront of the operation.</p>
<p>Q. Is the ITN a result of the Citizens for Pets Task Force?</p> <p>A. No.</p>	<p>Q. Who can bid?</p> <p>A. Information regarding this bid can be found online at: http://www.maricopa.gov/procurement/solicitation.aspx</p>
<p>Q. How do we bid?</p> <p>A. Information regarding this bid can be found online at: http://www.maricopa.gov/procurement/solicitation.aspx</p>	<p>Q. When is the deadline to bid?</p> <p>A. Information regarding this bid can be found online at: http://www.maricopa.gov/procurement/solicitation.aspx</p>
<p>Q. Are there requirements and expectations for those who bid?</p> <p>A. Yes. Information regarding this bid can be found online at: http://www.maricopa.gov/procurement/solicitation.aspx</p>	<p>Q. Is HALO bidding?</p> <p>A. We do not know yet who may be interested in this process.</p>
<p>Q. What will happen to HALO if they do/do not submit a proposal?</p> <p>A. Submitting a proposal is a business decision belonging to HALO. If they choose not to submit a proposal, HALO’s contract is scheduled to expire April 30, 2016. Potential providers will bid on both Shelter (including licensing, call center, administration, volunteer program, etc.) and Medical Care at the West Valley Animal Care Center. An interested organization may prepare a proposal for one or both. There is a potential that multiple providers could be considered.</p>	<p>Q. Can the County reject a proposal?</p> <p>A. Yes. The County will only negotiate if it is in the best interest of the public and the animals.</p>

<p>Q. Will MCACC be submitting their own proposal in the bid process?</p> <p>A. No. MCACC is the default in this process. If no one wins the bid, it will remain with the County.</p>	<p>Q. What is the goal?</p> <p>A. Whether a partnership is pursued, the goals remain: continued higher percentage of Live Release Rate; improved medical care; less time each animal stays in the shelter environment; greater positive customer experience.</p>
<p>Q. Why is the County doing this?</p> <p>A. In addition to internal operation change initiatives, MCACC is open to meeting with qualified external organizations to explore whether a potential partnership would be in the best interest of the animals, the community and the County.</p>	<p>Q. Is MCACC in financial trouble?</p> <p>A. The reason for this ITN is to explore opportunities to increase effectiveness and provide excellent services to our customers.</p>
<p>Q. Will the role of rescue groups change if MCACC no longer is operating the shelter?</p> <p>A. At this point, it is too early in the process to answer these questions as this is an exploratory initiative.</p>	<p>Q. Will New Hope Partner Agreements be affected by a change in the management of shelter operations?</p> <p>A. It is not likely the agreements will change; however, it could be raised by the proposing vendor and would then be discussed during the contract negotiation process.</p>
<p>Q. Will MCACC employees lose their jobs? Will their jobs change?</p> <p>A. At this point whether or not there is any provider out there capable of delivering the necessary services at the right cost is a big unknown. It is too early in the process to answer these questions as this is an exploratory initiative.</p>	<p>Q. What will happen to MCACC if HALO leaves?</p> <p>A. MCACC will absorb the operations currently handled by HALO. We will continue with the New Hope program and HALO would be eligible to New Hope animals along with all of our other rescue partners.</p>
<p>Q. The public has been told the HALO partnership contributed to reduced euthanasia; does this mean MCACC's euthanasia numbers will increase?</p> <p>A. Our goal remains to increase adoptions and decrease euthanasia. We will continue to work with HALO or any other partner to ensure our Live Release Rate remains constant or better yet, increase.</p>	<p>Q. Will the cost of adoptions increase?</p> <p>A. The current adoption fees (\$0-\$150) have been established by the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors and can only be increased with their approval.</p>

<p>Q. Will the type of dog the shelter takes change?</p> <p>A. No. Whether MCACC or another entity is operating the shelter, it will still be required to take all dogs brought in by the public.</p>	<p>Q. Is there any other Animal Control agency that is outsourcing like this?</p> <p>A. We do not know of any other in Arizona; however, there are public-private partnerships in community shelters outside of the state.</p>
<p>Q. Why isn't Field Enforcement included in this bidding process?</p> <p>A. As presently structured, the statutory duties and outstanding contractual legal obligations of Field Enforcement Services do not make it a viable candidate for the bid process.</p>	<p>Q. Has MCACC gone through this type of an ITN before?</p> <p>A. MCACC has outsourced the licensing operation before.</p>