SOLICITATION QUESTION AND ANSWER

Solicitation Number: 510515	**Solicitation Name: HUMAN SERVICE VEHICLES – Transit Bariatric Vehicles**
Date: 4/13/2023	

High Roof Bariatric Vehicle Rear Entry

Quest. No.	Section	Question	Answer
1.	0.0	Please accept the option of a standard floor as the specification allow for a vehicle to bid without the need of a lowered floor.	A standard floor is acceptable.
2.	0.0	Please accept that the Altoona Bus Testing Center performance standards are not applicable to the vehicle based on FTA definition of and unmodified mass-produced van. "Unmodified mass-produced van means a van that is mass-produced, complete and fully assembled as provided by an OEM. This shall include vans with raised roofs, and/or wheelchair lifts, or ramps that are installed by the OEM, or by a party other than the OEM provided that the installation of these components is completed in strict conformance with the OEM modification guidelines." https://www.transit.dot.gov/research-innovation/interpretations-definitions	Altoona Bus Testing is only required when applicable.
3.	1.4	Please accept the OEM cargo interior height of 77 inches as a minimum. 81.5 inches is for cargo van and the measurement is based off of not having a floor or ceiling installed in the van.	We intended 81.5 inches to be the exterior height minimum of the vehicle. If 77 inches minimum ensures a high roof than that is acceptable.
4.	2.8	Please allow All Wheel Drive to be listed as an option. With the shortage of parts and chassis, it is best to have limited options on the chassis to get them built. Also, with the standard vehicle stability control systems on the vehicle, it is designed to operate in all weather conditions in a safe manner.	All wheel drive is required.

5.	3.6	Please allow for the OEM standard option of the black bumper. Painted bumpers require a higher trim level that will add additional cost to the chassis units.	Black bumpers are acceptable.
6.	3.6	Please allow for the OEM standard bumper that has a ledge to step on.	Standard bumpers are acceptable.
7.	3.7	Please accept the OEM exhaust system	OEM Exhaust is acceptable as long as it meets Trans 301.18 requirements.
8.	4.11	Please accept the OEM splash guard wheel fender.	OEM splash guard wheel fenders are acceptable.
9.	4.12	Please accept that the OEM option is only for front wheel liners and does not offer a rear wheel liner.	OEM front wheel lines only are accepted.
10.	7.12	Please accept the OEM fuse setting instead of resetting circuit breakers. This is not an option from the OEM for a non-structure modified vehicle.	OEM fuse setting is acceptable.
11.	8.0	Please amend to have the airbag system run the entire length of the vehicle and not just the first row as this safety system will aid and assist passenger by minimizing injuries in the event of a motor vehicle accident as stated by NHTSA.	Full (entire) length air bag systems are acceptable.
12.	9.3	Please accept the OEM Autolamp feature	OEM Autolamp features are acceptable.
13.	9.5	Please accept the OEM brake lights	OEM brake lights are acceptable.
14.	10.4	Please accept the OEM width/depth of the front passenger seat, this would not be an aftermarket seat.	OEM front passenger seat is required.
15.	10.5	Please accept the OEM vinyl seat cover	OEM vinyl seat cover is acceptable.
16.	10.7	Please accept a standard width of 17 inches for the seating as this is wider than the OEM rear passenger seats	17-inch seat width is acceptable.
17.	10.7	Please amend that all seats are to be forward facing and securely fastened with a bolt-through applications and not track mounted with removable hardware.	Forward facing and securely fastened bolt-through applications are required.
18.	10.7	Please accept a 2-inch addition to the seat height as to make room for the rear heater assembly.	Accepted.
19.	10.10	Please accept the seat has a gas strut to assist the rise of the seat but is not automatic.	Accepted.
20.	10.10	Please accept that the fold away seats do not have a sheet metal or covering on the bottom of the seat, as this would restrict access to the folding mechanism and safety latch.	Not having sheet metal or covering on the bottom of the seat is acceptable.

21.	12.2	Please accept the OEM standard mirrors	OEM standard mirrors are acceptable as long as they comply with Trans 301.26 requirements.
22.	13.3	Please accept the OEM standard that rear defrost has historically only been available with dark privacy glass and may cause visibility issues for drivers.	OEM standard defrost system is acceptable. Rear defrost is not required.
23.	13.7	Please remove this requirement as the communication systems are very specific and may differ with each organization.	Per Trans 301.14, vehicle must allow for a 2-way communication system installed depending on subrecipient's preference. Subrecipient may choose to use cellphone as communication system.
24.	14.1	Please amend to have the A/C system be the Ford OEM and not an aftermarket system that hangs over the seating positions and removes headspace as well as increase in possible maintenance cost and repairs.	OEM A/C system is acceptable.
25.	15.1	Please accept the floor base material as a minimal thickness of 3/4" thick composite, water resistant substrate fully encapsulated with an FMVSS 302 compliant polyuria finish to provide a slip resistant surface while creating a barrier which is impervious to environmental elements.	A floor base material minimal thickness of ¾" is acceptable.
26.	15.1	Please accept ½" marine grade plywood to keep flooring systems smooth and without uneven levels to reduce tripping hazards	A ½" marine grade plywood is acceptable.
27.	15.2	Please accept the OEM rubber flooring under the driver and passenger section of the vehicle.	OEM Rubber Flooring under the driver and passenger is acceptable.
28.	15.2	Please accept adhesive install commercial grade vinyl composite transit flooring.	Adhesive install commercial grade vinyl composite transit flooring is acceptable.
29.	17.3	Please accept the OEM style window that is a sealed style glass.	Sub-recipients have requested a egress window for passenger safety and enjoyment. OEM glass is acceptable, but the windows must be able to open.
30.	17.7	Please remove this option as vehicles such as the Ford Transit and bus bodies do not have a rear wiper option.	Not having a rear wiper is acceptable.
31.	20.0	Please amend to direct the L-track from side to side for the vehicle to designate specific wheelchair positions insuring proper spacing between wheelchair riders.	As long as there is enough room for two wheelchair space and the designated number of ambulatory seats, L-track can be placed in the most effective and safe position.
32.	20.6	Please amend the 1000lb rear lift to a 37-inch width based on the size of the wheelchair that will need a 1000lb capacity, the additional width will help to insure ridership and minimal denials.	A 37-inch width base is acceptable.
33.	20.7	Please accept the use of the 51-inch platform lift	A 51-inch platform lift is acceptable.

34.	20.15	Please accept that wheelchair lift manufactures require maintenance and lubrication of the bearings and pin as part of the services outlined in the warranty guidelines	Acceptable.
35.	22.1	Please accept 2 wheelchair positions as designed in the floor plan of the spec. When placing 2 wheelchairs in the front positions of the transit, there is 60.5 inches from the wall to the stepwell which allows for the 30 inches of width for ADA spacing but the spec also calls for a double foldaway in the front position which will take up space and not allow for a true 30 inches of space for each wheelchair positions.	Acceptable.

Medium Roof Bariatric Vehicle Rear Entry

Quest. No.	Section	Question	Answer
36.	0.0	Please accept the option of a standard floor as the specification allow for a vehicle to bid without the need of a lowered floor.	Yes, a standard floor is acceptable.
37.	0.0	Please accept that the Altoona Bus Testing Center performance standards are not applicable to the vehicle based on FTA definition of and unmodified mass-produced van. "Unmodified mass-produced van means a van that is mass-produced, complete and fully assembled as provided by an OEM. This shall include vans with raised roofs, and/or wheelchair lifts, or ramps that are installed by the OEM, or by a party other than the OEM provided that the installation of these components is completed in strict conformance with the OEM modification guidelines." https://www.transit.dot.gov/research-innovation/interpretations-definitions	Altoona Bus Testing is only required when applicable.
38.	1.4	Please accept the OEM cargo interior height of 67.6 inches as a minimum. 72 inches is for cargo van and the measurement is based off of not having a floor or ceiling installed in the van.	We intended 72 inches to be the exterior height minimum of the vehicle. If 67.6 inches minimum ensures a medium roof than that is acceptable.
39.	2.8	Please allow All Wheel Drive to be listed as an option. With the shortage of parts and chassis, it is best to have limited options on the chassis to get them built. Also, with the standard vehicle stability control systems on the vehicle, it is designed to operate in all weather conditions in a safe manner.	All wheel drive is required.

40.	3.6	Please allow for the OEM standard option of the black bumper. Painted bumpers require a higher trim level that will add additional cost to the chassis units.	Black bumpers are acceptable.
41.	3.6	Please allow for the OEM standard bumper that has a ledge to step on	Standard bumpers are acceptable.
42.	3.7	Please accept the OEM exhaust system	OEM Exhaust is acceptable as long as it meets Trans 301.18 requirements.
43.	4.11	Please accept the OEM splash guard wheel fender.	OEM splash guard wheel fenders are acceptable.
44.	4.12	Please accept that the OEM option is only for front wheel liners and does not offer a rear wheel liner.	OEM splash guard wheel fenders are acceptable.
45.	7.12	Please accept the OEM fuse setting instead of resetting circuit breakers. This is not an option from the OEM for a non-structure modified vehicle.	OEM fuse setting is acceptable.
46.	8.0	Please amend to have the airbag system run the entire length of the vehicle and not just the first row as this safety system will aid and assist passenger by minimizing injuries in the event of a motor vehicle accident as stated by NHTSA.	Full (entire) length air bag systems are acceptable.
47.	9.3	Please accept the OEM Autolamp feature	OEM Autolamp features are acceptable.
48.	9.5	Please accept the OEM brake lights	OEM brake lights are acceptable.
49.	10.4	Please accept the OEM width/depth of the front passenger seat, this would not be an aftermarket seat.	OEM front passenger seat is required.
50.	10.5	Please accept the OEM vinyl seat cover	OEM vinyl seat cover is acceptable.
51.	10.7	Please amend that all seats are to be forward facing and securely fastened with a bolt-through applications and not track mounted with removable hardware.	Forward facing and securely fastened bolt-through applications are required.
52.	10.7	Please accept a standard width of 17 inches for the seating as this is wider than the OEM rear passenger seats	17-inch seat width is acceptable.
53.	10.7	Please accept a 2-inch addition to the seat height as to make room for the rear heater assembly.	Accepted.
54.	10.10	Please accept the seat has a gas strut to assist the rise of the seat but is not automatic	Accepted.
55.	10.10	Please accept that the fold away seats do not have a sheet metal or covering on the bottom of the seat, as this would restrict access to the folding mechanism and safety latch.	Not having sheet metal or covering on the bottom of the seat is acceptable.

56.	12.2	Please accept the OEM standard mirrors.	OEM standard mirrors are acceptable as long as they comply with Trans 301.26 requirements.
57.	13.3	Please accept the OEM standard that rear defrost has historically only been available with dark privacy glass and may cause visibility issues for drivers.	OEM standard defrost system is acceptable. Rear defrost is not required.
58.	13.7	Please remove this requirement as the communication systems are very specific and may differ with each organization.	Per Trans 301.14, vehicle must allow for a 2-way communication system installed depending on subrecipient's preference. Subrecipient may choose to use cellphone as communication system.
59.	14.1	Please amend to have the A/C system be the Ford OEM and not an aftermarket system that hangs over the seating positions and removes headspace as well as increase in possible maintenance cost and repairs.	OEM A/C system is acceptable.
60.	15.1	Please accept the floor base material as a minimal thickness of 3/4" thick composite, water resistant substrate fully encapsulated with an FMVSS 302 compliant polyuria finish to provide a slip resistant surface while creating a barrier which is impervious to environmental elements.	A floor base material minimal thickness of ¾" is acceptable.
61.	15.1	Please accept ½" marine grade plywood to keep flooring systems smooth and without uneven levels to reduce tripping hazards	A ½" marine grade plywood is acceptable.
62.	15.2	Please accept the OEM rubber flooring under the driver and passenger section of the vehicle.	OEM Rubber Flooring under the driver and passenger is acceptable.
63.	15.2	Please accept adhesive install commercial grade vinyl composite transit flooring.	Adhesive install commercial grade vinyl composite transit flooring is acceptable.
64.	17.3	Please accept the OEM style window that is a sealed style glass	Sub-recipients have requested a egress window for passenger safety and enjoyment. OEM glass is acceptable, but the windows must be able to open.
65.	17.7	Please remove this option as vehicles such as the Ford Transit and bus bodies do not have a rear wiper option.	Not having a rear wiper is acceptable.
66.	20.0	Please amend to direct the L-track from side to side for the vehicle to designate specific wheelchair positions insuring proper spacing between wheelchair riders.	As long as there is enough room for two wheelchair space and the designated number of ambulatory seats, L-track can be placed in the most effective and safe position.
67.	20.6	Please amend the 1000lb rear lift to a 37-inch width based on the size of the wheelchair that will need a 1000lb capacity, the additional width will help to insure ridership and minimal denials.	A 37-inch width base is acceptable.
68.	20.7	Please accept the use of the 51-inch platform lift	A 51-inch platform lift is acceptable.

69.	20.15	Please accept that wheelchair lift manufactures require maintenance and lubrication of the bearings and pin as part of the services outlined in the warranty guidelines	Acceptable.
70.	22.1	Please accept 2 wheelchair positions as designed in the floor plan of the spec. When placing 2 wheelchairs in the front positions of the transit, there is 60.5 inches from the wall to the stepwell which allows for the 30 inches of width for ADA spacing but the spec also calls for a double foldaway in the front position which will take up space and not allow for a true 30 inches of space for each wheelchair positions.	Acceptable.

High Roof Bariatric Vehicle Side Entry

Quest. No.	Section	Question	Answer
71.	0.0	Please accept the option of a standard floor as the specification allow for a vehicle to bid without the need of a lowered floor.	Yes, a standard floor is acceptable.
72.	0.0	Please accept that the Altoona Bus Testing Center performance standards are not applicable to the vehicle based on FTA definition of and unmodified mass-produced van. "Unmodified mass-produced van means a van that is mass-produced, complete and fully assembled as provided by an OEM. This shall include vans with raised roofs, and/or wheelchair lifts, or ramps that are installed by the OEM, or by a party other than the OEM provided that the installation of these components is completed in strict conformance with the OEM modification guidelines." https://www.transit.dot.gov/research-innovation/interpretations-definitions	Altoona Bus Testing is only required when applicable.
73.	1.4	Please accept the OEM cargo interior height of 77 inches as a minimum. 81.5 inches is for cargo van and the measurement is based off of not having a floor or ceiling installed in the van.	We intended 81.5 inches to be the exterior height minimum of the vehicle. If 77 inches minimum ensures a high roof than that is acceptable.
74.	2.8	Please allow All Wheel Drive to be listed as an option. With the shortage of parts and chassis, it is best to have limited options on the chassis to get them built. Also, with the standard vehicle stability control systems on the vehicle, it is designed to operate in all weather conditions in a safe manner.	All wheel drive is required.

75.	3.6	Please allow for the OEM standard option of the black bumper. Painted bumpers require a higher trim level that will add additional cost to the chassis units.	Black bumpers are acceptable.
76.	3.6	Please allow for the OEM standard bumper that has a ledge to step on	Standard bumpers are acceptable.
77.	3.7	Please accept the OEM exhaust system	OEM Exhaust is acceptable as long as it meets Trans 301.18 requirements.
78.	4.11	Please accept the OEM splash guard wheel fender.	OEM splash guard wheel fenders are acceptable.
79.	4.12	Please accept that the OEM option is only for front wheel liners and does not offer a rear wheel liner.	OEM front wheel lines only are accepted.
80.	7.12	Please accept the OEM fuse setting instead of resetting circuit breakers. This is not an option from the OEM for a non-structure modified vehicle.	OEM fuse setting is acceptable.
81.	8.0	Please amend to have the airbag system run the entire length of the vehicle and not just the first row as this safety system will aid and assist passenger by minimizing injuries in the event of a motor vehicle accident as stated by NHTSA.	Full (entire) length air bag systems are acceptable.
82.	9.3	Please accept the OEM Autolamp feature	OEM Autolamp features are acceptable.
83.	9.5	Please accept the OEM brake lights	OEM brake lights are acceptable.
84.	10.4	Please accept the OEM width/depth of the front passenger seat, this would not be an aftermarket seat.	OEM front passenger seat is required.
85.	10.4	Please accept that the front passenger seat recline may be restricted by the requested wheelchair lift position installed directly behind the passenger front seat.	Accepted.
86.	10.5	Please accept the OEM vinyl seat cover.	OEM vinyl seat cover is acceptable.
87.	10.7	Please amend that all seats are to be forward facing and securely fastened with a bolt-through applications and not track mounted with removable hardware.	Forward facing and securely fastened bolt-through applications are required.
88.	10.7	Please accept a standard width of 17 inches for the seating as this is wider than the OEM rear passenger seats	17-inch seat width is acceptable.
89.	10.10	Please accept the seat has a gas strut to assist the rise of the seat but is not automatic	Accepted.
90.	10.10	Please accept that the fold away seats do not have a sheet metal or covering on the bottom of the seat, as this would restrict access to the folding mechanism and safety latch.	Not having sheet metal or covering on the bottom of the seat is acceptable.

91.	10.7	Please accept a 2-inch addition to the seat height as to make room for the rear heater assembly.	Accepted.
92.	12.2	Please accept the OEM standard mirrors	OEM standard mirrors are acceptable as long as they comply with Trans 301.26 requirements.
93.	13.3	Please accept the OEM standard that rear defrost has historically only been available with dark privacy glass and may cause visibility issues for drivers.	OEM standard defrost system is acceptable. Rear defrost is not required.
94.	13.7	Please remove this requirement as the communication systems are very specific and may differ with each organization.	Per Trans 301.14, vehicle must allow for a 2-way communication system installed depending on subrecipient's preference. Subrecipient may choose to use cellphone as communication system.
95.	14.1	Please amend to have the A/C system be the Ford OEM and not an aftermarket system that hangs over the seating positions and removes headspace as well as increase in possible maintenance cost and repairs.	OEM A/C system is acceptable.
96.	15.1	Please accept the floor base material as a minimal thickness of 3/4" thick composite, water resistant substrate fully encapsulated with an FMVSS 302 compliant polyuria finish to provide a slip resistant surface while creating a barrier which is impervious to environmental elements.	A floor base material minimal thickness of ¾" is acceptable.
97.	15.1	Please accept ½" marine grade plywood to keep flooring systems smooth and without uneven levels to reduce tripping hazards	A ½" marine grade plywood is acceptable.
98.	15.2	Please accept the OEM rubber flooring under the driver and passenger section of the vehicle.	OEM Rubber Flooring under the driver and passenger is acceptable.
99.	15.2	Please accept adhesive install commercial grade vinyl composite transit flooring.	Adhesive install commercial grade vinyl composite transit flooring is acceptable.
100.	17.3	Please accept the OEM style window that is a sealed style glass	Sub-recipients have requested a egress window for passenger safety and enjoyment. OEM glass is acceptable, but the windows must be able to open.
101.	17.7	Please remove this option as vehicles such as the Ford Transit and bus bodies do not have a rear wiper option.	Not having a rear wiper is acceptable.
102.	20.0	Please amend to direct the L-track from side to side for the vehicle to designate specific wheelchair positions insuring proper spacing between wheelchair riders.	As long as there is enough room for two wheelchair space and the designated number of ambulatory seats, L-track can be placed in the most effective and safe position.
103.	20.7	Please accept a lift platform of 51 inches as the side door height does not change with the roof height like the rear doors do. Based on the	51-inch lift platform is acceptable. We would like to have the largest platform that is able to fit on the vehicle.

		requirement to keep the airbag system installed, the lift platform can only be 51 inches.	
104.	20.7	Please amend the 1000lb rear lift to a 37-inch width based on the size of the wheelchair that will need a 1000lb capacity, the additional width will help to insure ridership and minimal denials.	A 37-inch width base is acceptable.
105.	20.7	Please accept the use of the 51-inch platform lift	A 51-inch platform lift is acceptable.
106.	20.8	Please accept that wheelchair lift manufactures do not recommend or offer an installation kit for any of the 1000lb continuous lifts. Please accept an 800lb lift as required by the manufactures as this far exceeds the ADA requirement and TRANS 301. Engineering does not recommend the 1000lb lift in the side entry of a full-size van based on the amount of weight and stress that is placed on the front axle of the vehicle which when tested, overloads the front axle weight rating.	Side-load vehicles may install an 800lb lift if 1,000lb lifts are not possible due to front axle stress.
107.	20.15	Please accept that wheelchair lift manufactures require maintenance and lubrication of the bearings and pin as part of the services outlined in the warranty guidelines	Acceptable.

108.	22.1	Please accept 2 wheelchair positions as designed in the floor plan of the spec. When placing 2 wheelchairs in the front positions of the transit, there is 60.5 inches from the wall to the stepwell which allows for the 30 inches of width for ADA spacing but the spec also calls for a wheelchair lift and double foldaway seat in the front position which will take up space and not allow for a true 30 inches of space for each wheelchair positions thus reducing the front space to only 1 position and a second position behind it, not next to it.	Acceptable.

Medium Roof Bariatric Vehicle Side Entry

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109.	0.0	Please accept the option of a standard floor as the specification allow for a vehicle to bid without the need of a lowered floor.	Yes, a standard floor is acceptable.
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111.	1.4	Please accept the OEM cargo interior height of 67.6 inches as a minimum. 77 inches is for cargo van and the measurement is based off of not having a floor or ceiling installed in the van.	We intended 72 inches to be the exterior height minimum of the vehicle. If 67.6 inches minimum ensures a medium roof than that is acceptable.
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120.	9.3	Please accept the OEM Autolamp feature.	OEM Autolamp features are acceptable.
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123.	10.4	Please accept that the front passenger seat recline may be restricted by the requested wheelchair lift position installed directly behind the passenger front seat.	Accepted.
124.	10.5	Please accept the OEM vinyl seat cover	OEM vinyl seat cover is acceptable.
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139.	17.7	Please remove this option as vehicles such as the Ford Transit and bus bodies do not have a rear wiper option.	Not having a rear wiper is acceptable.
140.	20.0	Please amend to direct the L-track from side to side for the vehicle to designate specific wheelchair positions insuring proper spacing between wheelchair riders.	As long as there is enough room for two wheelchair space and the designated number of ambulatory seats, L-track can be placed in the most effective and safe position.
141.	20.6	Please amend the 1000lb rear lift to a 37-inch width based on the size of the wheelchair that will need a 1000lb capacity, the additional width will help to insure ridership and minimal denials.	A 37-inch width base is acceptable.
142.	20.7	Please accept the use of the 51-inch platform lift	A 51-inch platform lift is acceptable.

143.	20.7	Please accept a lift platform of 51 inches as the side door height does not change with the roof height like the rear doors do. Based on the requirement to keep the airbag system installed, the lift platform can only be 51 inches.	51-inch lift platform is acceptable. We would like to have the largest platform that is able to fit on the vehicle.
144.	20.8	Please accept that wheelchair lift manufactures do not recommend or offer an installation kit for any of the 1000lb continuous lifts. Please accept an 800lb lift as required by the manufactures as this far exceeds the ADA requirement and TRANS 301. Engineering does not recommend the 1000lb lift in the side entry of a full size van based on the amount of weight and stress that is placed on the front axle of the vehicle which when tested, overloads the front axle weight rating.	Side-load vehicles may install an 800lb lift if 1,000lb lifts are not possible due to front axle stress.
145.	20.15	Please accept that wheelchair lift manufactures require maintenance and lubrication of the bearings and pin as part of the services outlined in the warranty guidelines	Acceptable.
146.	22.1	Please accept 2 wheelchair positions as designed in the floor plan of the spec. When placing 2 wheelchairs in the front positions of the transit, there is 60.5 inches from the wall to the stepwell which allows for the 30 inches of width for ADA spacing but the spec also calls for a wheelchair lift and double foldaway seat in the front position which will take up space and not allow for a true 30 inches of space for each wheelchair positions thus reducing the front space to only 1 position and a second position behind it, not next to it.	Acceptable.