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SUPERINTENDENT

NEW BEDFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
PAUL RODRIGUES ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
455 COUNTY STREET  
NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS 02740  
[www.newbedfordschool.org](http://www.newbedfordschool.org)

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*"We are committed to developing a community of learners who are academically proficient, demonstrate strong character and exhibit self-confidence."*

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January 27, 2021  
Councilman William "Brad" Markey  
Chair of the Property Committee  
City of New Bedford  
133 William St  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Councilman Markey:

The City Council's Committee on Property voted to allow the New Bedford School Department to issue a Request for Proposal regarding the purchase or lease of a site with specific parameters acceptable to the Food Service Department at their August 10, 2020 meeting. The specific parameters include the following:

- The preferred building will be 15,000 to 20,000 square feet in size
- Contain a loading dock
- Be centrally located and made up of one parcel
- Adjacent to highways
- Include parking for thirty four vehicles
- The ability to receive on site and unload a tractor trailer combination with a 53' trailer without street obstruction or backing in and out of the street delaying traffic

The RFP specifies proposals for purchase with an estimated cost of not more than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) as long as the property is free of debts, obligations, liens, or other encumbrances (financial or otherwise) at the time of delivery, but would accept a gift property. The property must have had a recent clearance report from action relating to MGL Chapter 21E: Massachusetts Oil and Hazardous Material Release Prevention and Response Act.

One bid proposal was received by the City of New Bedford Purchasing Department after the bid was qualified for technical criteria it was forwarded to Robert Shaheen, Food Service Director of New Bedford Public Schools and Dr. Barry Rabinovitch, School Construction Facilitator.

*The New Bedford Public Schools do not discriminate on the basis of age, gender, race, color, religion, ethnicity, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, ancestry, homelessness, gender identity, gender expression or immigration status.*

A bid proposal evaluation committee consisting of Dr. Rabinovitch, School Construction Facilitator, Robert Shaheen, Director of Food Service, Donald Veloso, Owner's Project Manager, and Bruce Oliveira, New Bedford School Committee, evaluated the one proposal received and gave the proposal an average score of 23.5 out of a possible 25 total points. The evaluation committee unanimously agreed to send a recommendation to the New Bedford School Committee to request the City to purchase the property at 449 North St, New Bedford, MA 02740.

On December 14, 2020, the New Bedford School Committee voted to recommend that the City of New Bedford begin negotiations to purchase the property at 449 North St. This letter should serve as the School Committee's recommendation to move forward with negotiations to purchase the property located at 449 North St, New Bedford, MA 02740. Enclosed, please find the recommended proposal and price proposal sheet submitted by the owner of this property.

While the development costs would be financed through general obligation debt, all debt service costs would be reimbursed to the General Fund by the Cafeteria Fund through a Memorandum of Understanding. Ideally, the School Department wishes to settle on a property and close on the transaction as soon as possible.

Respectfully,



Dr. Barry Rabinovitch  
School Construction Facilitator  
BAR/sah

Enclosures