

City of Rochester
Port of Rochester Transportation Evaluation and Support Study
Request for Proposals

Project Back Ground:

A fast ferry service began between Rochester and Toronto in June 2004. Unfortunately, the service was terminated by CATS, the private ferry operator, in September after only 80 days of operation. Since then the City of Rochester purchased the ferry and selected Bay Ferries of Prince Edwards Island to operate the ferry for the City. The service is expected to begin in early summer 2005.

To service the ferry, the City of Rochester constructed a terminal facility and related transportation improvements at the Port of Rochester. While the facilities were designed to accommodate the transportation demands at the Port, unforeseen transportation problems could develop, including parking capacity problems, neighborhood cut-through traffic, truck traffic, or unexpected traffic congestion. In addition, several development projects at the Port have not yet been constructed, most notable for this study being a multi-modal Transportation Center and a remote parking facility.

Project Goal/Objectives:

The goal of the study is to insure the land-side transportation facilities adequately serve fast ferry users and the surrounding area (within two miles of the Port site—see attached map), and to maximize reuse of development sites at the Port of Rochester. The study will provide objective measurements of transportation usage at the Port, and, if needed, will make recommendations to fine-tune the transportation system both at the Port site and in the surrounding community. The project will also develop concept designs for a multi-modal Transportation Center and a possible remote parking lot.

Project Tasks:

1. Participate and lead meetings of an inter-governmental Project Advisory Committee (PAC) that will be established for the project. A maximum of five PAC meetings will be held, unless agreed to by the consultant.
2. Community input phase—hold at least one community meeting to help identify perceived or actual transportation problems.
3. Background phase—review existing information in the City's Port Development plan and in the land use plans of the Towns of Greece and Irondequoit (with a focus on transportation facilities within two miles of the Port). Review plans of the Rochester-Genesee Transportation Authority and the Monroe County Department of Transportation for the Port site and surrounding area. Review the status of economic development sites at the Port and coordinate with a consultant who is being hired to develop a Master Plan for the Port site.

4. Inventory phase--obtain available traffic counts, parking occupancy, ferry ridership, truck volumes, transit ridership, walking/bike and taxi arrivals, rail usage, O'Rorke bridge openings, boat traffic, neighborhood traffic, and other transportation statistics deemed appropriate for the study within a two mile radius of the Port. Conduct primary counts of these transportation statistics when existing data is not available. The City is hiring a consultant to conduct Port parking occupancy counts at least during the months of May and June. The parking occupancy counts conducted in this study should match the methodology of the earlier counts and should continue the counts into at least the peak months of July and August, i.e. coordination is needed with the consultant for the earlier parking counts. Since the consultant is not expected to begin until mid -July, a special effort may be needed in late July to capture peak parking and traffic conditions. A Port site master traffic count station may be needed to allow factoring of Port area parking and traffic counts in nearby locations.
5. Projection phase-project land uses and transportation usage for the above transportation statistics for a ten year horizon.
6. Problem identification phase--analyze the transportation statistics and identify any transportation problems encountered or projected.
7. Recommendation phase--develop recommendations for any needed transportation improvements:
 - A. Prepare concept plans, drawings, sketches in enough detail to provide cost estimates for the recommended improvements.
 - B. Develop a program statement (location, transportation modes to be included, etc.) and concept design for a multi-modal Transportation Center and a remote parking lot. These plans should be in enough detail to allow accurate cost estimating for the project. Develop an implementation plan, including phasing if needed, and potential funding sources.
8. Report phase--Prepare a Final Report and an Executive Summary which documents the study process and recommendations. Allow City staff one review cycle of the draft Final Report and Executive Summary.

Project Deliverables:

1. Attendance at and minutes of all PAC and community meetings
2. Interim report chapters on inventory results and identified problems
3. Maps showing the two mile study area with inventories, problems, recommended projects, etc.
4. Four hard copies of a draft Final Report and ten hard copies of the Final Report
5. One digital copy of the Final Report and of the Executive Summary
6. One presentation at a Genesee Transportation Council project close-out meeting

Additional information:

A maximum of \$40,000 is available for the study. Subconsultants are allowed. City Council is likely to make a decision on consultant selection at its June 10, 2005 meeting. At least four weeks will be required for agreement processing. The consultant work is expected to begin about mid-July 2005.

Proposal Submittal:

Three copies of proposals with study approach, team members and experiences (including subconsultants, if any), similar studies, and fee, should be submitted by 5pm May 2, 2005 to:

John Thomas
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