
INFORMATION BULLETIN

For Immediate Release
2007TRAN0023-000767
June 8, 2007

Ministry of Transportation

PORT MANN/HIGHWAY 1 COMPETITIVE PROCESS UNDERWAY

VICTORIA – The Ministry of Transportation has issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to identify proponents capable of designing, building, financing, operating and maintaining the Port Mann/Highway 1 (PMH1) improvements.

The PMH1 project is part of B.C.'s Gateway Program, which will improve roads and bridges for people, goods and transit throughout Greater Vancouver. The PMH1 project will widen the highway, build a new bridge at the Port Mann crossing, upgrade 17 interchanges and improve access and safety from McGill Street in Vancouver to 216th Street in Langley, a distance of approximately 37 kilometres. Highway improvements include adding one lane in each direction west of the Port Mann Bridge, and two lanes in each direction east of the Port Mann Bridge, one of which is an HOV lane.

The PMH1 improvements will restore transit service crossing the bridge for the first time in 20 years, as well as expanded networks for HOV, cyclists and pedestrians. The new bridge will be built to accommodate potential future rapid transit.

The PMH1 project will be tolled to pay for the project, reduce congestion and moderate traffic growth over time, extending the life of the improvements. The Province will set toll rates and ensure compliance with provincial tolling guidelines.

The ministry will select up to three respondent teams to participate in the next phase of the competitive selection process, the Request for Proposal stage. Construction will begin in mid-2008 with completion in 2013.

Highway 1, the busiest and most economically critical route in Greater Vancouver, was built in the early 1960s when the regional population was 800,000. This route now serves as the key east-west corridor to the region's 2.2 million people. Traffic has increased to the point where the bridge is congested in both directions for more than 13 hours each day.

Government is taking a balanced approach to improving movement of people, goods and transit through investment in new rapid transit projects, port and rail facilities as well as improved roads and bridges through the Gateway Program in Greater Vancouver.

The RFQ can be found on the Gateway Program, and Bid BC websites. Further information can also be found on the Partnerships BC website.

<http://www.gatewayprogram.bc.ca/>

<http://www.bcbid.gov.bc.ca/>

<http://www.partnershipsbc.ca/index.html>

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