

PORT OF SEATTLE
MEMORANDUM

COMMISSION AGENDA
ACTION ITEM

Item No. 6d
Date of Meeting June 4, 2013

DATE: May 23, 2013
TO: Tay Yoshitani, Chief Executive Officer
FROM: Dan Burke, Program Lead Planner, Public Affairs
Christine Wolf, Seaport Transportation Program Planner, Seaport Division
SUBJECT: Interlocal Agreement with the City of Seattle for the Seattle Industrial Areas Freight Access Project

Amount of This Request: \$250,000 **Source of Funds:** Federal Grant,
No POS funds involved
Est. State and Local Taxes: \$0 **Est. Jobs Created:** 5
Est. Total Project Cost: \$283,690

ACTION REQUESTED:

Request Commission authorization for the Chief Executive Officer to enter into an interlocal agreement substantially as drafted with the City of Seattle to reimburse the City of Seattle up to \$250,000 in Federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) grant funds awarded to the Port of Seattle for the Industrial Areas Freight Access Project.

SYNOPSIS:

Freight mobility is critical to the Port of Seattle's mission and the economy and vitality of the City of Seattle. Increasing traffic congestion and development in the Manufacturing and Industrial Centers (MICs) of Seattle makes it more difficult to move freight safely and efficiently. The Port and City work together on a number of programs and projects related to freight infrastructure and freight mobility improvements. In 2012, the two agencies jointly prepared a successful federal STP grant application for \$250,000 for a project designed to evaluate and recommend ways to improve freight mobility within and through the Duwamish and the Ballard Interbay Northend MICs and the regional transportation network.

Although the City was ineligible to compete directly for these specific grant funds, the Port was eligible and submitted the grant application with the intention of reimbursing the City for work done by its consultants on the project. This project is a building block toward Seattle's Freight Master Plan, which will begin in the fall of 2013. The project will also be coordinated with the Seaport's effort to update its Container Terminal Access Study, eliminating duplication of effort

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and maximizing public benefit. Under the interlocal agreement with the City, the Port will continue its role in jointly managing the project with the City, participation in selecting the consultant, preparing recommendations, and drafting a final report.

An interlocal agreement is required because, while the federal funds are granted to the Port, the City will be the lead agency with responsibilities for administering the project. The interlocal agreement documents the responsibilities of each agency and defines a process for completing the project. The Draft Interlocal Agreement and Request for Qualifications (RFQ) are attached to this memorandum.

BACKGROUND:

The Port of Seattle derives its legal authority to act from its enabling statutes, Title 53 RCW and Chapter 14.08 RCW.

Under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, Chapter 39.34 RCW, the Port and City may join together to undertake and accomplish a project as long as each has independent legal authority to undertake the project. Since the Port has legal authority to spend funds to accomplish the project's scope of work, which relates to improving truck-freight mobility and to the Port's ability to attract and retain tenants and engage effectively in economic development, the Port and City may enter into an interlocal agreement pursuant to RCW 39.04.030.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The purpose of the project is to develop and carry out a focused and pragmatic technical approach to identifying and evaluating current and future freight bottlenecks and problem locations affecting the City's MICs, leading to a set of cost-effective operational and/or capital improvements. These improvements are aimed at maintaining and improving freight mobility access and circulation within and between the Greater Duwamish and Ballard Interbay Northend MICs, including the key connections from the MICs to the regional transportation system. The project will also identify improvements from the Port of Seattle's facilities to nearby rail yards. The project will promote regional and international economic competitiveness.

The findings from this project will be incorporated into the future Seattle Freight Master Plan providing a comprehensive vision for freight transportation for the MICs and the City in general.

Project Goal:

The goal of the project is to identify transportation improvement projects within the project area that will:

- Maintain and improve freight-truck mobility and access to accommodate expected general traffic, freight and cargo growth.
- Ensure connectivity for major freight intermodal and trans-loading facilities.
- Increase safety for all travel modes.
- Reduce environmental impacts, including greenhouse gas emissions.

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PROJECT SCOPE OF WORK AND SCHEDULE:

Scope of Work:

Below is an outline of the Scope of Work for the Project:

- Assess existing conditions, data needs, trends, and future conditions for long-haul regional, drayage and urban pick-up delivery truck-freight movement needs.
- Identify, evaluate, and recommend a prioritized list of capital and operational improvements including options for freight truck priority on Major Truck Streets and Port terminal connector routes.
- Identify potential changes to the City's Major Truck Street network.
- Identify project, policy and programmatic issues for further evaluation within a comprehensive Seattle Freight Master Plan.
- Identify potential design guideline revisions for the Seattle Right-of-Way Improvements Manual.
- Engage key stakeholders throughout the study process.

A more detailed scope of work, which was prepared jointly by staff from the Port and the City, is attached to this document as part of the RFQ..

Schedule:

Below is a list of key schedule milestones for the project:

- Scoping: January/April, 2013
- Interlocal Agreement: (Port and City) June 2013
- Request for Qualifications: June 2013
- Obligate funds from WSDOT: June 2013
- Commission authorization to enter into an interlocal agreement with the City of Seattle: June 2013
- Consultant Selection: July 2013
- Begin Project: August 2013
- Complete Project: March 2014

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Except for staff time, there are no financial implications to the Port of Seattle. The project is funded by a federal grant, awarded to the Port as part of the 2012 Federal STP grant competition. The funds will be used to reimburse the City for work done on the project.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES:

The project supports the Century Agenda objective to position the Puget Sound region as a premier international logistics hub.

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OTHER DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS REQUEST:

- Draft Interlocal Agreement
- Request for Qualifications
- PowerPoint

PREVIOUS COMMISSION ACTIONS OR BRIEFINGS:

- None