
INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Ministry of Transportation

FIRMS SHORTLISTED FOR PORT MANN/HWY 1 IMPROVEMENTS

VICTORIA – The Ministry of Transportation has shortlisted three firms capable of designing, building, financing, operating and maintaining the Port Mann/Highway 1 (PMH1) improvements to participate in a Request for Proposals (RFP).

The three firms – Connect BC Development Group, Gateway Mobility Partners, and Highway 1 Transportation Group – were selected through a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process. These groups all have significant experience in financing, building and operating toll highways in an urban setting.

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 km. 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 will be an HOV lane.

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

The Port Mann Bridge 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.

RFP submissions are due in the spring of 2008, with the contract awarded in the fall of 2008. Construction will begin in 2008 with completion in 2013.

Additional information about the Gateway Program can be found at:
www.gatewayprogram.bc.ca

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1 backgrounder(s) attached.

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