



## **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

### **Public Port and Infrastructure Project Feasibility Study/Plan Washington County, Ohio**

#### **Project Overview:**

Buckeye Hills Regional Council (BHRC) is seeking proposals for a comprehensive Port Study to assess the feasibility of developing a publicly owned brownfield site located in Washington County, Ohio, along the Ohio River into a functioning port facility.

The study should address the key considerations outlined below and provide actionable insights to inform future decision-making and planning.

#### **Prioritized Items:**

##### **Brownfield Site Utilization:**

- Assess the potential for repurposing or redeveloping the brownfield site to accommodate port-related activities.
- Evaluate environmental remediation requirements and integration of sustainable practices into site development plans.

##### **Impacts for Construction:**

- Evaluate potential impacts of construction activities on the surrounding environment, infrastructure, and community.
- Develop mitigation strategies to minimize adverse effects during the construction phase.

##### **Dealing with Buried Steel at the Project Site:**

- Address buried structural steel present on the site. This involves an evaluation by a ground-penetrating radar to provide a comprehensive assessment. This assessment should detail the necessary remediation actions, associated costs, and any other relevant considerations specific to this cleanup endeavor.
- Provide recommendations for efficient and environmentally responsible disposal or reuse of steel materials.

##### **Market Assessment and Economic Feasibility:**

- Conduct a thorough market analysis to determine the demand for port services and the economic viability of the proposed development.
- Identify potential industries or sectors that could benefit from the establishment of a port facility.

- Estimate projected revenue streams and financial returns associated with port operations.

**Substantiation of Goods Movement Claims:**

- Provide evidence and data supporting claims regarding the efficient movement of goods in and out of the port.
- Analyze existing transportation networks and logistical infrastructure to demonstrate the port's connectivity and accessibility.

**Identification of Barriers:**

- Identify regulatory, logistical, environmental, or other barriers that may impede the development and operation of the port facility.
- Propose strategies to address or mitigate identified barriers effectively.

**Additional Information:**

Our goal is to incorporate Ohio Rail to provide added funding for rail connectivity to the port, emphasizing the importance of integrating rail transport into the port's design and planning.

**Respondents are encouraged to explore additional funding opportunities to secure financing for this port infrastructure project.**

**Consultant Selection:**

BHRC Staff will review consultant proposals and may conduct interviews with one or more respondents. The BHRC Executive Committee will authorize BHRC to enter into contracts with one or more consulting firms. All respondents will be notified of the selection as soon as possible after the decision has been made.

BHRC reserves the right to reject any or all submissions and to waive any irregularities or informalities in the RFQ process. Submission of a response indicates acceptance of the terms outlined herein.

**Timeline:**

RFQ Release Date: 03/22/2024

RFQ Submission Deadline: 04/19/2024

All inquiries and submissions should be directed to:

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