Answers to Questions Regarding RFP for Circulation Element of Jersey City Master Plan (received as of November 15, 2007)

Question 1: If my firm is selected to complete the Circulation Element of the Master Plan; would we then be restricted from appearing before the Planning Board and/or the Board of Adjustment in support of development applications for a private developer due to a conflict of interest?

Answer 1: The firm selected to complete the Circulation Element of the Jersey City Master Plan would not be prohibited from appearing before the Planning Board, the Zoning Board of Adjustments, or the Historic Preservation Commission in support of development applications for a private developer. However, if the selected firm were to appear before one of the Jersey City land use boards on behalf of a private developer during the course of the project, it may be perceived as a conflict of interest by interested parties. Therefore, before submitting a proposal, a potential proposer should carefully consider the potential consequences of working for both the City of Jersey City and private developer(s).

Question 2: What types of transit modeling if any are needed from the consultant?

Answer 2: There is no minimum requirement for transit modeling. The type and amount of transit modeling is to be determined by individual proposers based on factors such as their scope of work, ability, and resources.

Question 3: Do all consultants have to fill out the enclosed EEO/AA forms, or just the prime?

Answer 3: All firms on a consultant team must complete and submit with their proposal the Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action [EEO/AA] forms attached to the RFP.

Question 4: Do all consultants need [to submit] a business registration certificate, or just the prime?

Answer 4: All firms on a consultant team must submit with their proposal copies of their Business Registration Certificate issued by the State of New Jersey Department of Treasury.

Question 5: Page 11 of the RFP states that the day-to-day project manager must have both an NJ-PP [Professional Planner] license and AICP [American Institute of Certified Planners] certification. Would an NJ-PP and an NJ-PE [Professional Engineer] license be an acceptable substitute for the project manager?
Answer 5: The day-to-day project manager must have both a PP license and AICP certification. A PP license with a PE license is not an acceptable substitute for a PP license with AICP certification. The product of this effort, the Circulation Element of the Jersey City Master Plan, is a planning document, and the project manager for the consultant team shall be a practicing planner. Receipt of a PP license and AICP certification indicate that the individual has successfully demonstrated an understanding of city planning principles gained through educational and/or professional work experience in planning.

Question 6: Is there a specific reason as to why 2050 is the horizon [year] for modeling?

Answer 6: The 2050 horizon year was selected in order to plan for long-range transportation infrastructure projects that support anticipated development under a build-out scenario. While the actual year in which Jersey City will reach build-out is unknown, the year 2050 is sufficiently far out into the future to approximate a build-out scenario.

Question 7: What method of traffic forecast modeling is required? Will the existing TransCAD model be available for use?

Answer 7: No specific method of traffic forecast modeling is required. However, the existing traffic model of downtown Jersey City (in Synchro) will be available to the selected consultant.

Question 8: What is meant in the scope by transit modeling? Does it imply simulation of transit systems or model forecasting of ridership volumes?

Answer 8: Each proposer is to determine the amount of transit modeling to include in their scope of work. Proposers are encouraged to submit creative and innovative scopes of work, which may or may not include transit modeling. However, it is anticipated that transit ridership volume forecasts will be provided by another source. Therefore, transit ridership volume forecasts are not anticipated to be a work product of the selected consultant.

Question 9: Since the downtown street system was recently modeled, can this area be excluded from traffic modeling?

Answer 9: The downtown Jersey City area cannot be excluded from the roadway traffic model. However, it is anticipated that the selected consultant would use the existing model of downtown Jersey City as a base to create a traffic model of the entire city. The existing model uses trip data that is anticipated for the year 2020 and excludes a certain amount of development that is approved but not expected to be supported by market
conditions prior to the year 2020. The Circulation Element will examine conditions through the year 2050 to approximate a build-out scenario.

**Question 10:** What do you mean by assumptions and qualifications? [On page 14, the RFP states that the Technical Proposal may contain a section called “Assumptions and Qualifications.”]

**Answer 10:** The Assumptions and Qualifications section of the Technical Proposal may include any unusual assumptions and/or qualifying statements related to the execution of the project that the proposer feels that the consultant-selection committee should know about in order to evaluate the proposal. Inclusion of the Assumptions and Qualifications section in the Technical Proposal is optional.