

# Blue Highways FAQ



## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. What is Blue Highways?

The City is in the process of exploring a pilot program to facilitate new transloading operations of waterborne freight to sustainable last mile delivery method at City-owned marine facilities. Activating our marine facilities for freight will reduce traffic congestion and air pollution caused by our overreliance on trucks, and is a key part of the City's broader greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategy. NYC released a Request for Expressions of Interest (RFEI) to invite interested respondents to better understand industry challenges and opportunities, including ways to implement and support businesses to engage in waterfront freight operations. NYC is interested in modernizing existing marine infrastructure, expanding access to the waterfront, and helping to develop a sustainable model for last mile delivery that minimally impacts neighboring communities.

### 2. What is a RFEI?

A Request for Expressions of Interest (RFEI) posted through the [NYC Mayor's Office of Contract Services \(MOCS\) PASSPort](#) system.

- [More information on the PASSport system](#)

### 3. Who should respond to the RFEI

The City would like to hear from you if one or more of the following applies to you:

- If you currently or previously have been interested in looking to shift operations from trucks to marine freight
- If you operate sustainable last-mile delivery operations (cargo bikes, electric vehicles) and are interested in potentially partnering with others in a marine freight pilot project that may or not include landside micro distribution centers, among other potential strategies as defined in the [Delivering New York: A Smart Truck Management Plan](#)
- If you have a project proposal for marine to sustainable last mile delivery transloading and would like to potentially partner with the City in a demonstration pilot.

#### 4. How is this RFEI different from NYCEDC's [DockNYC](#) RFEI?

[NYCEDC's 2021 DockNYC RFEI](#) intended to seek proposals from maritime industry businesses wishing to immediately activate specific waterfront sites for maritime uses. The Blue Highways RFEI will be to solicit those ideas as well as ways the City can facilitate and support the use of marine vessels to move goods into/around the city. The Blue Highway RFEI will also have a focus on gauging industry interest in using low emission maritime vessels and sustainable last mile delivery methods, such as cargo bicycles and low or zero emission vehicles.

#### 5. What happens after I submit a response?

The City will review all completed responses and may enter a limited pilot program with one or multiple vendors.

#### 6. Which City agencies are involved in this initiative?

- [NYC DOT](#)
- [NYCEDC](#)
- Other related municipal agencies such as Small Business Services and non-city agencies such as the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey will be consulted with regard to program implementation when facilities under their jurisdiction are impacted.
- The City will coordinate with the New York City Metropolitan Transportation Council to ensure synergy with the Regional Freight Plan and other relevant work via the Metropolitan Area Planning (MAP) Forum.