



Lower Paxton Township Dauphin County, Pennsylvania

Request for Proposal

Lower Paxton Township Compost Facility Optimization
and Community Impact Mitigation Study

Issued 7/8/2025
Responses Due 8/7/2025

Lower Paxton Township Compost Facility Optimization and Community Impact Mitigation Study

1. **BACKGROUND**

Lower Paxton Township is requesting proposals from qualified engineering firms to conduct a comprehensive follow-up study on the Township's Compost Facility located at 6613 Conway Road, Harrisburg, PA. The purpose of this study is to analyze the current site layout, daily operations, and associated costs with the goal of enhancing logistical efficiency, evaluating site relocation potential, and addressing environmental and community impacts—specifically noise and dust affecting nearby residential areas.

This project will build on the findings of the 2025 DEP Technical Assistance Report and provide data-driven recommendations that can guide strategic planning and capital improvements.

The Lower Paxton Compost Facility is a 13.6-acre site operating on a former landfill and currently permitted under PADEP Municipal Waste General Permit WMGM030SC001. The site has been the subject of recent evaluations due to operational inefficiencies, excessive stockpiling, and complaints from nearby residents about noise, dust, and visual nuisances.

The 2025 DEP Technical Assistance Study identified several key issues, including:

- Inefficiencies in processing and product distribution
- Lack of permanent dust suppression infrastructure
- Limited physical buffers for adjacent neighborhoods
- Need for modernized technology and aerated composting systems
- Overreliance on passive management techniques
- Poor marketability
- Outdated community access protocols and limited engagement

A copy of the DEP study can be obtained by emailing mjaroslawski@lowerpaxton-pa.gov

2. **DESCRIPTION**

The selected firm will be responsible for providing a detailed evaluation and strategic roadmap addressing the following components:

A. Operational and Logistical Assessment

- Review current operational layout and identify bottlenecks
- Evaluate material flow and windrow management
- Recommend changes to improve efficiency and throughput
- Assess dust and noise-generating activities with mitigation strategies

B. Site Relocation Feasibility

- Analyze options for full or partial relocation of compost operations
- Provide siting criteria and environmental suitability analysis
- Develop comparative cost estimates for relocation vs. on-site improvements

C. Infrastructure Redesign

- Propose designs to minimize noise/dust impact (e.g., berms, evergreen screening)
- Evaluate feasibility of aerated static piles and other modern compost technologies
- Provide phased infrastructure improvement plans with estimated budgets

D. Community Impact and Environmental Mitigation

- Assess current nuisances and develop noise/dust reduction protocols
- Recommend water access and dust suppression systems
- Propose community engagement strategies and educational partnerships
- Recommended course of action for one time residential well testing within the Hodges Heights community.

E. Financial Benchmarking and Feasibility

- Compare current facility costs and revenues against similar regional operations
- Analyze costs and return on investment for proposed improvements
- Recommend pricing strategies and revenue enhancement opportunities
- Identify applicable grant funding opportunities (e.g., DEP Section 902)

3. PROJECT SCHEDULE

Completion of Study: Within 90 days of awarding.

As part of the Proposal, the consultants shall provide an explanation of their firm's ability to accomplish the design work and estimates on time and cost within the scope outlined above. A preliminary outline shall be provided, including additional options the consultant deems necessary to comply with the scope outlined above.

Interested firms should include the following in their submissions:

1. Executive Summary
2. Firm Qualifications
3. Project Team
4. Project Approach and Work Plan
5. Timeline
6. Cost Proposal
7. References

4. SELECTION CRITERIA

A qualification selection committee has been designated to include the Lower Paxton Township Manager, Director of Public Works, Township Finance Director, as well as the Lower Paxton Facilities Manager. This selection committee will review the qualifications of consultants who submit a Proposal. Technical proposals with cost will not be requested prior to the establishment of a final ranking, and only one firm will be selected to perform this work.

Table 1: Selection Criteria Ranking

Component	Weight
Knowledge of Lower Paxton Township	15%
Project Manager's experience with similar tasks in other Municipalities	20%
Firm's performance in project delivery and meeting schedule deadlines	25%
Firm's availability of technical staff to accomplish work in required timeframes	25%
Firm's commitment to a quality control and quality assurance process	15%

5. SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Proposals shall be limited to a maximum of five (5) (8 1/2" x 11") pages. One copy of the Proposal should be mailed or hand-delivered and received at the Township no later than 8/7/2025. The Proposal should be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Compost Facility Optimization and Community Impact Mitigation Study" in the lower left-hand corner. Submissions should be addressed as follows:

Lower Paxton Township
Attention: Tom Vernau, Interim Township Manager
425 Prince Street
Harrisburg, PA 17109

Questions and Clarifications: No interpretation or clarification of the meaning of any part of this request for proposals will be made orally to any firm or individual. Requests for information or clarification of this document must be in writing by email submitted to:

Lower Paxton Township
Public Works Department
5975 Locust Lane Harrisburg,
PA 17109
mjaroslawski@lowertpaxton-pa.gov

Responses to all requests for information will be provided in the form of an email. Questions submitted less than five business days before the due date for submissions may not be answered. To receive answers to all questions submitted, firms must reach out to mjaroslawski@lowertpaxton-pa.gov and request to be added to the list.

