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For Immediate Release

**CITY OF MANISTEE SEEKS QUALIFIED CANDIDATES
TO CONDUCT AUDIT OF CITY SERVICES**

Manistee, Michigan – The City of Manistee has issued a request for qualifications (RFQ), seeking responses from qualified organizations to conduct a city-wide operational services audit.

The purpose of the project is to sustain, provide and develop City services in the most economically efficient manner, in keeping with the vision of the City to be a “community of choice on the northwest Michigan coastline.” The project will focus on the efficiency of City operations and assess opportunities that may involve internal consolidation, collaboration with other governments and organizations, potential service outsourcing and possible restructuring of operations.

The RFQ and the project is being carried out with the assistance of an Operational Service Audit Committee that includes representatives from Manistee City Administration, Manistee City Council as well as citizens.

“In formulating their responses, we hope that firms will carefully consider the qualifications that are required to meet all of the objectives of the project,” said Manistee City Manager Mitch Deisch. “We expect to have responses from individual consulting firms as well as from organizations that will propose partnerships to carry out the project.”

A copy of the RFQ is attached to this news release.

A pre-bid meeting on the RFQ will be held in City Council Chambers at the City of Manistee’s City Hall on Wednesday, December 3, 2008.

Responses to the RFQ are due on Wednesday, January 14, 2009.

Consultant interviews will be held on February 11, 2009. The Operational Service Audit Committee will then provide Manistee City Council with a recommended consultant to negotiate the final scope of work and agreement.

Potential respondents to the RFQ are encouraged to review several documents that are identified in the RFQ in preparing their response. Those documents are available at the City of Manistee's web site that is www.ci.manistee.mi.us