

Frequently Asked Questions



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The Riverdale Ferry Coalition was founded to study the feasibility and garner grassroots support for providing high-speed ferry service from Riverdale to lower Manhattan.

How long would the commute take?

The commute from Riverdale to lower Manhattan would take 35 minutes, compared with the current 70-minute-plus commutes offered through Metro-North, bus, or subway options.

Why now?

Hudson River ferry service, linking Haverstraw and Yonkers to lower Manhattan, began operating in early summer 2007. For the first time ever, there is potential to leverage this existing service by adding an additional ferry stop in Riverdale.

Where would the ferry stop be located?

Riverdale's two Metro-North train stations – Riverdale and Spuyten Duyvil – are both located adjacent to the Hudson River. An engineering study would need to be conducted to determine the most suitable location.

How will commuters get to the station?

While Riverdale's train stations only offer limited parking, the majority of commuters arrive at these stations using a shuttle bus service that covers a significant portion of Riverdale. This existing shuttle bus service could be increased to offer transportation to ferry commuters.

How much would ferry tickets cost?

Tickets from Yonkers cost \$12 each way or \$400 for a monthly pass. Ferry tickets from Riverdale would likely be cheaper as the trip is a few miles shorter.

Who supports this plan?

The Riverdale Ferry Coalition is in the process of reaching out to community groups, elected officials, and commuters. This plan recently won the support of New York City Council Speaker Christine Quinn.

What would be the environmental impact?

Recent advances in technology have helped create ferries that are designed with low-wake hulls to minimize impact on aquatic life and employ state-of-the-art low-emission technology.

A recent study conducted by the *Campaign for New York's Future* found that over 20% of Riverdale's residents who work in Manhattan, representing 3,300 people, drive to work. Our estimates show that compared to car use, ferry use would reduce carbon dioxide emissions by over 25%.

How long would this project take?

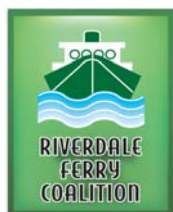
While establishing a new ferry service would require the approval of multiple governmental agencies, it can be done quite quickly. In Yonkers, the ferry service went from the concept phase to being fully operational in only two years.

What would this mean for lower Manhattan?

An April 2003 report, published by the *Lower Manhattan Development Corporation*, identified ferry service as a key means of linking Lower Manhattan to the region. Proving better transportation alternatives to Lower Manhattan would expand Lower Manhattan's labor pool and sustain its vitality for existing and future Lower Manhattan businesses.

How much would the project cost?

Compared to other forms of mass transit, minimal capital investment is needed to establish a ferry service. In Yonkers, a \$4.2 million grant from the *Lower Manhattan Development Corporation* helped jump-start the ferry service there.



For more information, please contact:

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