

Town of Queensbury
Bicycling and Pedestrian Connections Improvement Plan
Request for Proposals – 06/07/2024

The Town of Queensbury has requested assistance from the Adirondack / Glens Falls Transportation Council (A/GFTC) to prepare conceptual designs for transportation infrastructure improvements that support enhanced non-motorized travel options between bicycling and pedestrian destinations within the Town, including:

- Gurney Lane Recreation Area/Rush Pond Way trail systems
- Warren County Municipal Center
- Warren County Bikeway
- SUNY Adirondack
- Route 9 commercial corridor / Great Escape area and outlets

The conceptual connections would serve bicycling and pedestrian destinations that are growing in popularity and usage but are currently isolated from one another by existing transportation infrastructure. Specific emphasis areas of this study are to include:

- 1. Improvements to Gurney Lane Road between West Mountain Road and US Route 9** – Gurney Lane Road carries Warren County Route 23 and NYS Route 149 over Interstate 87 and provides a vital connection between the Gurney Lane Recreation Area / Rush Pond Way trail systems to the US 9 commercial corridor and the Warren County Municipal Center to the east of I-87. It is anticipated that the bridges carrying Gurney Lane Road over I-87 will be programmed for replacement in the near-term based upon deteriorating condition, providing an opportunity for the new bridges to include dedicated physical space for bicyclists and pedestrians. Consideration of improvement concepts are also warranted along the roadway (not just the bridges) and at the signalized intersection of US Route 9. Proposed intersection improvements should consider access improvements to the Warren County Municipal Center under implementation consideration by the Warren County Department of Public Works.
- 2. New connection between the Warren County Municipal Center and the Warren County Bikeway** – Conceptual design of a new, separated right-of-way multiuse trail to connect the Warren County Municipal Center with the Warren County Bikeway is a requested component of this study. The two facilities are currently divided by an established residential neighborhood and vacant moderate density residential property. Alternatively, concept level planning estimates to implement improvements to Glen Lake Road between US 9 and the Warren County Bikeway that would meet or exceed minimum recommended design specifications for a bicycling facility may also be requested.
- 3. Improved connections between SUNY Adirondack, Fowler Square, and the US Route 9 commercial corridor** – Non-motorized travel has increased at SUNY Adirondack as students commute to and from classes, campus housing, jobs and commercial destinations. On- and off-road connection opportunities between the campus, nearby developments and the Route 9 commercial corridor will be explored as part of this study.

The requested scope of work, while not formally set and open to suggestion via consultant responses, is anticipated to include:

- Development of a Public Outreach Plan, including an array of potential outreach formats to ensure the participation of the community, students, workers and relevant stakeholders as well as gain feedback on proposed improvements and/or recommendations
- Evaluation of existing conditions data including traffic volumes, crash history, existing non-motorized vehicular accommodations, and planned improvements
- Development of recommendations and a suggested prioritization of potential improvements
- Development of strategies and/or concept profile plans with associated cost estimates
- Finalizing an implementation plan that incorporates the supporting analysis, recommendations and proposed profiles; the implementation plan is intended for use by the municipalities in furthering future funding opportunities

Approach and Management

Study Advisory Committee

Staff from A/GFTC (the project sponsor) will establish and lead a study advisory committee to provide guidance to the consultant during the progression of this study. The committee will include representatives from the Town of Queensbury, Warren County, NYSDOT, SUNY Adirondack, A/GFTC staff, Adirondack Cycling Advocates, and other community stakeholders. A/GFTC staff will chair the committee and direct the project overall. The consultant will attend any necessary meetings with the study advisory committee. Additionally, the consultant will communicate with A/GFTC staff as needed to report on progress and clarify other issues that may occur.

Sample Approach

The following outlined approach is provided as an illustration of the potential range of services that could be necessary for the successful execution of the requested analysis. Responding consultants are encouraged to provide alternatives to this outline as warranted or beneficial to the overall work effort.

- Task 1 - Kick-off Meeting: The consultant will meet with the Steering Committee to review and confirm the scope and objectives of the requested plan, anticipated project schedule, public outreach methods, and data collection strategies. Site visits should also be incorporated into this initial meeting.
- Task 2 – Existing Conditions Analysis: The consultant will assemble existing information and collect field data as necessary to identify existing conditions. A/GFTC staff is available to assist in some data acquisition / collection. These findings will be documented in a technical memo for distribution to the steering committee.
- Task 3 – Issue Summary: Based on the existing conditions analysis and initial public outreach, the consultant will create an analysis to identify needs, gaps, and opportunities for improvements. This information is to be documented in a technical memo for distribution to the steering committee.
- Task 4 – Draft Recommendations: Based upon the results of Task 3, the consultant will formulate, evaluate, and map recommended improvements and conceptual profiles that incorporate and prioritize the implementation of those recommendations. Maps, graphics and planning level cost estimates associated with each of the recommended improvements will be developed by the consultant and presented to the Steering Committee for evaluation and prioritization. Public outreach is anticipated during this phase to generate discussion on the concept recommendations. The concept plans will be

documented in a technical memo for distribution to the steering committee for review prior to development of the Final Report.

- **Task 4 - Prepare Final Report:** The Final Report will include narrative summaries of the supporting data analysis, issue summaries, recommendations for implementation, final conceptual profiles, planning level cost estimates, and funding opportunities. A draft Final Report will be presented to A/GFTC staff prior to distribution to the Steering Committee; one round of initial revisions can be expected. The draft Final Report will then be presented to the Town through a board or committee meeting by the consultant in conjunction with the opening of the public review period; resulting revisions will be incorporated into the completed Final Report.

Proposal Content and Selection Procedures

Proposal Content

Proposals should demonstrate a thorough grasp of the study's intent and include detailed descriptions of the approach that the firm will use to complete the project, including anticipated deliverables.

A summary of similar or related work completed by the firm over the previous three years should be included, as well as a summary of any projects that the proposing firm(s) will be managing concurrently with this project if selected. This summary should also contain the name and email of the contact person for each contract.

In addition to the firm's background, the resumes of any staff to be assigned to the project should be included. Proposals should provide the estimated amount of time that each assigned staff person (by name, not just job position) is likely to devote to the project, as well as a detailed project schedule that includes key milestones toward project completion. The proposed project manager should be clearly identified. Demonstrated participation of senior-level staff with applicable experience will be considered.

Firms should provide a detailed summary of the cost to complete the project. All costs that can be identified should be listed. The fee and final scope of work will be negotiated with the selected consultant. Proposing firms should be aware that completion of this study is funded by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and that the awarded contractor will be required to fully comply with all requirements and certifications that are imposed by federal funding sponsorship.

Pre-Screening and Evaluation

Proposals will be screened by a consultant selection committee and a preliminary assessment will be made based upon the overall project approach, technical applications, relevant experience, past performance with locally administered studies, assigned staff capacity/availability, demonstrated project management skills, and Disadvantaged/Women Business Enterprise (DBE/WBE) participation (proposals that demonstrate meaningful and substantial participation of DBE/WBE of at least 10% or greater share of the overall proposal cost will have a competitive advantage in the evaluation process).

The following evaluation criteria will be used to score the proposals:

- the firm's demonstrated understanding of the study goals and overall approach to the project;
- the relevant experience of the firm and ability to commit resources within the desired timeframe of the proposal;
- the background and qualifications of staff to be assigned to complete the majority of the project tasks.

Presentation and Consultant Selection

A firm may be selected after pre-screening and evaluation by the Selection Committee if there is clear consensus on a preferred response. If a firm is not selected based upon the results of the pre-screening and evaluation, the firms submitting proposals that demonstrate the best study approach and experience will be interviewed by the Selection Committee. The Committee will then complete its final evaluation and selection recommendation. No more than three firms will be interviewed. Previous experience has shown that the presentation and interview performance have strongly influenced the eventual selection.

A/GFTC reserves the right to reject any and all proposals. If a low number of proposals are submitted, A/GFTC reserves the right to extend the deadline for proposal submittal. It also reserves the right to reject all proposals if determined to be in the best interest of involved parties.

Standards of Conduct and Conflicts of Interest

Questions regarding this RFP are to be directed in writing to designated A/GFTC staff only. A/GFTC staff will not engage in private communications regarding this RFP. No contacts to A/GFTC committee members regarding this RFP are allowed during the solicitation and selection period. All contacts to A/GFTC staff regarding this RFP may be made only to the following designated staff member, and only in writing:

Aaron Frankenfeld, Transportation Planning Director

aaron@agftc.org

Those questions that generate the need for technical clarifications to the RFP will be published in an updated RFP. Proposers must contact A/GFTC staff to confirm the intent to respond to be included on any correspondence associated with addenda to the RFP. Written questions to A/GFTC regarding this RFP will only be accepted up until ten days prior to the proposal deadline.

Potential respondents shall screen their proposed personnel teams and subconsultants carefully to ensure that no individual proposed to be assigned to this project has any potential personal or financial interest in its outcome, or any other source of external motivation that could compromise the objectivity of this analysis. A/GFTC reserves the right to terminate the contract should a conflict of interest be discovered.

Target Budget

A target budget of \$40,000 has been established for this project based upon the costs associated with the administration of previous consultant studies by A/GFTC. As this is a conceptual planning study and not an engineering study, A/GFTC reserves the right to eliminate from consideration any proposals that entail costs that are more than this target and to re-solicit for this project in the event that no acceptable proposals are received.

Proposal Due Date and Schedule of Work

Please submit one (1) electronic copy of your proposal to the following office **by 3:00 p.m. on Monday, July 1, 2024**. Electronic copies may be transmitted via email or download link.

Aaron Frankenfeld, Transportation Planning Director

Adirondack / Glens Falls Transportation Council

11 South Street, Suite 203

Glens Falls, NY 12801

Telephone: (518) 223-0086

Email: aaron@agftc.org

Selection Timeframe and Contract Term

Consultant selection is anticipated by July 31, 2024. The final contract between the selected consultant and the Lake Champlain / Lake George Regional Planning Board (A/GFTC's host agency) will be drawn up at that time. Completion of the final document is expected within 9 months of contract signature. The term of the contract will expire upon the successful and mutually agreed-upon completion of the study and will not exceed twelve (12) months barring extension.