



400 AIRWAYS AVENUE  
SAVANNAH, GA 31408

T: 912.964.0514  
F: 912.964.0877

January 14, 2019

Ms. Wykoda Wang, Transportation Administrator  
Chatham County – Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission  
110 E. State Street  
Savannah, GA 31401

RE: CORE MPO Transportation Alternatives (TA) Call for Projects

Dear Ms. Wang:

On behalf of the Savannah / Hilton Head International Airport (SAV), the Savannah Airport Commission (SAC) is pleased to submit the enclosed application for federal reimbursement funding provided by the FHWA for a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) project in response to the CORE MPO's 2019 Call for Projects.

SAC's proposed project is a Pedestrian / Bicycle Pathway which would provide for a non-motorized transportation alternative to motor vehicle travel by connecting commercial, industrial, and residential areas with a pedestrian / bicycle pathway consisting of a combination of sidewalks and elevated walkways which meets the mission of the CORE MPO's TAP by providing attractive, accessible, and feasible walking and bicycling transportation options to motor-vehicle travel (see sketch) consistent with the CORE MPO's Non-Motorized Transportation Plan Pedestrian and Bicycle Networks.

SAC is able to and does commit to designing, constructing, operating, and maintaining the facilities. SAC is also able to (and will) pre-fund the project and get reimbursed by the FHWA. SAC will provide the local match.

Sincerely,

Gregory B. Kelly  
Executive Director

GAFjr:jas  
Enclosures

<b>Applicant Organization:</b>	Savannah Airport Commission
<b>Project Title:</b>	Pedestrian / Bicycle Pathway



**Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization**

# **Transportation Alternatives (TA) Call for Projects**

## **APPLICATION**

**DECEMBER 2018**

**An electronic copy of the completed application is due:**

**January 15, 2019 by 5:00 p.m.**

**Send to:**

Wykoda Wang, Transportation Administrator  
Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission  
[wangw@thempc.org](mailto:wangw@thempc.org)

**Phone:**

912-651-1466

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**Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization**

**Transportation Alternatives (TA)  
December 2018 Call for Projects**

**CHECKLIST FOR APPLICANTS**

- ☐ Have you answered all applicable questions in the application?

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- ☐ Has the appropriate person signed the application?

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- ☐ Have you filled out the detailed budget table on the last page of this application?

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- ☐ Have you attached a letter from your governing board or chief staff person who is able to commit to the local match?

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- ☐ Have you attached a project location map?

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- ☐ Have you attached other information that is applicable to the answers in your application?



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Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (CORE MPO)

## Transportation Alternatives (TA) APPLICATION

### December 2018 Call for Projects

The Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (CORE MPO) is conducting a competitive project selection process in order to award Transportation Alternatives (TA) funds.

- **Minimum Award = \$200,000 (federal portion, not total project cost)**
- **Maximum Award = \$3,024,247 (federal portion, not total project cost)**
- **At least 20% of the eligible costs of the proposed project must be non-federal funds.**  
(Previously incurred costs cannot be counted as part of the 20% matching the newly awarded federal funds.)

The December 2018 Call for Projects targets to award Z301 funds from FY 2019 through FY 2021, to allow around \$3 million of federal funding to be awarded in this round. The MPO may award one proposal or several. Therefore, an applicant may request up to \$3,024,247 for the ***federally funded*** portion of their proposal. ***Please be aware that the entire \$3 million is not immediately available for programming in the initial years of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and therefore project sponsors will need to be flexible about the project schedule if requesting more than \$2 million.*** MPO staff will coordinate with the project sponsor regarding the TIP programming schedule for their project.

The federal funding request in this application can represent no more than 80% of the total cost of the applicant's proposal. (Thus, for example, an applicant requesting \$1,000,000 in federal TA funds, and providing no more than the required 20% local match, would be submitting a proposal totaling \$1,250,000.)

- **Federal requirements for the project development process are associated with federal funds.**

Applicants should keep in mind that this federal funding involves adherence to several federal requirements, as applicable, such as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), prevailing wage rates (Davis-Bacon), Buy America, competitive bidding, and other contracting requirements, regardless of whether the projects are located within the right-of-way of a Federal-aid highway. CORE MPO has set a minimum federal request in this round because the federal requirements tend to make larger projects more administratively efficient. For guidance about the treatment of projects with these federal funds, see the web page at:

[http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/transportation\\_alternatives/guidance/guidance\\_2016.cfm#TreatmentProjects](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/transportation_alternatives/guidance/guidance_2016.cfm#TreatmentProjects).



**Projects funded through this selection process must be located within the CORE MPO's Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) boundary.**

The Metropolitan Planning Area includes all of Chatham County, as well as Richmond Hill in Bryan County and a small portion of unincorporated Effingham County (see map).

Transportation Alternatives funding is not subject to the prohibition against use on local roads or rural minor collectors, as generally applies to Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds. (Incidentally, TA-type projects are not subject to the prohibition even if funded with STBG funds.)

Please see CORE MPO Transportation Alternatives Manual for additional information.

## **Applicant and Project Information**

### **Eligible Entities**

Please indicate which type of eligible entity is the primary project sponsor: (Select one.)

- ☐ Local government
- ☐ Regional transportation authority
- ☐ Transit agency
- ☐ Natural resource agency or public land agency
- ☐ School district, local education agency, or school (public or nonprofit private)
- ☐ Tribal government
- ☒ Other local or regional governmental entity with responsibility for oversight of transportation or recreational trails that the State of Georgia determines to be eligible, consistent with the goals of subsection (c) of section 213 of title 23.
- ☐ Non-profit entities responsible for the administration of local transportation safety programs.

## Types of Eligible Projects

Please indicate which categories your proposal falls under: (Select as many as apply. The number of categories does not affect your project's score.)

- ☒ Construction, planning, and design of on-road or off-road trail facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, or other nonmotorized forms of transportation, which can include sidewalks, bicycle infrastructure, pedestrian and bicycle signals, traffic calming techniques, lighting and other safety-related infrastructure, and transportation projects to achieve compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act
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- ☒ Construction, planning, and design of infrastructure-related projects and systems that will provide safe routes for non-drivers, including children, older adults, and individuals with disabilities to access daily needs
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- ☐ Conversion and use of abandoned railroad corridors for trails for pedestrians, bicyclists, or other nonmotorized transportation users;
- 
- ☐ Construction of turnouts, overlooks, and viewing areas;
- 
- ☐ Community improvement activities, which can include but are not limited to: inventory control, or removal of outdoor advertising; historic preservation and rehabilitation of historic transportation facilities, vegetation management practices in transportation ROW, archeological activities relating to impacts of a transportation project eligible under Title 23 of the USC.
- 
- ☐ Environmental mitigation activity, including stormwater management and water pollution prevention or abatement from highway construction or highway runoff; reduction of vehicle-caused wildlife death, restoration of the connectivity of habitat.
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- ☐ Recreational trails under 23 USC 206.
- 
- ☐ Safe Routes to School (SRTS) infrastructure-related project
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- ☐ Safe Routes to School (SRTS) non-infrastructure-related project
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- ☐ Planning, designing, or constructing boulevards and other roadways largely in the right-of-way of former Interstate System routes or other divided highways.

Applicant Information		
Primary Sponsor Agency Name (i.e. agency that will manage implementation) Savannah Airport Commission		Date 1/7/19
Street Address 400 Airways Ave.	City, State Savannah, GA	Zip Code 31408
Contact Person's Name Gregory B. Kelly, AAE	Title Executive Director	
Contact Person's Phone Number 912-964-0514	Contact Person's Email Address <a href="mailto:gkelly@flySAV.com">gkelly@flySAV.com</a>	



Project Manager's Name (if awarded) George A. Fidler Jr., PE	Title Director of Engineering
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<b>Project Overview</b>		
Project Name Pedestrian / Bicycle Pathway		
Project Location Description (please also attach a location map) The project is located on the north side of Airways Avenue, beginning at an existing bus stop location, proceeding east approximately 2,200 feet to McKenna Drive. (See attached mapping)		
County (or counties) in which project is located Chatham	City (or cities), if any, in which project is located Savannah	
<b>Proposal Description Summary</b>  The proposed project is a pedestrian / bicycle pathway that begins at an existing bus stop on Airways Avenue and temporarily terminates at McKenna Drive. The entire project is approximately 2,200 feet long. Beginning at the western side of this pathway, a conventional concrete sidewalk design will be employed for approximately 1,000 feet. From this point, the at-grade pathway will transition to a raised walkway (bridge) and enter into a wetland mitigation area which is part of a 1990 Section 404 Wetland Permit issued to the Savannah Airport Commission by the US Army Corps of Engineers. The raised walkway will serpentine through signature trees and diverse habitats beginning in a wetland creation area, then through a wetland enhancement area, through a second wetland creation area, and terminate at the existing McKenna Drive.		
Total Estimated Project Cost*	Federal Funds Requested under TA	Local Match
\$600,000.00 USD	\$480,000.00 USD	\$120,000.00 USD
*Please also be sure to fill out the Budget Detail Table at the end of this application.		

**Who is providing the local match?**

Name of Agency or Organization	Source (e.g. particular CIP fund)
Savannah Airport Commission	Capital Project Funds

*Please attach a letter signed by either your governing board or an official or chief staff person who is able to commit to the stated local match.*

**Has the agency that will be managing this project previously completed other federal-aid transportation projects?** (Choose one)

- ☐ 0 completed federal-aid projects
- ☐ 1 completed federal-aid project
- ☐ 2 completed federal-aid projects
- ☒ 3 or more completed federal-aid projects

Please list up to three federal-aid projects completed by your agency, if applicable, *preferably for projects that are similar to your proposal*:

P.I. No.	Project Name	Sponsor's Project Manager
	Aviation Village Sidewalks	George A. Fidler Jr., PE
	Mikell Ave Intersection / Sidewalk Improvements	George A. Fidler Jr., PE
	Golf Course Maintenance Bridge	Mark Denmark, CBI

**What agency will maintain the project after completion?**

Savannah Airport Commission

**If a maintenance agreement is necessary, has it been executed?** (Chose one)  
If yes, please attach the agreement.

Y / N **(NA)**

**If the completed project will generate the need for operational funds, please describe the estimated annual cost and the status and source of funding for operations. (TA funds will not cover operations.)**

**Will your project require purchase(s) or easement(s) for right-of-way** (Choose one) Y **(N)** Maybe  
Additional information:



**If other agencies or organizations are partnering with you on this application or on implementation of your proposal, please list and describe the nature of assistance and the status of any agreements (e.g. ROW donations or easements):**

<b>Organization #1</b>	
Environmental Services, Inc.	
<b>Contact Name</b>	<b>Contact Phone</b>
Michael DeMell, VP & Operations Manager	912-236-4711
Contact Email: <a href="mailto:mdemell@esinc.cc">mdemell@esinc.cc</a>	
<b>Status of Agreement</b>	
Environmental Services, Inc. (ESI) has worked with the Savannah Airport Commission since the early 90's. Part of that work included wetland mitigation implementation and monitoring for the Savannah Airport Expansion project in 1992. A portion of this pedestrian route bisects a very successful 20-year old mitigation site that was instrumental to the airports' expansion. ESI will work with the project team to highlight educational aspects of the mitigation area allowing pedestrians to become more familiar with the local flora and fauna.	

<b>Organization #2</b>	
Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation	
<b>Contact Name</b>	<b>Contact Phone</b>
James (Jamie) Bowes	912-665-6484
Contact Email: <a href="mailto:james.bowes@gulfstream.com">james.bowes@gulfstream.com</a>	
<b>Status of Agreement</b>	
Possible funding and operational support. (TBD)	

<b>Organization #3</b>	
Savannah Aviation Village	
<b>Contact Name</b>	<b>Contact Phone</b>
Lori Lynah	912-964-0514
Contact Email: <a href="mailto:llynah@flySAV.com">llynah@flySAV.com</a>	
<b>Status of Agreement</b>	
Funding and operational support	

If funding were available today, and you had already received a Notice to Proceed, how much time do you estimate would be needed for any phases of your project that would be funded by this request:

Phase(s) to be TA-funded	No. of Months
Final design drawings	1
Bidding phase, approval and award	3

Please list any necessary preliminary work that already *has been completed*, and provide dates (e.g. GDOT concept approval, FHWA environmental approval or categorical exclusion, etc.):

Steps Completed	Date
USACE: Savannah Airport – Section 404 Wetland fill permitting, mitigation, site, design, construction, and monitoring	1992
USACE coordination regarding use of Nationwide Permit #25 to install pedestrian bridge over mitigation site.	April, 2014

Please describe status of any non-TA funded work that *still needs to be completed before the project or phase that would be funded by this request can begin* (e.g. if TA + Local Match will fund only the construction phase, what is the status and schedule for the incomplete preliminary engineering and ROW phases?).

Status of Steps to be carried out before TA-funded work begins	Estimated completion date
Preliminary Engineering	Complete
Environmental Approval	Complete
ROW	Complete
Final Plans	30-days

**In 500 words or less, please describe what public benefits and efficiencies would be provided to our area by your proposed project.** (In preparing your answer, we suggest you review the TA scoring criteria related to access, connectivity, tourism, and safety, as shown in CORE MPO's Transportation Alternatives Manual – 2017.)

In 1990, SAC successfully permitted the Phase-I expansion of this facility. Significant components of this expansion included a new terminal complex, aviation development, non-aviation commercial development areas, a new interchange at I-95 and a new roadway system to provide vehicular access between these new facilities. Since that time, SAC has seen substantial growth within the airport property as well as nearby commercial and residential areas. In 2011, SAC successfully permitted an expansion project that increased corporate aviation and aviation manufacturing facilities on-site. The success of the projects on airport property, as well as in Pooler, Georgia has resulted in an extensive increase of vehicular traffic in the area. The TAP provides a means to help relieve some of the pressures on the current infrastructure by providing inter modal transportation options in this area. The project team has been reviewing alternatives. Currently, there is a pedestrian walkway along Preston Henne Drive from the adjoining Crossroads Business Center north of the airport to the intersection of Preston Henne Drive and Gulfstream Road. There is another pedestrian walkway system located in a commercial complex at the west-end of Airways Avenue. This area contains 13 hotels, 2 restaurants, and 2 golf courses. Located between these two pedestrian walkways is a 29-acre wetland mitigation area that was constructed as part of the 1990 Phase-I airport expansion. Currently, the only way to get from one side of this wetland to the other is by motorized vehicle.

One exciting aspect of this proposed project is the ability for pedestrians to traverse this mitigation system upon a raised walkway (bridge) and enjoy a mature naturalized mixed hardwood / bald cypress wetland ecosystem. The design will incorporate a sensitive approach when dealing with wetlands by installing a pile supported structure versus a more typical filled walkway section. Additionally, by incorporating this design, not only are wetland impacts avoided, but the route will serpentine through the 20 plus year old bald cypress planted in this mitigation area in 1991. Along the route, the team can capitalize on the educational components and highlight vegetative and wildlife diversity of the area.

A conceptual long-term plan involves an extensive pedestrian / bicycle pathway throughout much of the quickly developing area of Pooler and the Savannah Economic Development Authority (SEDA) business park located adjacent to the north boundary of the airport. This long-term plan will be complimented by the current proposed plan on the Savannah Airport and those pedestrian routes that already exist. For example, once completed, staff working on airport property or in the business park can ride their bikes to any one of the many restaurants in Pooler or on the airport for lunch. Similarly, employees working on airport property or in the industrial park who may live in Pooler now, but must drive to work, can choose to ride their bike to work instead.



I understand that the latest versions of the following, as they relate to this project, shall guide project development and design.

- Accessible Public Rights-of-Way, Planning and Designing for Alterations, Public Rights-of-Way Access Advisory Committee.
- ADA Standards for Accessible Design, Department of Justice.
- Context Sensitive Design Manual, GDOT.
- Designing Walkable Urban Thoroughfares: A Context Sensitive Approach, Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) and Congress for the New Urbanism (CNU).
- A Policy on the Geometric Design of Highways and Streets, AASHTO.
- Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, AASHTO.
- Guide for the Planning, Design, and Operation of Pedestrian Facilities, AASHTO.
- Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), FHWA.
- Proposed Guidelines for Public Rights-of-Way (PROWAG)2, United States Access Board.
- Urban Bikeway Design Guide, NACTO.
- Urban Street Design Guidelines, NATCO.

SPONSOR

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gregory B. Kelly, AAE

Executive Director  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

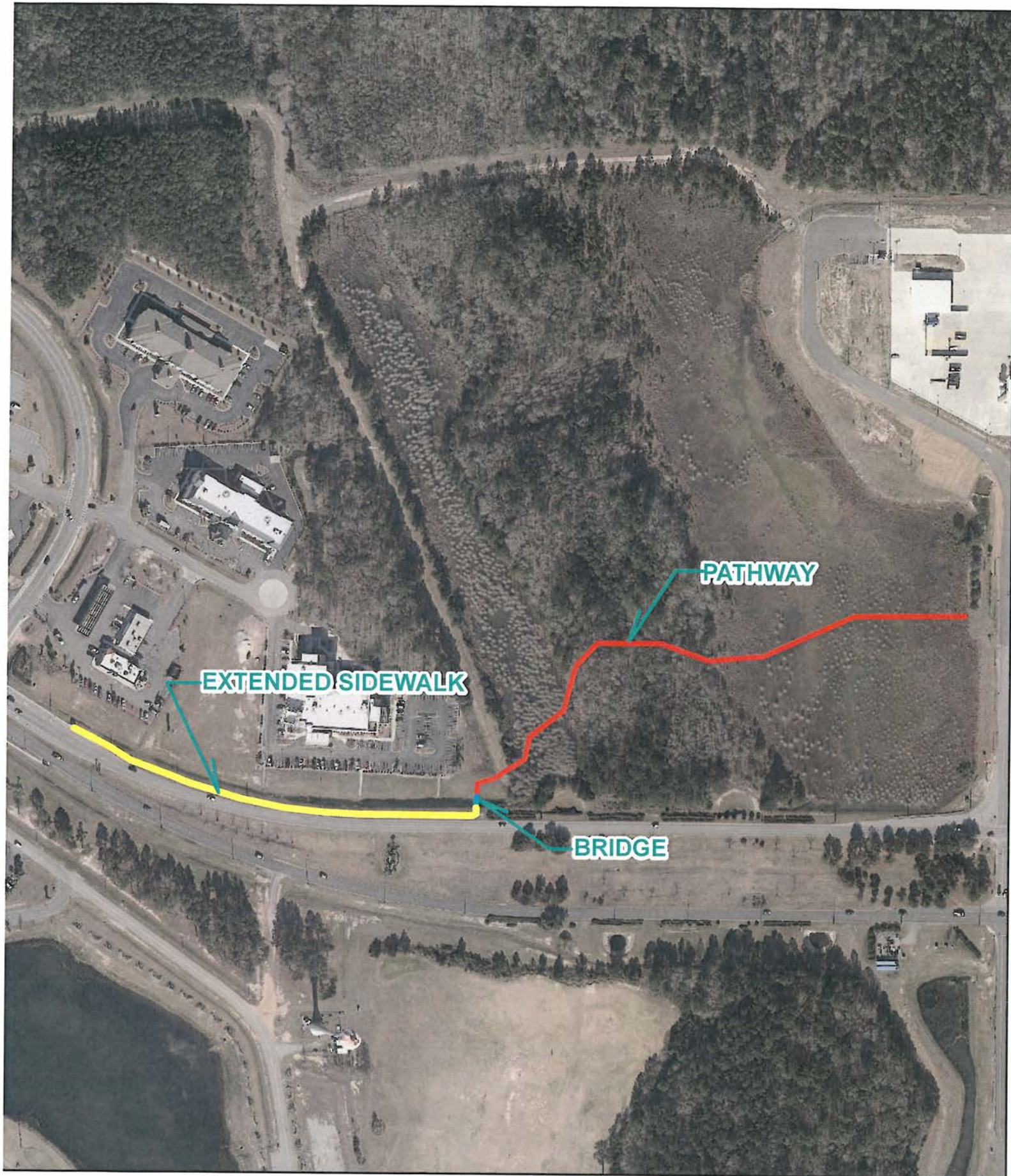
Please remember:

- To fill out the Detailed Budget Table, to the extent applicable, on the following page;
- To attach a letter from your governing board or other official or chief staff person who is able to commit the agency to the stated local match.
- To attach a Project Location Map;
- To attach an executed maintenance agreement if you indicated that one exists.

Budget Detail for Proposal										
Project Name: Pedestrian / Bicycle Pathway										
Activity	Desired Fiscal Year for TIP Programming (GDOT Fiscal Year) <sup>1</sup>	Total Estimate	Requested CORE MPO TA Federal Funds (Maximum allowed is 80% of your total eligible costs.)	Local Match (Minimum required is 20% of your total eligible costs.)	Local Match Breakdown (by source)					
					Amount A	Source A	Amount B	Source B	Amount C	Source C
PE	2015									
ROW	N/A	N/A								
Utilities	N/A	N/A								
Construction	2019	\$600,000.00 USD	\$480,000.00 USD	\$120,000.00 USD	Savannah Airport Commission					
Other activity Specify:	N/A	N/A								
Other activity Specify:	N/A	N/A								
Other activity Specify:	N/A	N/A								
Total Amounts		\$600,000.00 USD	\$480,000.00 USD	\$120,000.00 USD						
Please use this area to explain whether other grants or sources (not already shown above) are dedicated either to the proposed phase or to future phases, of your project.										

1. The first GDOT fiscal year in the MPO’s TIP is FY 2018, which begins July 1, 2017. The last year of the next TIP is FY 2021, which begins July 1, 2020.





**PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN BICYCLE PATHWAY**



290

Feet



