



Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization

Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Urban Attributable (Z230) Funds

APPLICATION

FEBRUARY 2020

Send the electronic copy
of the completed application by:
5:00 p.m. on March 25, 2020

to:

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

Contact info:
912-651-1466
wangw@thempc.org

Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization

Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program

CHECKLIST FOR APPLICANTS

- ☐ Have you answered all applicable questions in the application?
- ☐ Has the appropriate person signed the application?
- ☐ Have you filled out the detailed budget table on the last page of this application?
- ☐ Please indicate the sources of funding you are requesting for this project.
 - ☒ Z230 ☐ HIP ☐ Z301
- ☐ Have you attached a letter from your governing board or official able to commit to the local match?
- ☐ Have you attached a project location map?
- ☐ Have you attached information demonstrating the basis of your project's cost estimate?
- ☐ Have you attached other information that is applicable to the answers in your application?

Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) Urban Attributable (Z230) Funds

FEBRUARY 2020 CALL FOR PROJECTS

The Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (CORE MPO) is conducting a competitive project selection process to award expected FY 2022 - 2024 Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program Urban Attributable (Z230) funds, provided through the act entitled Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (also known as FAST Act).

- **Expected Available Funds:**
 - FY 2022 = \$4,000,000 (federal portion)
 - FY 2023 = \$4,000,000 (federal portion)
 - FY 2024 = \$4,000,000 (federal portion)
- **Maximum Award Each Year = \$4,000,000 (federal portion)**
- **Minimum Award for a Project = \$200,000 (federal portion)**
- **At least 20% of the eligible costs of the proposed project must be locally funded.**
(Previously incurred costs cannot be counted as part of the 20% match for the newly awarded federal funds.)

An applicant may request a minimum of ***at least \$200,000 of federal funds***. The federal funding request in this application can represent no more than 80% of the total cost of the applicant's proposal. For example, if an applicant requests \$1,000,000, and provides no more than the required 20% local match, he/she would be submitting a proposal totaling \$1,250,000.

- **Federal Requirements**

Applicants should keep in mind that using the STBG funds involves adherence to 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.

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

The CORE MPO - administered STBG Urban Attributable funds can only be spent within the MPO's Metropolitan Planning Area which includes all of Chatham County, the portion of Effingham County and Bryan County located within the Savannah Urbanized Area, as well as Richmond Hill.

- **Projects, if awarded funds, will be programmed in the CORE MPO's FY 2021 – 2024 Transportation Improvement Program (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2024).**

Once the project is programmed in the TIP and the awarded federal funding is authorized in the program year, the funds must be obligated within two years, otherwise the funds will be rescinded for use by other selected priority projects.

Please see CORE MPO Surface Transportation Block Grant Program 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
- ☐ Other local or regional governmental entity with responsibility for oversight of transportation improvements that the State of Georgia determines to be eligible.

Eligible Projects

Please indicate **all** applicable categories your proposal falls under. **Please see CORE MPO Surface Transportation Block Grant Program Manual for information on project eligibility.**

- ☒ Highway Improvements
- ☐ Bridge Improvements
- ☐ Transit Improvements
- ☒ Operational/Safety Improvements
- ☒ Bicycle / Pedestrian /Non-Motorized Improvements
- ☐ Planning Studies
- ☐ Other

Applicant Information		
Agency Name (i.e. agency that will manage implementation)		Date
Chatham County Department of Engineering		03/25/2020
Street Address	City, State	Zip Code
124 Bull Street, Suite 430	Savannah, GA	31401
Contact Person's Name	Title	
Pamela Bernard, P.E.	Senior Transportation Engineer	
Contact Person's Phone Number	Contact Person's Email Address	
(912) 652-7800	pbernard@chathamcounty.org	
Project Manager's Name (if awarded)	Title	
Pamela Bernard, P.E.	Senior Transportation Engineer	

Project Overview		
Project Name		
Old River Road Improvement Project		
Project Location Description (please also attach a location map)		
Project is located in western Chatham County and southeast Effingham County, between Interstate 16 and State Route 204 (Fort Argyle Road).		
County (or counties) in which project is located	City (or cities), if any, in which project is located	
Chatham/Effingham	N/A	
Proposal Description Summary		
<p>This proposed project will upgrade the existing, two-lane rural collector road with additional pavement thickness, safety and operational improvements including access control and intersection traffic control features. Growth trends in this area along with recent manufacturing and warehouse development and large, undeveloped tracts of land to be developed indicate the need to beginning planning improvements along this corridor. Commercial and industrial traffic are anticipated in the near future on Old River Road to support the Georgia Ports Authority and the growing economy in Chatham and Effingham Counties. The existing road was not designed for heavy truck traffic and will require new pavement structure as well as additional turn lanes and intersection improvements to safely accommodate the expected increase in the size and volume of vehicles. A traffic study will be done to specify where improvements are needed. Accommodations for non-motorized users will be considered and included as appropriate based on a study. Right of way will be purchased for a future four-lane, divided corridor when warranted by traffic volumes.</p> <p>The requested Z230 funds will be used to help pay for preliminary engineering and right of way acquisition. In order to meet logical termini requirements of the FHWA, the limits of the project are multi-jurisdictional. As such, close coordination of the project with GDOT will be required. Additional funding will be requested for future phases as the project develops, but it is imperative to begin PE for the project now. The Jimmy DeLoach Parkway, Phase 2 project began in 1996 and was not approved for construction until 20 years later. We must begin planning for this important improvement project now.</p>		
Total Estimated Project Cost*	Federal Z230 Funds Requested	Local Match Available
\$ \$4,500,000	\$ 3,600,000	\$ 900,000
*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)
Chatham County	SPLOST
Effingham County	TBD

Please attach a letter signed by either your governing board or an official who can commit to the stated local match.

Has your agency managed and completed other federal-aid transportation projects before?

(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 as many as three federal-aid projects completed by your agency, *preferably for projects that are similar to your proposal*:

P.I. No.	Project Name	Sponsor's Project Manager
0002923	West Bay Street Widening	Pamela Bernard, P.E.
0522790	Jimmy DeLoach Parkway, Phase 2	Nathaniel Panther, P.E.
0007631	Truman Linear Park Trail, Phase 2A	Nathaniel Panther, P.E.

What agency will maintain the project after completion?

Chatham County and Effingham County

If a maintenance agreement is necessary, has it been executed? (Choose one) Y / N / NA
If yes, please attach the agreement.

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.

Both Counties already maintain their respective portions of Old River Road. This will continue in the future. It is not planned to make Old River Road a permanent State Route.

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

Yes, right of way will be acquired for a future 4-lane section.

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

Organization #1	
Effingham County	
Contact Name	Contact Phone
Tim Callanan	(912) 754-2123
Contact Email: tcallanan@effinghamcounty.org	
Status of Agreement	
Letter of support and local match committment letter attached. An intergovernmental agreement will be required if funds are approved.	

Organization #2	
Georgia Department of Transportation	
Contact Name	Contact Phone
Rob McCall	(912) 427-5711
Contact Email: rmccall@dot.ga.gov	
Status of Agreement	
An intergovernmental agreement between GDOT, Chatham and Effingham will be required. A PFA between all parties will also be required.	

Organization #3	
Contact Name	Contact Phone
Contact Email:	
Status of Agreement	

If funding were available today, 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 Z230-funded	No. of Months
Preliminary Engineering	24
Right of Way	12

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
None	

Please describe status of any non-Z230 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 Z230 funds + 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 Z230-funded work begins	Estimated completion date
Intergovernmental Agreements	Fall 2020
Request for Proposals for Preliminary Engineering	June 2021

In 500 words or less, please describe what public benefits and efficiencies would be provided to our area by your proposed project. (For example, how does your project match the project ranking criteria such as freight connection, truck traffic, bridge rating, transit ridership, non-motorized connection, etc.?) (Please reference the CORE MPO Surface Transportation Block Grant Program Manual for project ranking criteria.)

The proposed project will improve regional connectivity by facilitating more efficient flow of both local and commercial traffic on Old River Road between Interstate 16 and State Route 204 (Fort Argyle Road). The project will look to improve the operation and safety with a design that incorporates current federal standards and accommodates non-motorized transportation. Access control, turn lanes and intersection improvements will ensure an acceptable level of service and travel reliability on the corridor even with the increased commercial and industrial traffic expected. The project will support the Georgia Ports Authorities continued growth as well as economic development that is already occurring and will continue to occur along the corridor. By closely coordinating with Effingham County, this project can help support the continued expansion of our regional economies, meet logical termini for the project as required by FHWA and provide access to new jobs.

The project is anticipated to have minimal impacts on the environment and will likely require no residential or commercial displacements. However, as development continues to occur along the corridor, it is imperative to begin Preliminary Engineering for the project to help avoid displacements in the future. This project will be a primary candidate to receive a future BUILD grant to help fund construction through the FHWA, as these grants target rural areas and projects. However, these grants also give priority to projects that are shovel ready. As it can take multiple years to develop a project through GDOT and FHWA, it is imperative to begin planning and preliminary design for the project immediately.

Project Sponsor Signature

SPONSOR

Suzanne Cooler
Signature (on hard copy)

03/25/2020

Date

Suzanne Cooler, P.E.

Print Name

Interim County Engineer

Title

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 who can commit the agency to the stated local match.
- To attach a Project Location Map;
- To attach information showing the Basis of your Cost Estimate.

Budget Detail for Proposal

Project Name:

Activity	Desired Fiscal Year for TIP Programming (GDOT Fiscal Year) *	Total Estimate	Requested CORE MPO Z230 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	FY2022	\$1,000,000	\$800,000	\$200,000	\$112,500	Chatham County SPLOST	\$87,500	Effingham County		
ROW	FY2023	\$3,500,000	2,800,000	\$700,000	\$393,750	Chatham County SPLOST	\$306,250	Effingham County		
Utilities	Long Range	TBD	TBD	TBD						
Construction	Long Range	TBD	TBD	TBD						
Other activity Specify:										
Other activity Specify:										
Other activity Specify:										
Total Amounts		\$4,500,000	\$3,600,000	\$900,000	\$506,250		\$393,750			

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.

This project lends itself to a future Build Grant to find construction funds. However, the projects need to be shovel ready to be at the front of the line for these grants. It is imperative to start this project to be prepared for future BUILD grants.

*The first GDOT fiscal year in the MPO's next TIP is FY 2021, which begins July 1, 2020. The last year of the next TIP is FY 2024, which begins July 1, 2023.



CHATHAM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING

124 Bull Street, Room 430
P.O. Box 8161
Savannah, Georgia 31412-8161
FAX 912-652-7818
912-652-7800

March 25, 2020

Ms. Wykoda Wang
Transportation Planner
Chatham County-Savannah MPC
110 E. State Street
Savannah, Georgia 31401

Subject: Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG), Commitment of Stated
Local Match for the Old River Road Improvement Project

Dear Ms. Wang:

This letter is written to confirm that Chatham County has Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) funds available to provide the required local match for this project.

If you have any questions, please call Pamela Bernard at 652-7819.

Regards,

Suzanne Cooler, P.E.
Interim County Engineer

WESLEY CORBITT
Chairman At Large

STEPHANIE JOHNSON
County Clerk



TIMOTHY J. CALLANAN
County Manager

EDWARD L. NEWBERRY, JR.
County Attorney

Effingham County Board of Commissioners

FORREST FLOYD
District 1

ROGER BURDETTE
District 2

JAMIE DELOACH
Vice Chairman - District 3

REGINALD S. LOPER, SR.
District 4

PHIL KIEFFER
District 5

March 25, 2020

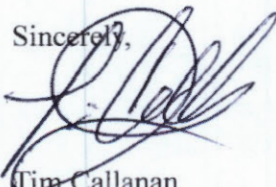
Ms. Wykoda Wang
Transportation Planner
Chatham County – Savannah MPC
110 E. State Street
Savannah, Georgia 31401

Dear Ms. Wang:

Effingham County supports and will work with Chatham County and the Georgia Department of Transportation to look for opportunities to improve Old River Road from Interstate 16 to State Route 204 (Fort Argyle Road). I will work with my Board of Commissioners over the next year to identify funding opportunities for the local match to support development of Preliminary Engineering for the project. This match will only be required if Z230 funds are awarded in FY2022 or a later fiscal year.

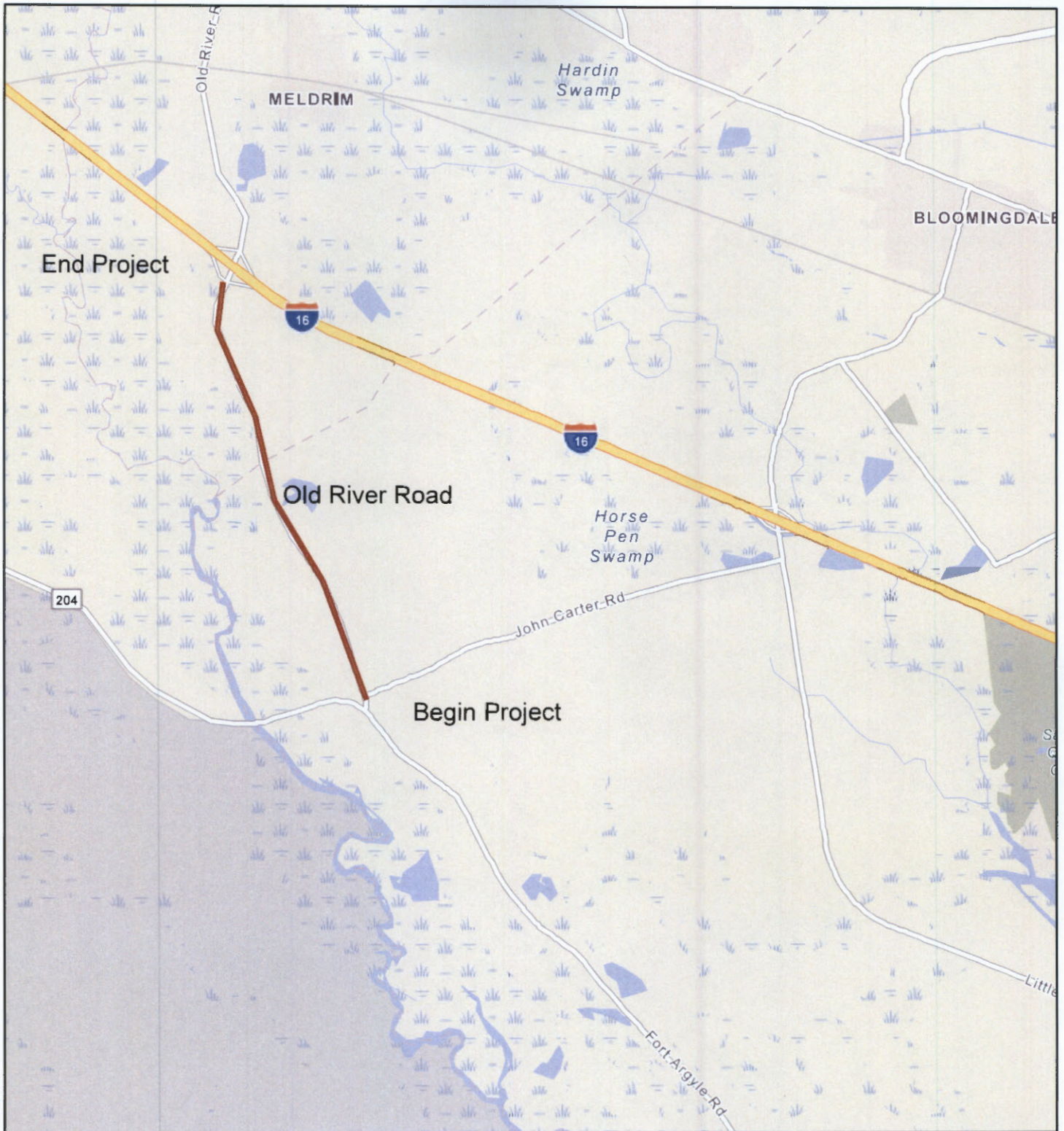
In addition, if a traffic study or our qualitative analysis of the safety of the intersection, truck traffic, and Effingham County Industrial Development site traffic shows the need to expand the logical termini of the project beyond Interstate 16 to Highway 80, I would like this to be considered during preliminary development of the project.

Sincerely,



Tim Callanan
County Manager

Old River Road



3/18/2020, 12:37:26 PM

Parcels Outline

SAGIS