



Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization

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

APPLICATION

AUGUST 2021

PI# 0017976 Garrard Avenue Improvement Project

Send the electronic copy
of the completed application by:

5:00 p.m. on September 30, 2021

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.

X Z230

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

AUGUST 2021 CALL FOR PROJECTS

The Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (CORE MPO) is conducting a competitive project selection process to award expected FY 2023 and FY 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 2021 = \$900,000 (federal portion – will be added to FY 2023 and FY 2024)**
 - **FY 2023 = \$3,178,721 (federal portion)**
 - **FY 2024 = \$6,030,778 (federal portion)**
- **Maximum Award Each Year = total federal portion of the fiscal year.**
- **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 amended into 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) Chatham County (Department of Engineering)		Date Sept. 30, 2021
Street Address 124 Bull St., Suite 430	City, State Savannah, GA	Zip Code 31401
Contact Person's Name Pamela Bernard, P.E.	Title Senior Transportation Engineer	
Contact Person's Phone Number (912) 652-7800	Contact Person's Email Address pbernard@chathamcounty.org	
Project Manager's Name (if awarded) Pamela Bernard, P.E.	Title Senior Transportation Engineer	

Project Overview		
Project Name PI# 0017976 Garrard Avenue Improvement Project		
Project Location Description (please also attach a location map) Garrard Avenue from the intersection of Chatham Parkway to Lane Avenue and Lane Avenue from Garrard Avenue to Gamble Road.		
County (or counties) in which project is located Chatham	City (or cities), if any, in which project is located N/A	
<p>Proposal Description Summary</p> <p>The Garrard Avenue Improvement Project proposes to construct operational and safety improvements for non-motorized and motorized roadway users from Chatham Parkway to Gamble Road, which also includes a portion of Lane Road, approximately 1.2 miles in length. This project will convert Garrard Avenue from a rural, narrow two-lane roadway section with narrow shoulders, open ditches and without any pedestrian accommodations to a new two-lane urban section with sidewalks, potentially on both sides of the road. The project will also include curb and gutter, drainage and water quality improvements. This portion of Garrard Avenue is a densely populated, lower income area with many residents not having vehicles to get to their destinations. Access to bus stops along the corridor will be an important aspect for concept development. A traffic study will be completed to identify potential improvements at intersections. Lighting and traffic calming features will also be considered. This project will be designed with a context sensitive framework to minimize right of way impacts and maintain the integrity of the local community.</p>		
Total Estimated Project Cost*	Federal Z230 Funds Requested	Local Match Available
\$7,200,000	\$3,758,885	\$939,721

**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	Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) funds

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
0522790	Jimmy DeLoach Parkway, Phase 2	Nathaniel Panther, P.E.
0007128	Islands Expressway Bridge Replacement	Nathaniel Panther, P.E.
0007621	Truman Linear Park Trail, Phase 2A	Nathaniel Panther, P.E.

What agency will maintain the project after completion?

Chatham County

If a maintenance agreement is necessary, has it been executed? (Chose one) 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.

Chatham County will provide for maintenance of the constructed improvements. Chatham County already provides maintenance of the existing roadway within the Garrard Avenue right of way and this will continue in the future. No maintenance agreement is required and federal funds are not needed to fund maintenance.

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

The goal of the project is to find solutions that will minimize right of way acquisition. However, some acquisitions for easements and right of way will likely be required.

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	
N/A	
Contact Name	Contact Phone
Contact Email:	
Status of Agreement	

Organization #2	
N/A	
Contact Name	Contact Phone
Contact Email:	
Status of Agreement	

Organization #3	
N/A	
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 (PE)	24
Right of Way	12
Construction	18

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
Preliminary Engineering was authorized by GDOT in FY 2021.	May 2021
Proposals for Consultant Design Services were obtained and ranked for QBS.	Sept. 2021

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
Complete negotiations and award a consultant design services contract.	October 2021
Concept Approval	October 2022
Preliminary and Right of Way plans completed	May 2023
Environmental Document Approved and NTP for Right of Way Authorized	June 2023
Right of Way Acquisition and final plans complete	June 2024
Authorization for Construction	July 2024

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 Garrard Avenue Improvement Project proposes to construct operational and safety improvements for non-motorized and motorized roadway users from Chatham Parkway to Gamble Road, which also includes a portion of Lane Road, approximately 1.2 miles in length. This project will convert Garrard Avenue from a rural, narrow two-lane roadway section with narrow shoulders, open ditches and without any pedestrian accommodations to a new two-lane urban section with sidewalks, potentially on both sides of the road. The project will also include curb and gutter, drainage and water quality improvements.

This portion of Garrard Avenue is a densely populated, lower income area with many residents not having vehicles to get to their destinations. With the lack of existing, ADA compliant facilities, it is dangerous for pedestrians that are walking to their destination or to the bus stop. This project will address this critical safety issue by providing a more equitable, non-motorized transportation system that is ADA compliant.

A traffic study will be completed to identify potential improvements at intersections. Lighting and traffic calming features will also be considered. This project will be designed with a context sensitive framework to minimize right of way impacts and maintain the integrity of the local community. This project received TA, Z301 funding of \$280,000 to begin PE in FY2021 and PE was authorized by the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) in May of 2021. Z301 funds of \$1,041,114 are also currently allocated for construction in FY 2023. A 20% local match is being provided by Chatham County with Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) funds. Additional funding is being requested to offset the remaining cost of preliminary engineering in FY 2022.

The benefits of this project are increasing connectivity and safety for all road users along the corridor, including ADA compliant non-motorized sidewalks between neighborhoods, bus stops, Churches and commercial areas in the vicinity of Garrard Avenue. The added connectivity to the local community will provide additional opportunities for our citizens to utilize non-motorized transportation alternatives rather than using their vehicles to get to their destinations, improving the quality of life for all income levels in this community.

Project Sponsor Signature

SPONSOR

Suzanne Cooler _____ Date 9/29/21 _____
Signature (on hard copy)

Suzanne Cooler, P.E. _____ County Engineer _____
Print Name 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: PI# 0017976 Garrard Avenue Improvement Project										
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)					
					Source A	Amount B	Source B	Amount C	Source C	
PE	2021	1,200,000								
ROW	2023	1,000,000	800,000	200,000	200,000 SPLOST					
Utilities	2024	0								
Construction	2024	5,000,000	2,958,885	739,721	739,721 SPLOST					
Other activity Specify:										
Other activity Specify:										
Other activity Specify:										
Total Amounts		7,200,00	3,758,885	939,721						

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.
 We currently have \$280,000 of Z301 funds authorized for PE in FY 2021 with a 20% local match from Chatham County SPLOST. We also have \$1,041,114 in FY 2024 currently for Construction with a 20% local match.

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

GARRARD AVENUE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Begin Project

Gamble Road

Garrard Ave

End Project

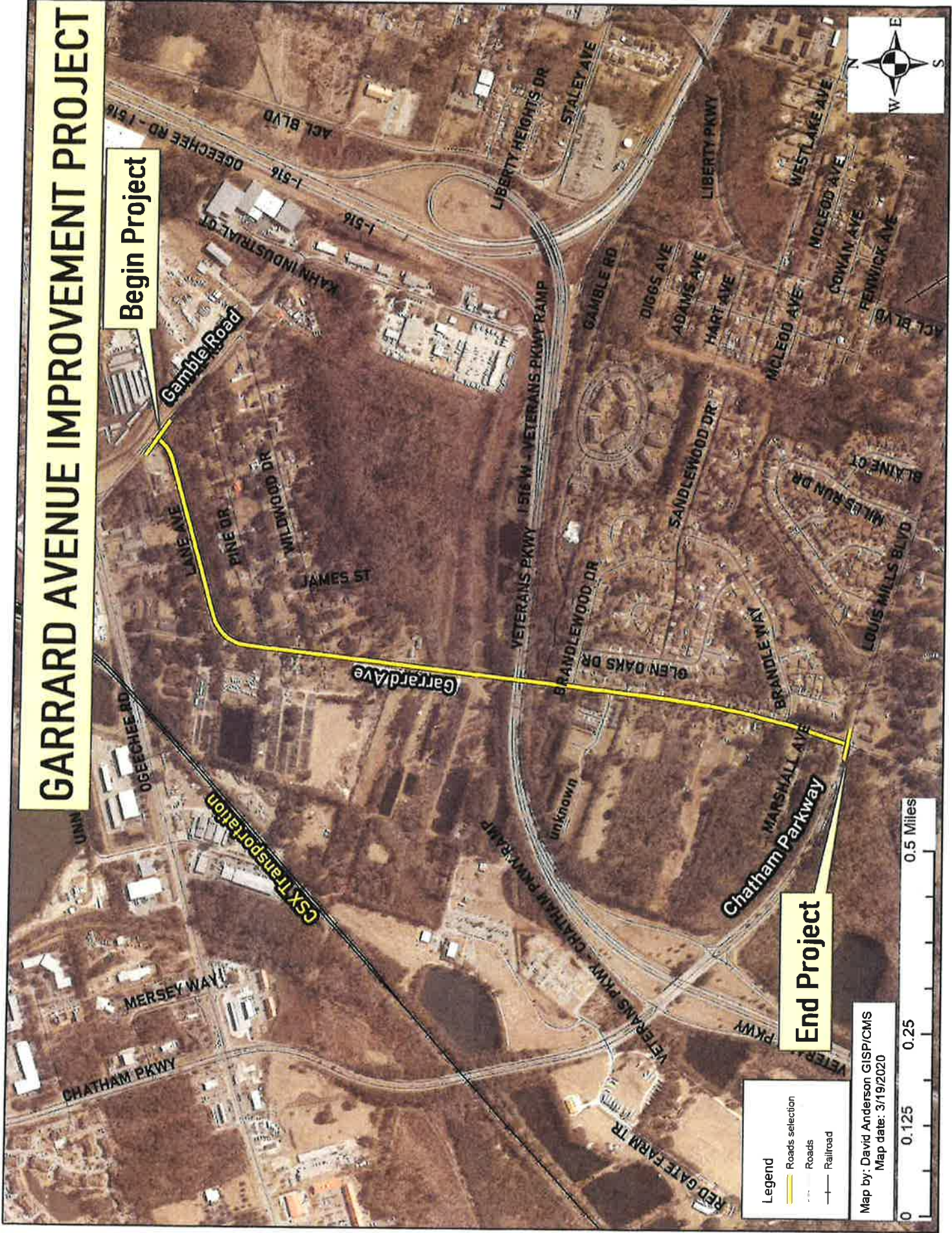
Chatham Parkway

CSX Transportation

Legend

- Roads selection
- Roads
- Railroad

Map by: David Anderson GIS/PICMS
Map date: 3/19/2020



Garrard Planning Cost Estimate

Preliminary Engineering (PE)

<u>Category</u>	<u>Est. Cost</u>
Concept	200,000
Survey/ Database/SUE	250,000
Environmental Screening	150,000
Public Involvement	50,000
Geotech/ Pvmt/Soil	75,000
Preliminary Design	200,000
Environmental Document	75,000
Right of Way Design	75,000
Final Design	125,000
	<u>1,200,000</u>

Construction

<u>Category</u>	<u>Est. Cost</u>
Base & Paving	1,500,000
Intersection Improvements	500,000
Storm Drainage	500,000
Misc. Concrete	500,000
Water Quality features	250,000
Traffic Control	250,000
Erosion Control	250,000
Grading Complete	1,000,000
Testing & Inspection	250,000
	<u>5,000,000</u>



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

Suzanne V. Cooler, P.E.
County Engineer

Nathaniel Panther, P.E.
Assistant County Engineer

September 30, 2021

Ms. Wykoda Wang
Transportation Planner
CORE MPO
110 E. State Street
Savannah, GA 31401

Subject: Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Urban Attributable (Z230) Funds Call For Projects, Commitment of Stated Local Match for the Garrard Avenue 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 (912) 652-7800.

Sincerely,


Suzanne Cooler, P.E.
County Engineer