



Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization

Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Urban Attributable (Y230) Funds

APPLICATION

AUGUST 2022

State Route 25 Corridor Study

Send the electronic copy
of the completed application by:

5:00 p.m. on September 26, 2022

to:

Jasmine Champion, Senior Transportation Planner
Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission
110 E. State Street
Savannah, GA 31401

Contact info:

912-651-1476

championj@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.
 Y230 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 (Y230) Funds

AUGUST 2022 CALL FOR PROJECTS

The Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (CORE MPO) is conducting a competitive project selection process to award expected FY 2023 - 2027 Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program Urban Attributable (Y230) funds, provided through the act entitled Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Pub. L. 117-58, also known as the “Bipartisan Infrastructure Law” (BIL).

- **Expected Available Funds:**
 - FY 2023 = \$9,750,122 (federal portion)
 - FY 2024 = \$6,480,778 (federal portion)
 - FY 2025 = \$4,000,000 (federal portion)
 - FY 2026 = \$4,000,000 (federal portion)
 - FY 2027 = \$4,000,000 (federal portion)
- **Maximum Award for a project = available funds for that year (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 in FY 2023 and FY 2024, will be programmed in the CORE MPO’s FY 2021 – 2024 Transportation Improvement Program (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2024). Awarded projects in FY 2024 will be carried over to the FY 2024 – 2027 TIP as well. FY 2025 – 2027 funds will build the prioritized waiting list for projects to be included in the FY 2024 – 2027 TIP (revisit the prioritization during TIP development).**

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 9/23/2022
Street Address 124 Bull Street, Suite 430	City, State Savannah, GA	Zip Code
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 State Route 25 Corridor Study		
Project Location Description (please also attach a location map) State Route 25 from the Ogeechee River to Interstate 516.		
County (or counties) in which project is located Chatham	City (or cities), if any, in which project is located Garden City, City of Savannah	
Proposal Description Summary The study will evaluate the existing and future capacity, operation and safety conditions of the corridor. Updated traffic counts and projections will be obtained throughout the corridor as well as crash data. This data will be used to evaluate the safety and operation of the corridor with strong consideration for access management. The study will consider freight, commuter, local traffic and non-motorized road users. The study will also account for current and future land use patterns and anticipated growth. The goal of the study is to identify and prioritize short-term and long-term improvements needed for the corridor to operate at an acceptable level of service. The study will also provide prioritization of improvements to facilitate planning and programming of projects through the MPO process. Previous studies and projects will be used to help develop baseline and existing conditions. Review of current policies and recommendations for revised policies with respect to development and access along the corridor may also be included in the project.		
Total Estimated Project Cost* \$ 500,000	Federal Y230 Funds Requested \$ 400,000	Local Match Available \$ 100,000
<i>*Please also be sure to fill out the Budget Detail Table at the end of this application.</i>		

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)

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
0007631	Truman Linear Park Trail, Ph 2A	Nathanicl Panther, P.E.
0017975	Chevis Road Improvements	Allen Blake, P.E.
0017976	Garrard Avenue Improvements	Pamela Bernard, P.E.

What agency will maintain the project after completion?

n/a

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

n/a

Will your project require purchase(s) or easement(s) for right-of-way (Choose one) N / ~~Ma~~ ~~be~~
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 and the status of any agreements (e.g. ROW donations or easements):

Organization #1	
Garden City	
Contact Name	Contact Phone
Contact Email:	
Status of Agreement	
No current agreement. Chatham County will take the lead on the study implementation and management but will coordinate with Garden City.	

Organization #2	
City of Savannah	
Contact Name	Contact Phone
Contact Email:	
Status of Agreement	
No current agreement. Chatham County will take the lead on the study implementation and management but will coordinate with the City of Savannah.	

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 Y230-funded	No. of Months
Corridor Study	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-Y230 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 Y230 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 Y230-funded work begins	Estimated completion date
Request for Qualifications and Proposals	60 days
Negotiation of scope and fee; contract execution	30 days

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.)

State Route 25 is one of the main routes of access into Chatham County and the City of Savannah from the south. It is heavily used by commuters from Richmond Hill and the residential communities in the southwestern portion of the county to get to various businesses, schools and agencies within the suburban area surrounding the City of Savannah. The corridor is also used by trucks to navigate to and from some of those same businesses. Bike lanes are present but very few accommodations are present for pedestrians. The corridor is currently experiencing a tremendous amount of growth of both commercial and residential development as well as re-development. The increase in traffic volumes along State Route 25 is reducing the level of service while increasing the crash frequency. Although various projects and studies have been completed at individual intersections, a comprehensive study of the corridor is needed to evaluate the safety and operation of the entire segment of State Route 25 beginning from the Ogeechee River to Interstate 516.

The benefit of this study will be to identify and prioritize short-term and long-term improvements needed in order for the corridor to operate safely and at an acceptable level of service for all road users. This will be accomplished by evaluation of the existing traffic volumes, crash history, land-use and intersection control. Access management will be a key component of recommended strategies for improvements along the corridor. Once these projects are identified, they can be added into the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) and the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) as appropriate.



Project Sponsor Signature

SPONSOR

Suzanne Cooler
Signature (on hard copy)

9/23/2022
Date

Suzanne Cooler, P.E.
Print Name

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.



Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) Fund Application, August 2022

Budget Detail for Proposal

Project Name:

Activity	Desired Fiscal Year for TIP Programming (GDOT Fiscal Year)*	Total Estimate	Requested CORE MPO Y230 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	Amount B	Amount C				
PE											
ROW											
Utilities											
Construction											
Other activity Specify: Planning Study	FY 2023	\$500,000	\$400,000	\$100,000	\$100,000					Chatham County SPLOST	
Other activity Specify:											
Other activity Specify:											
Total Amounts											

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.

*The GDOT fiscal year begins on July 1 and ends on June 30. For example, FY 2024 starts on July 1, 2023 and ends on June 30, 2024.



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 23, 2022

Ms. Wykoda Wang
Director of Transportation Administration
Coastal Region MPO
110 East State Street
Savannah, GA 31401

Subject: State Route 25 Corridor Study

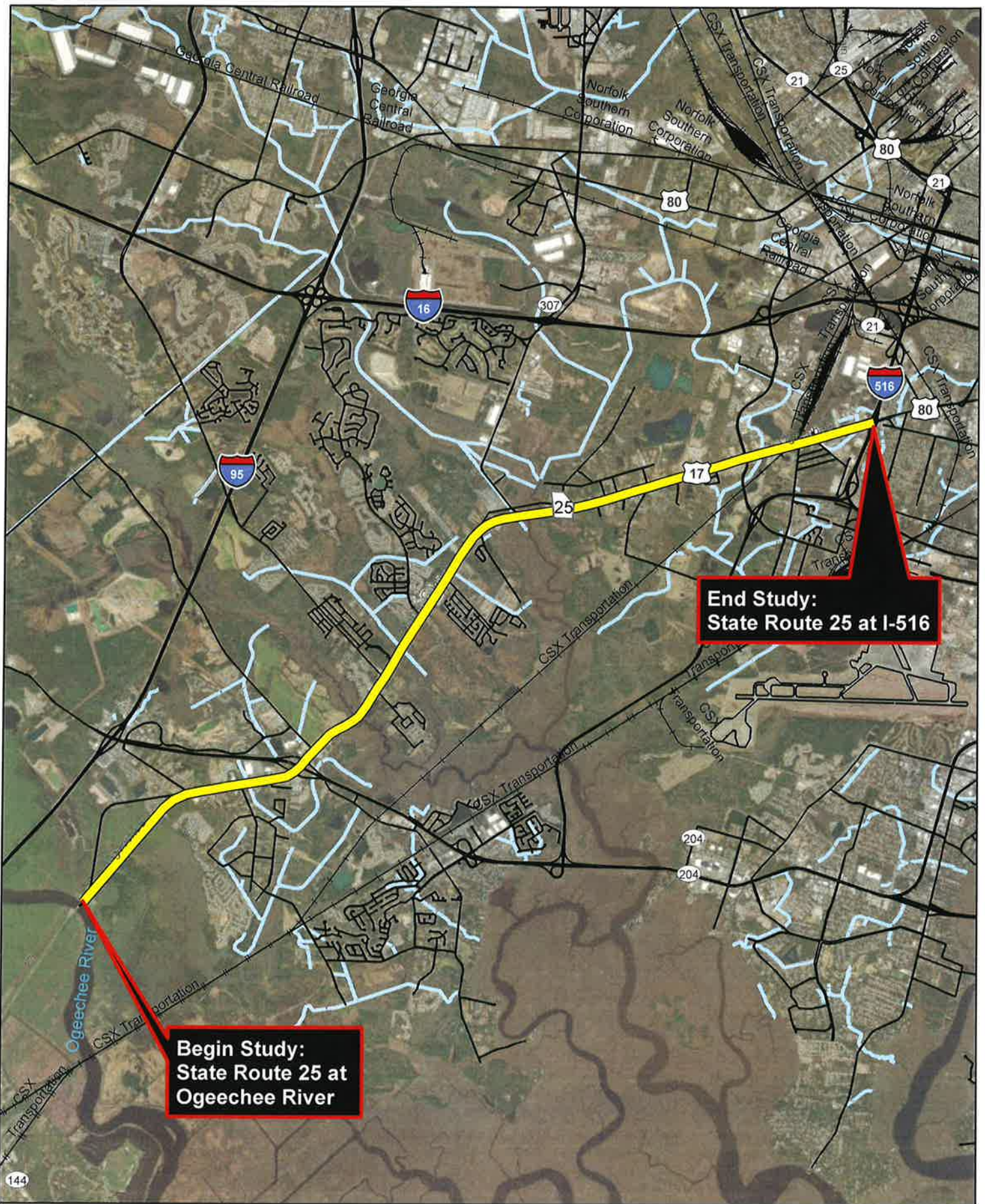
Ms. Wang:

Chatham County proposes the State Route 25 Corridor Study, and Surface Transportation Block Grant (Y230) funds are requested through the CORE MPO 2022 Call for Projects. The County has Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) funds available for the required local match of \$100,000. We appreciate the opportunity to work with CORE MPO to improve the transportation system in Chatham County.

Thank-you,

Suzanne Cooler, P.E.
County Engineer

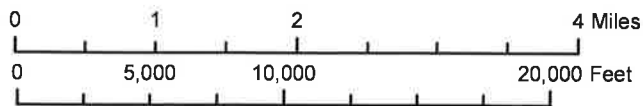
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State Route 25 Corridor Study



Map by: DGA
Chatham County
Department of
Engineering
8/18/2022

Legend

- State Route 25
- railroads
- roads
- canals



State Route 25 Corridor Study Budget

To complete the State Route 25 Corridor Study the County will hire an engineering services firm through the Quality Based Selection process. The scope of the consultant contract will include:

- A. Crash Analysis including locations and severity as well as contributing factors and types. Also, an analysis of safety needs and issues as well as geospatial identification of high-risk locations.
Estimated cost for the safety analysis is \$55,000

- B. Traffic Counts and traffic projections based on development and current growth trends will be developed to better understand the future capacity needs of the corridor. Analysis of various intersections and segments along the corridor will also be completed.
Estimated cost for the traffic analysis is \$125,000

- C. Identification and analysis of underserved communities and development of projects and strategies for an equitable approach to improve safety.
Estimated cost for equity assessment and recommendations is 15,000

- D. Public Involvement including community engagement and collaboration with stakeholders.
Estimated cost for public engagement is \$45,000

- E. Assessment of current and potential land-uses and related local and state policies to identify opportunities to prioritize transportation safety and recommend revision to polices and standards.
Estimated cost for land use and policy review and recommendations is \$65,000

- F. Identification and prioritization of projects and strategies for improvement of operation and safety including time ranges (short, mid and long-term)
Estimate for cost of list of projects and strategies is \$130,000

- G. Project Management including coordination, administration and various reports to ensure timely and successful completion of the study.
Estimate for the cost of Project Management is \$50,000

- H. **Contingency cost of \$15,000**

The remaining portions of the plan including implementation, oversight, and progress reporting will be completed by staff and will be paid for with local Special Purpose Local Sales Tax (SPLOST) funds. **The total estimated budget for consultant engineering services to complete the Study is \$500,000.**