

FM 60/ University Drive Bicycle and Pedestrian Access and Safety Concepts

Work Scope

Introduction

The B/CSMPO is responsible for transportation planning in the Bryan/College Station urbanized area. The membership of the B/CSMPO includes the City of Bryan, the City of College Station, Brazos County, the Texas Department of Transportation and Texas A&M University. The B/CSMPO Study Area includes all of Brazos County. B/CSMPO anticipates designation as a Transportation Management Area (TMA) based on current population forecasts.

The Bryan/College Station Metropolitan Planning Organization (B/CSMPO) is undertaking this study on behalf of its member governments to improve the overall access and safety for bicyclists and pedestrians along Farm to Market (FM) 60/University Drive within the Bryan/College Station urbanized area. The study is intended to encompass the segment of the Farm to Market (FM) 60/University Drive corridor from State Highway 6 (Earl Rudder Freeway) on the east side of the corridor to Turkey Creek Road/Easterwood Airport exit on the west side of the corridor.

The Farm to Market (FM) 60/University Drive corridor has become a major transportation artery for the residents, students and businesses of Bryan-College Station. It provides access to both commercial, residential and university-based land uses. The corridor bisects a portion of the Texas A&M campus on the west, and serves as a dividing line between the University and ancillary services on the east side of the corridor. Significant bicycle and pedestrian activity is present along the majority of the corridor with a particularly high level of such activity along the middle portion of the corridor. Significant safety concerns have arisen as bicyclists and pedestrians try to cross FM 60 to access important locations on both sides of the corridor.

Study Purpose

Due to rapid growth of the university along most of the corridor, coupled with increased commercial and residential development in the central portion of the corridor between Wellborn Road and Texas Avenue, an increase in bicycle and pedestrian crossings of the corridor has ensued. The increase has raised significant safety concerns. The segment between Texas Avenue and State Highway 6 has seen significant commercial development on both sides of the corridor and as a result an increase in bicycle and pedestrian activity along both sides of the corridor and conflicts with vehicular traffic as bicyclists and pedestrians attempt to cross the corridor. In addition, while Texas A&M is working to limit motorized vehicle traffic and parking on campus, FM 60 is an important east-west corridor for vehicular traffic providing one of the few grade separated through movement points where a railroad line is located just west of Wellborn Road that is the dividing line between the East and West campus. The study will need to focus on how bicyclists and pedestrians can safely access and cross this busy corridor. Proposers will need to have a strong pedestrian and bicycle planning presence in the proposed team and deemphasize engineering work. Given limited funding opportunities available for the foreseeable future BCSMPO wishes to develop a series of potential concepts for the Farm to Market (FM) 60/University Drive corridor that makes the most efficient use of funding to mitigate bicycle and pedestrian access and safety issues.

The Proposer must describe how the following major work tasks will be carried out, providing information about the anticipated schedule and the level of effort required to produce the requested deliverables. Additional tasks may be included if the proposer thinks they are appropriate and justified. While a preliminary work scope is detailed below, proposers will be asked to propose creative concepts to allow for enhanced access and safety along the corridor for bicyclists and pedestrians.

The work program for the Farm to Market (FM) 60/University Drive Corridor Study must include:

- Development of a Project Management Plan;
- Coordination with B/CSMPO and other appropriate agencies to identify the latest information available for the study;
- Conduct three project meetings with the MPO Technical Advisory Committee;
- Analyze current and historical crash data, development data and any related bicycle and pedestrian data provided by the B/CSMPO. No data collection will be required for this study;
- Identify existing and future problem locations for bicycle and pedestrian access and safety along the corridor;
- Develop a series of feasible concepts for the development of improved access and safety for bicyclists and pedestrians along the corridor;
- Evaluate and make recommendations regarding costs and benefits of projects that improve bicycle and pedestrian access and safety along the corridor.

General Scope of Work

Task 1: Project Management Plan:

The CONSULTANT shall develop a project management plan that identifies the necessary and anticipated steps and processes required to complete the project as described in this RFQ and as provided for in the contract. The objective for the project management task is to establish all of the management tasks, including a Project Management Plan in preparation for completing the project. Meeting these objectives will ensure clear communication and subsequent task management throughout the project.

- 1.1. Develop a Project Management Plan including an organizational chart of the project team with a description of roles and responsibilities for each team member;
- 1.2. A final scope of work with a detailed description of major tasks and deliverables;
- 1.3. A schedule and budget for each major task and requested deliverable;
- 1.4. An assessment of the data and information needed to carry out the scope of work, and a corresponding data analysis plan;
- 1.5. Creation and maintenance of project record files, including meeting notices, agendas, and minutes/notes

Deliverables for Task 1:

- a. Project Management Plan
- b. Meeting materials, maps and presentations, as appropriate, for any meetings deemed necessary
- c. Monthly invoices including a progress report and balance to completion by task

Task 2: Technical Advisory Committee Updates

The objective for this task is to provide timely updates to the MPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). This is primarily a technical study conducted for the purpose of providing concepts, alternatives and analysis to the TAC. It is envisioned that the three meetings will include a project kickoff meeting in which goals for the study will be developed, a presentation to the TAC on the concepts and alternatives developed to obtain TAC feedback, and a presentation of the Draft Final Report. Any public meetings deemed necessary by the TAC will be conducted by the staff of the B/CSMPO. If such meetings are required, the consultant will be responsible for providing any concepts or alternatives it has developed in a format suitable for display at a public meeting.

Deliverables for Task 2:

- a. Three meetings with the MPO TAC
- b. If necessary, presentation materials for a public meeting conducted by the B/CSMPO

Task 3: Planning Level Analysis

The purpose of this task is to use data in developing the Concepts/Alternatives Analysis in Task 4.

- 3.1. Data Provided by the B/CSMPO and its member agencies:
 - 3.1.1. Current and historical traffic counts
 - 3.1.2. Crash data for all transportation modes
 - 3.1.3. Locations of bicycle and pedestrian/vehicle conflict points
 - 3.1.4. Bicycle and pedestrian count data
 - 3.1.5. On-going and planned residential and commercial development proposed along the corridor
 - 3.1.6. Locations of bicycle and pedestrian traffic generators that impact access and safety along the corridor
 - 3.1.7. Current, committed and possible future projects across all modes
 - 3.1.8. Any additional data determined by the CONSULTANT as necessary to develop the concepts and alternatives will be obtained by B/CSMPO staff and provided to the CONSULTANT
- 3.2. Planning Level Analysis:
 - 3.2.1. Develop Existing Situation Report related to access, movement and safety considerations for bicycle and pedestrian modes along the entire corridor
 - 3.2.2. Determine the impact of the Texas A&M expansions on the West Campus for bicycle and pedestrian access
 - 3.2.3. Analyze the impact of interactions with Texas A&M University students, faculty and staff with the ancillary uses and developments across from the East campus
 - 3.2.4. Mitigation of impacts of commercial development between Texas Avenue and SH 6 as it relates to bicycle and pedestrian access and safety

Deliverables for Task 3:

- a. Prepare a technical memoranda (Existing Situation Report) describing the results of the planning level analysis.

Task 4: Concepts Development and Alternatives Analysis

The CONSULTANT will develop a series of concepts for creating an accessible and safe environment for bicycle and pedestrian users along the corridor. The TAC anticipates receiving creative planning level concepts for their evaluation. The alternatives analysis will provide enough detail to determine if the concepts can achieve the bicycle and pedestrian access and safety goals that would be established during the project kickoff meeting.

Deliverables for Task 4:

- a. Development of graphic representations of each concept
- b. A listing of improvements necessary to achieve concept development
- c. An analysis of the viability of each concept in meeting the goals and objectives established during the project kick-off meeting

Task 5. Cost Analysis

Based upon the list of improvements consistent with the top concepts as determined from Task 4, the CONSULTANT will provide a preliminary planning level cost estimate for each improvement identified in the selected concept alternative(s).

Deliverables for Task 5:

- a. Planning level cost analysis of top alternatives including cost assumptions.

Task 6. Final Report

The CONSULTANT shall produce an executive summary report and a final report on the study's findings that identifies the top alternatives for the Farm to Market (FM) 60/University Drive Corridor based on the concepts and alternatives analyzed. The final report must incorporate information from the technical memorandums and include supporting documentation for analyses, but be produced as a stand-alone document. The CONSULTANT should plan on presenting the findings and recommendations to the B/CSMPO Technical Advisory Committee and Policy Board. All data and reports shall be provided in electronic and hard copy format, as appropriate in a format compatible with B/CSMPO utilized software.

- 5.1. Prepare Draft Report
- 5.2. Solicit comments from the Technical Advisory Committee and address comments.
- 5.3. Prepare and deliver Final Report including recommendations.

Deliverables for Task 6:

- a. Draft Report (5 bound hardcopies, 1 electronic copy)
- b. Final Report (5 bound hardcopies, 1 electronic copy).