

STAGE 0 FEASIBILITY STUDY
US 190 (S. Military Rd.): Turtle Creek Blvd to US 190 (East Gause Blvd)
Highway Planning/ Complete Streets Improvements
Slidell Urbanized Area, Louisiana
RPC Task No. SL-1.19M

Project Description

In accordance with FAST-Act and MAP-21 policy initiatives emphasizing pedestrian safety, development of alternative modes of transportation, and consistency with local land use planning efforts, the Regional Planning Commission is undertaking an evaluation and feasibility study of complete streets and general roadway improvements along and adjacent to the South Military Rd. (US 190) corridor between Turtle Creek Blvd. and East Gause Blvd. (US 190) in the Slidell UZA

The project is being carried out in coordination with St. Tammany Parish and LADOTD District 62 office. The technical Consultant will conduct a field evaluation and develop quantities and cost estimates for this 0.6 mile section identifying feasible “complete streets” improvements along the corridor, as well as other recommended improvements for deficiencies discovered during the course of the project. Tasks to be performed by the Consultant include:

TASK 1: PROJECT TIMELINE & KICK-OFF MEETING

The Consultant will prepare a draft project schedule including major milestones (PMC meetings, site visits, draft reviews, final report submission, etc.). The timeline will be submitted at a project kick-off meeting that will include the Consultant, RPC, LADOTD District 62, and St. Tammany Parish. Other stakeholders will be invited as may be necessary. The kick-off meeting will take place within two (2) weeks of the Notice to Proceed.

TASK 2: PROJECT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Consultant will assist RPC in establishing and supporting a Project Management Committee to guide the technical work effort and to review the Consultant’s work products. The PMC will include the RPC, DOTD District 62, St. Tammany Parish, and representatives from other parish/ state officials as deemed appropriate. The Consultant will provide all necessary agendas, handouts and exhibits in advance of the PMC meetings for RPC review and approval and prepare summary minutes of the meetings.

The PMC will meet three times during the course of the study effort: at the kick-off meeting, to review inventory findings, and to discuss study recommendations. In addition, the Consultant will as necessary conduct meetings with elected officials and other local leaders and organizations in the area to discuss the project’s purpose and need and project-related opportunities and concerns. The Consultant will receive prior approval from RPC prior to initiating these contacts and prepare summary meeting minutes for review and discussion with the PMC. It is anticipated

that new improvements may require further detailed study or analysis through LADOTD and/or RPC prior to consideration for advancement.

TASK 3: SITE INVESTIGATION, DATA COLLECTION, & ANALYSIS -

The Consultant will conduct a complete field visual inspection/ review of the US 190 (S. Military Rd.) corridor between US 190 (E. Gause Blvd.) and Turtle Creek Blvd. Site visits and field inspections will be conducted and data collected as necessary regarding the physical, engineering, land-use, and environmental features of the study area to allow an accurate assessment.

A) Complete Streets:

This examination will include an assessment of potential sidewalk/ bike path / multi-use path configurations and other complete streets elements along the US 190 (S. Military Rd) corridor. There are currently no sidewalks or bicycle delineations in the defined corridor.

B) Data Collection:

In consultation with LADOTD District 062 and RPC, the consultant shall:

Undertake 3 concurrent 48 hour traffic counts (averaged to 24 hour) in the corridor along

- i) US 190 (S. Military Rd) between US 190 (East Gause Blvd) and Cross Gates Blvd
- ii) US 190 (S. Military Rd) between Cross Gates Blvd and Turtle Creek Blvd
- iii) US 190 (S. Military Rd) between Turtle Creek Blvd and D'everaux Dr.

Peak Hour Turning Movement Counts will be collected at the intersections within the study area listed above for the weekday A.M. and P.M. Peak Hours. Peak hours will be discerned from a 48 hour traffic count normalized to a 24 hour period; taken on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday when school is in session (on non-holiday weeks) as approved by RPC project manager. Demand volumes will be counted as part of the peak hour turning movement data collection effort, per DOTD methodology. Fifteen (15) minute driveway counts will also be undertaken for non-vacant parcels along the corridor, approximately 21 driveways. Counts will be collected to insure the most accurate vehicular (including truck), pedestrian, and bicycle movement data acquisition. Additionally, consultant will coordinate with St. Tammany Parish to determine if new developments in or near the project area will open during the duration of this effort that could have an impact on traffic volumes.

TASK 4: CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION

There are currently no bicycle or pedestrian facilities along US 190 (S. Military Rd). LADOTD District 62 has provided RPC with the existing typical section for the roadway and has also

provided conceptual typical sections for proposed improvements. The consultant will review these conceptual typical sections and use them as a basis for further analysis and refinement of improvements, or propose different alternatives.

Working with the PMC and using data collected in Task 3, the Consultant will prepare a conceptual improvement plan to add bicycle and/or pedestrian facilities along the roadway. The plan will include typical sections, minor geometric improvements, ADA accessibility considerations, location and type of crosswalks, additional/replacement signage, and other measures deemed feasible and prudent. The plans (which will be in GIS format) will identify utilities and other potential obstructions that could influence the concept's feasibility, timing, costs, and ability to implement proposed sidewalk and ADA improvements.

The Consultant will prepare visualizations of the proposed improvements and design alternative(s), helping the PMC understand the design intent by using before and after graphic perspectives for important nodes and before and after graphics in plan view for the study area. The Consultant should anticipate that one public informational meeting may be required to provide information and receive comments on the proposed improvements. The Consultant will develop quantities and unit cost estimates for the study section including estimated cost of final design and potential funding sources to improve existing sidewalks and ADA ramps, including existing striping and signage replacement. It is anticipated that the Parish or State may elect to submit this project for funding consideration through LADOTD's Transportation Alternatives Program, Safe Access to Public Places, or STP<200K program, dependent upon feasibility.

TASK 5: DRAFT REVIEW

A draft of the report (ten copies) with all documentation described above will be submitted to RPC for distribution to the PMC for review by, at the latest, 75% of project completion. The report will include the conceptual layout of each analysis section. The report text will briefly describe the purpose and need for the project and include a detailed conceptual layout of recommended sidewalk improvements, ADA ramp locations, and other supporting measures, i.e., existing crosswalk striping, as agreed to by the PMC. The draft report will be submitted to the PMC for review and in a format suitable for transmittal by RPC to LADOTD. DOTD Stage 0 and Environmental Checklists will be included in the draft and final report.

TASK 6: FINAL DELIVERABLES

Following review and approval of the draft submission, the Consultant will provide RPC with ten (10) bound copies of the Final Stage 0 Feasibility Study, documenting the information and analysis described above. All studied alternative(s) will be described in the Stage 0 Report, including the preferred alternative as recommended by the Project Management Committee. The Stage 0 Report will include completed Stage 0 checklists (ref. LADOTD Program Development and Project Delivery System Manual, Chapter 4: Stage 0 Standard Operating

Procedure, Checklist for Stage 0 – Preliminary Scope and Budget Worksheet, and Stage 0 Environmental Checklist). Ten printed copies of the report and 10 disks in electronic format (pdf including all maps and visualizations) will be submitted by the Consultant to the RPC for distribution. All survey and engineering work will be submitted to the RPC in CAD and/or GIS format.

RPC will work with St. Tammany Parish and LADOTD District 62 to advance feasible improvements towards project level design and implementation using various funding sources including STP<200K attributable funds and Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), among others.

TIMELINE	Nine Months
Budget	\$40,000