REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Hammond Bicycle Plan
Feasibility Study
(Task ST-2.16H; FY-16 UPWP)

**Purpose**
The Regional Planning Commission in coordination with the City of Hammond is conducting a feasibility study for a bicycle master plan for the purpose of linking downtown with nearby neighborhoods, parks, Hammond Square Mall, and Southeastern Louisiana University. The study will also inventory sidewalk conditions on federal-aid eligible routes to identify new or missing sections necessary to comply with American Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. The geographic boundaries of this scope are Morrison Boulevard as the western boundary, University Avenue as the northern boundary, Range Road as the eastern boundary, and Interstate 12 as the southern boundary.

The technical Consultant will assist Hammond/RPC in the development and comparative analysis of alternative bicycle routing concepts and in determining priority routes within the stated boundaries. In addition, data on sidewalk types and condition, ADA ramps and deficiencies, and opportunities for landscaping at key node points will be identified. This data will be used by the City of Hammond in preparing an application for capital project assistance under DOTD’s Transportation Alternatives Program and similar programs for bicycle, pedestrian, and related facilities.

**Task 1 – Project Management Committee (PMC)**
RPC will establish a Project Management Committee (PMC) to guide the study and evaluation process. PAC members will include the Mayor’s Office and the Department of Public Works, Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (District 62), Regional Planning Commission, and other stakeholders identified during the course of the study. The PMC will oversee the work in progress, review inventory findings, and assist in the development of the recommended bicycle plan and related improvements.

**Task 2 – Existing and Proposed Land Use**
Working in coordination with Hammond/RPC, the Consultant will prepare a generalized land use map of the study area showing both existing and proposed land uses in order to analyze connectivity issues and opportunities between downtown and adjacent neighborhoods. Any previous planning studies, reports, etc. provided by the PMC will be used as the basis for identifying proposed land use changes within the study area. The land use information (existing and future) will be used in part to identify needed bicycle and pedestrian linkages between adjacent neighborhoods and parks, the downtown and Hammond Square commercial areas, and the university area.

**Task 3 – Conduct Deficiency Analysis**
The Consultant will conduct a complete field visual inspection of all candidate roadways (based on discussion with the City of Hammond) in the study area. This examination will include an assessment of roadway and sidewalk width and condition as well as a review of handicap ramps for compliance with current Americans
The conceptual design analysis will consist of the following work activities:

1. Prepare overall bicycle master plan using site design elements such as new or upgraded sidewalks, signage, striping, landscaping, bike racks, and other measures to enhance downtown Hammond as a bike friendly town center destination. The Consultant will coordinate with the PMC on the development and evaluation of these improvement measures.

2. Prepare overall visualizations of the proposed improvements and conceptual design alternatives, helping the community 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. A public informational meeting will be held to provide information and receive comments on the alternatives. Specific site elements and alternatives with associated costs of the bicycle master plan will be detailed for review, including such items as striping, signage, paving materials, bike racks, trash receptacles, trees and landscaping materials, etc.

Task 5 – Prepare Preliminary Plans
1. The Consultant will present a draft set of project plans to the PMC at a project meeting. Assume that the PMC members may request field visits to the study area. At this meeting, the Consultant will advise the PMC members on the study findings and draft recommendations that are appropriate and feasible for the overall study area.

2. PMC members will be given three weeks, if necessary, to finalize their review comments based on the Consultant presentation and technical findings. The Consultant will include and address PMC comments in the preparation of the draft Feasibility Study.

Task 6 – Prepare Draft Report
1. RPC will distribute the draft Feasibility Study (ten copies) to the PMC membership and call a final review meeting, if necessary, for the PMC to select the preferred package of landscaping and improvement measures for the study area.

2. Prepare detailed conceptual plans for the chosen alternative with associated costs, including all site elements, i.e., landscaping, streetscaping, sidewalks, signage, and ADA improvements, as needed.

Task 7 – Submit Stage 0 Feasibility Study
1. Consultant shall finalize recommendations and prepare the 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 selected by the Project
Management Committee. The Stage 0 Report will include completed Stage 0 checklists (ref. LA DOTD 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.

2. RPC will work with City of Hammond and LADOTD District 62 to advance recommended improvements towards project level design and implementation using various funding sources including STP<200K and Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), among others.

**Budget:** $30,000

**Timeline:** 8 months