

REQUEST FOR QUOTES/QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)



South Whitehall Transportation PLAN Data Analysis and Evaluation

South Whitehall Township (SWT) is seeking consultants to leverage existing available datasets to provide data driven recommendations to address transportation concerns throughout the Township.

Background

SWT adopted an update to the Township Comprehensive Plan in March 2023, and has begun to implement priority actions, including the development of a comprehensive Transportation Plan. The proposed Transportation Plan has been divided into several chapters or volumes:

ENGAGE: Outreach to the community and public engagement

ACTIVE: Development of an “Active Transportation” network for the Township

SAFETY: Identification of priority safety concerns on Township roadways

CLASS: Reclassification of Township roads by functional and character class

FREIGHT: Analysis and evaluation of the Township’s freight network

TRAFFIC: Congestion analysis and management strategies

Currently, SWT is working on the ENGAGE, ACTIVE and SAFETY chapters of the Transportation Plan. Preliminary investigations into the development of the CLASS, FREIGHT and TRAFFIC chapters led Township staff to assess the availability of data necessary to analyze the network and develop recommendations for these three chapters. Data should provide volumes, speeds, vehicle category, and other pertinent information for both state and local roads over an extended period of time.

Throughout this process, Township staff has researched available providers of vehicle “probe” data, which leverages GPS and Bluetooth capabilities of both cell phones and vehicles. It is the Township’s intent to utilize probe data to perform the aforementioned analysis for the CLASS, FREIGHT, and TRAFFIC chapters of the Transportation Plan.

Scope

SWT envisions that the selected consultant will work with Township staff to procure appropriate probe data, compile datasets, analyze data, and provide short reports with recommendations relative to the goals of each chapter further described below.

Selected consultant would not be expected to conduct roadway investigations of physical characteristics.

Township staff envisions bi-weekly check-in meetings between consultant team and Township staff.

The Planning purposes and outcomes for any data analysis and evaluation for each chapter are as follows:

CLASS

SWT wishes to evaluate the Functional Classification of roads within the Township to a higher level of detail than the current classification. Currently, roads in the Township are functionally classified into four (4) groups: Principal Arterial, Minor Arterial, Collector and Local. Utilizing vehicle probe data AADT and speed data will help the Township develop a more detailed functional classification, particularly for local roads.

The selected consultant will be responsible for procuring the data necessary to help classify roads and providing enough information to inform the Township and decision makers of how to best reclassify roads by Functional Class.

Deliverables:

- GIS data of all Roads within SWT that includes by year AADT, Average Speed, Weighted Classification Values (example: AADT times Average Speed), Proposed Functional Classification.
- A summary of accepted Transportation functional classifications guidelines from PennDOT, FHWA and one case study of more detailed Functional Classifications.
- Up to three-page report describing the data analysis and presenting findings.

FREIGHT

The FREIGHT analysis and evaluation of data will consider truck movements in and through the Township. The analysis and evaluation will identify high truck traffic corridors and provide initial guidance for possible truck restrictions on Township Roads.

Deliverables:

- GIS Data of all Roads within SWT that includes Truck AADT, designation of high truck traffic corridors and roads to be considered for Truck Restrictions based on usage.
- Up to two-page report describing the data analysis and presenting findings in accordance with PennDOT and FHWA guidelines.

TRAFFIC

Utilizing PennDOT's Congestion Management framework, the TRAFFIC analysis and evaluation will identify congested corridors (excluding limited access highways), classify congestion, and provide initial guidance on possible mitigation of congestion. Specific attention should be made to the diversion of traffic from an overly congested Route 22. Dates and times of congestion events on Route 22 will be provided.

Deliverable:

- GIS Data of top 3 Congested Corridors under "normal" conditions and top 3 Congested Corridors under "diversion" events. (excluding limited access highways).
- Up to two-page report describing the data analysis and presenting findings.
- Guidelines for possible mitigation techniques for top congested corridors based on data analysis.
- Guidance for the acquisition of possible grant funding for any possible mitigation techniques or further study guidelines.

Submission Guidelines

Proposals shall be submitted as a PDF via email to:

David Manhardt, AICP
Director of Community Development
manhardtd@southwhitehall.com

Proposals shall include the following:

- Letter of Transmittal including the firm's overview, primary contact, and brief understanding of the scope of work
- Identification and description of the proposed data source, including any details on estimated data subscription costs. Proposals shall indicate whether the data can be obtained without any cost to the Township.
- Short description of relevant experience or similar projects
- List of key personnel with resumes and anticipated roles for the project
- Cost proposal including a breakdown of hourly rates, estimated not to exceed costs for each element of the scope of work, and any anticipated meeting costs (in-person or virtual). Any subscription costs or data access fees shall be called out separately.

Proposals must be submitted via email to manhardtd@southwhitehall.com by 4:00 PM EST on Friday, June 7 2024.