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MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Michael Smith, Public Works Director

Date: May 22, 2023

Subject: **Design Contract for North Shallowford Road Path Project**

ACTION

Discussion of a contract to design a shared-use path along North Shallowford Path between Peeler Road and Cotillion Drive.

SUMMARY

In July 2022, the city entered into an agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) for \$560,000 in federal funding under the Surface Transportation Program - Urban (STP-Urban) for design of a shared-use path on North Shallowford Road. The city has committed \$140,000 in local matching SPLOST funds for the design and has issued a request for qualifications (RFQ) for a consultant to design the path between Peeler Road and Cotillion Drive.

Five firms submitted qualifications that were responsive to the RFQ, and four firms were shortlisted to provide technical proposals. The city staff is currently evaluating the technical proposals and expects to recommend a finalist for the contract award in June.

DETAILS

This project is referred to in the Georgetown Master Plan as North Shallowford Road Multi-Modal Improvements consisting of sidewalks, bike lanes, landscaped buffers, pedestrian crossing improvements and lighting. Bike lanes were added on North Shallowford Road by narrowing the vehicle lanes when the road was repaved in 2011, but several gaps in the sidewalk still exist. Subsequent to the addition of the bike lanes as a low-cost retrofit, the city's vision for bicycle accommodations has evolved to prioritize cycle tracks and paths that are physically separated from vehicle traffic to encourage a wider range of riders.

The scope of this project will include adding a path on one side of the road and completing the sidewalks. The design phase of the project will follow the federal requirements for plan development including seeking public input. A project schedule will be developed once a consultant is under contract.