

Madisonville Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan
Feasibility Study
(Task MC-2.19BP; FY-19 UPWP)

Purpose

The Regional Planning Commission in coordination with the City of Madisonville is conducting a feasibility study for a pedestrian and bicycle master plan for the purpose of linking neighborhoods with the downtown riverfront area, including City Hall, the Library, and Maritime Museum, and other public facilities. Emphasis will be placed on enhancing pedestrian and bicycle safety at roadway crossings. Opportunities for additional parking in the riverfront corridor with improved pedestrian safety will also be examined, including the potential for a riverfront promenade. The geographic boundaries of this scope is generally LA 1077 north to St. Tammany Street and the Tchefuncte River west to St. John Street.

The technical Consultant will assist Madisonville/RPC in the development and comparative analysis of alternative bicycle routing concepts and in determining priority routes by facility type within the City. In addition, data on sidewalk types and condition, ADA ramps and deficiencies, and opportunities for landscaping at key node points, including the riverfront area, will be identified. This data will be used by the City of Madisonville in preparing an application for capital project assistance under DOTD's Transportation Alternatives Program, RPC's <200K program, or similar programs providing federal assistance for bicycle, pedestrian, and related improvements.

In addition, the Consultant will assist Madisonville/RPC in drafting a Complete Streets Policy for review by the Mayor's Office and City Council. The Consultant will work with the City on how to best incorporate the proposed Policy into the City's Code.

Task 1 – Project Management Committee (PMC)

RPC will establish a Project Management Committee (PMC) to guide the study and evaluation process. PMC members will include the Mayor's Office, 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 recommended pedestrian and bicycle improvements, and drafting of the Complete Streets Policy document.

Task 2 – Existing and Proposed Land Use

Working in coordination with Madisonville/RPC, the Consultant will prepare a generalized land use map of the study area showing major existing and proposed land uses. 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 analyze connectivity issues, needs, and opportunities for improved pedestrian and bicycle access between neighborhoods, downtown, and public places.

Task 3 – Data Collection/ Conduct Deficiency Analysis

The Consultant will conduct a complete field visual inspection of all candidate roadways (based on discussion with the City of Madisonville) 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

with Disabilities Act (ADA) design standards. This evaluation will include coordination with RPC and LADOTD District 62 on the results of the field survey and evaluation. Both the land use and field data will be used to identify safety issues and target locations for pedestrian and bicycle safety and accessibility improvements.

Task 4 – Conceptual Planning and Design

The conceptual design analysis will consist of the following work activities:

1. Prepare working document of pedestrian and bicycle plan using site design elements such as new or upgraded sidewalks, signage, striping, bike racks, landscaping, and other measures to enhance downtown Madisonville as a pedestrian and bicycle friendly town center destination. The Consultant will coordinate with the PMC on the development and evaluation of these improvement measures.
2. Prepare working visualizations of the proposed improvements and conceptual design alternatives to help 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 selected study corridors. Specific site alternatives with rough cost estimates of pedestrian and bicycle improvements will be prepared for review, including such items as striping, signage, paving materials, bike racks, trash receptacles, trees and landscaping materials, etc.
3. Conduct public informational meeting to provide information and receive comments on the alternatives under consideration.

Task 5 – Complete Streets Policy (Draft)

1. The Consultant will collect, review, and summarize various examples of Complete Streets Policies (a minimum of two) to illustrate best practices for review with the PMC membership.
2. The Consultant will inform and educate the PMC regarding various best practices in preparing Complete Streets Policy documents, as recommended by the National Complete Streets Coalition.
3. The Consultant will assist the City of Madisonville by preparing a draft Complete Streets Policy document for review by the Mayor and PMC membership. Based on comments received, the Consultant will make revisions to the document and resubmit to the PMC for final review and further consideration by the Mayor and Council.

Task 6 – Prepare Preliminary Plans

1. The Consultant will prepare the initial draft of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan and related improvements for review by the PMC. The Consultant will review the study findings and draft recommendations with the PMC, identifying project priorities which are appropriate and feasible for implementation.
2. The Consultant will hold a second (final) public meeting to review and receive comments on recommended pedestrian and bicycle improvements.

3. The Consultant will include and address public and PMC comments in the preparation of the revised draft report, including any comments received from the Council.

Task 7 – Prepare Draft Report

1. RPC will distribute the revised draft Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan/Feasibility Study to the PMC membership (ten report copies) and call a final review meeting, if necessary, for the PMC to select the preferred package of pedestrian and bicycle improvement measures for the City.
2. The draft Plan will include unit cost estimates and quantities for all pedestrian, bicycle, and related site improvements, i.e., landscaping, streetscaping, sidewalks, signage, and ADA improvements, as needed. The study will identify a priority set of projects for short-term and mid-term implementation action. Recommendations for new crosswalks or pedestrian signals will be identified, but these items may need to be addressed as separate follow-on study efforts in accordance with state procedures and warrant analysis requirements.

Task 8 – Submit Stage 0 Feasibility Study

1. Consultant shall finalize recommendations and prepare the Madisonville Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan (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 Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan as selected by the Project Management Committee.
2. Following review and approval by the PMC of the draft submission, the Consultant will provide RPC with ten (10) bound copies of the Final Stage 0 Feasibility Study Report signed and sealed by a licensed professional engineer. A .pdf and editable text version (i.e. MSWord) of the final report and supporting documents will also be provided to RPC on compact disc or other appropriate electronic storage media, with each bound copy. The CD/ electronic storage media will also include any GIS shapefiles, CAD files, or other accessory files and documentation created during the course of the study.
3. 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 five 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, consistent with industry best practices.
4. Ten printed copies of the Complete Streets Policy document and five disks in electronic format will be submitted to the RPC as a separate bound document for distribution and use by the City of Madisonville.

Budget: \$45,000

Timeline: 6 months