

**Request for Qualifications (RFQ) For  
Eastside-Westside Connectivity and Rail Mitigation Project  
Consulting Services to Provide Planning Activities for a Pedestrian Connection,  
Naugatuck, CT  
FY26-B131  
RFI #1  
June 30, 2025**

**Bidders and interested parties shall take note of the following information regarding the subject RFP:**

1. Q Section 1.4 Schedule of the subject RFP states that the project must be completely closed out between the Borough of Naugatuck and USDOT before 6/30/2026. This implies a completion of project work in advance of that date to allow for closeout activities. Further, the start date for the work is dependent upon the selection and award procedures and therefore also unknown. Can you provide guidance on the allowable duration to perform the scope of work described in the RFP.
  - A. According to (DOT) we need to have this project financially and administratively closed out by 12/31/2026. The planned project completion date that we told DOT was: 6/30/2026, though can be altered.  
Effective Date of Award: 10/28/2024  
period of Performance: Effective Date – 12/31/2026 (date it needs to be done and closed out by, including paperwork)  
Planned Project Completion Date: 6/30/2026 (date we said we'd have it done by)
2. Q Please clarify the level of design expected for the preliminary
  - A. Planning Grants fund the study of removing, retrofitting, or mitigating an existing facility to restore community connectivity; conduct public engagement, and other transportation planning activities
    - i. Eligible Planning Grant Activities and Costs:
      - a) Public engagement activities, including community visioning or other place-based strategies for public input and meaningful involvement into project plans.
      - b) Planning studies to assess the feasibility of removing, retrofitting, or mitigating an existing eligible facility to reconnect communities, including assessments of:
        - Current traffic patterns on the facility and the surrounding street network.
        - Capacity of existing transportation networks to maintain mobility needs.
      - Alternative roadway designs or other uses for the right-of-way.
      - The project's impact on mobility of freight and people.
      - The project's impact on safety.
      - The estimated cost to restore community connectivity and to convert the facility to a different design or use, compared to any expected maintenance or reconstruction costs.
      - The project's anticipated economic impact and development opportunities.
      - The project's environmental, public health, and community impacts.
    - c) Other planning activities in advance of the project, such as:
      - Conceptual and preliminary engineering, or design and planning studies that support the environmental review for a construction project.

- Associated needs such as locally-driven land use and zoning reform, transit-oriented development, housing supply, in particular affordable housing, managing gentrification and neighborhood change, proposed project impact mitigation, climate resilience and sustainability, green and open space, local history and culture, access and mobility barriers, jobs and workforce, or other necessary planning activities as put forth by the applicant that do not result in construction

Preliminary and conceptual design engineering. Work that in support of the NEPA process, but not actually undertaking the NEPA process.

3. Q. What is the expected permitting scope

A. We would need: a list of permits required, a schedule to gather the permits

FROM NOFO:

List any federal, state, or local permits and approvals anticipated to be needed for the project (e.g., Clean Water Act Section 404 permit, Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultation, etc.).

Coordination with DOT: Identify the federal lead agency for the NEPA process and any joint-lead agencies. Describe any coordination that has occurred with an agency or operating administration of USDOT regarding the project proposal and/or NEPA analysis. Describe any coordination with state, county, or local transportation agencies regarding preliminary design and the NEPA process.

4. Q. Is there any other clarifying information you can provide about the desired deliverable for Task 1 - the conceptual & master plan for the project? The USDOT grant agreement references Schedule B - Project Activities. Could that be provided for reference?

A. Please see the Following information.

## **SCHEDULE PROJECT ACTIVITIES**

### **I. General Project Description.**

Project will provide planning funding of a pedestrian connection, linking together the Borough of Naugatuck's Metro North Rail Line and downtown core in the west with the Naugatuck River Greenway Trail and State Route Highway 8 in the east. The east and west sides are currently disconnected by the Metro North Rail Line and the Naugatuck River, with affordable and market rate housing developments taking shape on either side of the river.

### **2. Statement of Work.**

Funds will be utilized to hire contractors to provide the following:

- A) Public Engagement
- B) Conceptual and Preliminary Designs of Pedestrian Connection, including railroad design coordination
- C) Planning Activities and Studies for the Pedestrian Connection including:
  - a. Traffic Study
  - b. Benefit Cost Analysis Report
  - c. Planning Study of Project's Anticipated Environmental, Public Health, and Community Impacts
  - d. Land Survey, Geotechnical, and Subsurface Investigation Planning

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