

Form Name:	Ped/Bike Special Solicitation Non-Infrastructure Application
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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicant Type	City/Village
Primary Contact	Jennifer Lyle
Title	Mayor
Agency/Organization	Village of New Concord
Email	jlyle@newconcord-oh.gov
Phone	(740) 826-7671
Address	2 West Main street New Concord, OH 43762
What MPO/RTPO Area?	OMEGA
ODOT District	5

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project Type	Plan/Study
Project description	The Village of New Concord needs a complete multimodal (pedestrian and bicycle) system connecting these facilities. The Village of New Concord is home to Muskingum University, where walking and other active transportation are common and widely used. However, despite high usage, significant gaps exist between the University, parks, the downtown, and other areas within the Village. The Active Transportation Study aims to create a village-wide bike and pedestrian master plan to help the Village of New Concord improve its multimodal infrastructure and connectivity.
Population of municipality / area impacted	2,361 - does not include student population from University
Are K-12 students a major population impacted by the project?	Maybe- some students may be impacted
Total Funding Requested	95800
Total Project Cost	95800

Are you requesting ODOT task order consultant assistance?	No
Detailed Project Budget	https://www.formstack.com/admin/download/file/17623146545
Budget Breakdown	https://www.formstack.com/admin/download/file/17623146546
Optional Miscellaneous Project Attachment	https://www.formstack.com/admin/download/file/17623146567
Questions	
How will this project support active transportation?	Through the collection of data, analysis of existing conditions, and community engagement events, a complete active transportation plan will be produced to guide better and safer connectivity throughout New Concord.
How will the proposed project improve safety for people walking or biking?	The final deliverables will recommend ways to improve trails, paths, and walkway networks that are currently poorly connected or non-existent. The project's overall goal is to maximize walkability and minimize the number of people utilizing automobile usage as the only alternative. An increase in trails, paths, and walkway networks can support this goal and increase the overall safety of pedestrians.
How will this project advance other statewide ped/bike goals?	The State of Ohio has a bike and pedestrian plan to make Ohio healthier and more sustainable. One goal mentioned in the plan is Network Connectivity. In its current state, New Concord lacks continuous sidewalks, resulting in residents walking in the street. This project will encourage continuous sidewalks and bike lanes to make walking and biking safer for residents and students alike. This project aims to enhance connectivity throughout the community and plan for opportunities to interconnect with the State and regional plans. It is intended to provide a plan that enhances safety and equity for access to the community.

Why is funding from ODOT necessary for this project?

Funding from ODOT is necessary for the final plan to be as comprehensive as possible, which can happen through data collection, analysis, and engagement with the community. A complete plan will help to create a more connected and safer town for New Concord residents and Muskingum University students. Additionally, money is required for the implementation of goals within the plan, which is often expensive and not in the budget for many communities. Funding from ODOT will help to relieve some of the financial pressures local governments face while also helping them achieve their goals for a better New Concord.

List the Census Tract(s) that the project is located in.

3954446

Is the project location in a USDOT Disadvantaged Census Tract (USDOT)?

No

Why and how was this project prioritized?

This project is a priority because the safety of residents and students is top of mind for everyone involved in the process. Prioritization of this project is evident in multiple ways. Although Jim Hockaday is the point of contact for the project, all team members are available for communication to answer questions and address any concerns. Additionally, a seamless scheduling of events and meetings with the New Concord stakeholders will ensure an efficient process to produce a plan and begin implementation as soon as possible.

Option to attach plan or portion of a plan outlining this project

<https://www.formstack.com/admin/download/file/17623146589>

Please identify who will be the local lead on the project and how much of their time will be dedicated to project implementation.

Chris Huebner, Village Administrator will be the lead on the project. He is assisted by Assistant Administrator. The project may be additionally supported by consultant.

Describe the strengths of your agency in implementing this project

The Village of New Concord successfully completed construction on its WWTP Tertiary Treatment plant improvements project on September 18, 2024. The project involved installing two rotating drum tertiary filters at the wastewater treatment facility, with engineering and inspection services provided by CT Consultants. Manufactured in Sweden, the specified drum filters required several months for fabrication and shipping. To install the filters in the existing filter building, the removal of two existing traveling backwash bridges, filter media in two cells, and several walls was necessary. Positioning the filters was a challenge, as each weighed 5,400 pounds. Special equipment was brought in, heavy beams were installed on their sides, and the filters were set on special roller carriages. The contractor then cut a small opening in the roof, ran a cable down to the filters, lifted them off the carriages, removed the beams, and lowered the filters into place. To complete the project, four slide gates, two stop plates, two weirs, and seal plates were installed. Flow through the filters began on September 17, 2024, and the contractor received a substantial completion certificate on September 18, 2024. The contract also included installing a 2-inch water line, replacing six infrared heaters, replacing a 10' x 10' rolling overhead door, and installing two overhead door operators. The total project cost, including change orders, amounted to \$920,673. Funding included \$621,790 from a grant provided by the American Rescue Plan Act from the Department of Development and \$250,000 from the Ohio Governor's Office of Appalachia. New Concord's local contribution was \$48,883, representing 5% of the project cost. This project marked a significant success, replacing outdated 39-year-old traveling bridge filters. The wastewater treatment plant serves approximately 629 households, Muskingum University and the East Muskingum school district, treating an average of 230,000 gallons per day. The Village of New Concord extends its appreciation to all parties involved, including CT Consultants, Workman Industrial Services, The Department of Development, Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association, and the New Concord Water & Wastewater department staff, for making this project a remarkable success. This initiative exemplifies the importance of replacing aging infrastructure with new, efficient solutions.

Why is this a good timing for your community to implement this project?	New Concord is a vibrant place with the bulk of its population and economy coming from the nearby Muskingum University. Although Muskingum's campus has sidewalks, the surrounding village does not. Many students live off-campus in student housing and must walk to class where there is no sidewalk. A lack of sidewalks can increase the usage of vehicles by students to get to class on a campus where there aren't enough parking spaces for everyone. Additionally, an increase in pedestrians can boost business in the downtown as it can be more of a destination rather than a pass-through for drivers.
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Are there currently any programs, initiatives, or activities your organization currently works on to support walking and biking?	Safe access to pedestrian networks for walking and biking has been a priority to New Concord for a long time. In 2010, New Concord staff, in collaboration with East Muskingum School staff, produced the New Concord/East Muskingum Schools Safe Routes to School, School Travel Plan. The plan details how a lack of sidewalks and bicycle accommodations are two significant barriers to students walking/biking to school. Additionally, a lack of multi-use paths and safe crossings dissuaded students from walking/biking to school. The plan lays out many solutions to these barriers, including a Complete Streets policy, an addition to the Village code for sidewalk/multi-use path standards, etc. The Village of New Concord developed a Pedestrian Safety and Access Report in 2015-2016, which detailed ways in which pedestrian safety and access could be improved throughout the Village. The report notes that due to its size, the Village has great potential to be a walkable, pedestrian-friendly community. Some recommendations to accomplish this goal include safe crossings, painted bike lanes, establishing a sidewalk fund to keep sidewalks well-maintained, installing walk/don't walk signs at busy intersections, etc.
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Program/Initiatives Example	https://www.formstack.com/admin/download/file/17623146605
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Has your community been previously funded for a SRTS or TAP project since 2020?	No
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Final Checks

I confirm that the project can be completed by July 2026.	Yes
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I confirm that the community is prepared to fund project cost overages Yes

I confirm that all information provided in this application is accurate Yes

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer S. Lyle". The signature is stylized with a large, looped initial "J" and a cursive "Lyle".

Print Name of Submitter Jennifer Lyle
