

FY 2023 Planning Grant Application

What is the name of this project?

422 Corridor - Complete Street Feasibility Study

What community is the lead applicant for this grant?

City of Niles

Is this project a collaboration with other communities?

No

Enter the name of the project coordinator

Kevin Robertson

Provide a brief description of the project area

The project will evaluate the feasibility of a complete street road improvement to the 422 corridor from Niles-Vienna Road to North Road (approximately 2.15 miles) in the City of Niles. This study will encompass the section of 422 that services the Eastwood Mall Complex. The corridor is comprised of commercial businesses, including retail and services.

How was this location selected for the project?

The 422 corridor traverses through the City of Niles and is the economic hub of Trumbull County, serving as the gateway into the Eastwood Mall Complex. With an average daily traffic count of approximately 18,000 vehicles per day, this principal arterial corridor is a vital route within Trumbull County and the Mahoning Valley as it is home to numerous commercial and entertainment venues. As the primary route connecting the two largest Cities in the region, Youngstown and Warren, this corridor is also part of the Western Reserve Transit Authority's bus route connecting the Cities and allowing people from throughout the region to enjoy the activities that the mall complex offers. The area was identified in the following plan: Rt. 422 Corridor Niles Plan (2018). Safety concerns were identified in Eastgate's Transportation Safety Plan (2020): identifying three top crash sites in the County, along the project area corridor.

Describe the issues present within the study area that this project plans to address

- Minimal options for active transportation: no crosswalks, sidewalks or bike lanes and the right-of-way consists of deteriorating overhead infrastructure, signage, and utility lines.
- Public Transportation Deficiencies: A bus route exists along the corridor with heavy ridership, however, there are no proper amenities for the service itself (i.e. no shelters, signage, ADA accessibility, etc.).

- No Pedestrian access to the businesses along the corridor: informal foot-paths were created along the corridor further increasing inequity and disparity for residents, and decreasing economic opportunities. The future economic vitality of the 422 corridor relies on its improvement and accessibility to people via multiple modes of transportation.
- Safety Concerns: identified in Eastgate’s Transportation Safety Plan (2020), 3 Top Crash Intersections are along the subject area corridor, ranking No. 2 (US 422 @ North Rd. SE), No. 3 (US 422 @ SR 46) and No. 14 (US 422 @ Niles Vienna Rd).

Relevance to broader planning efforts

- The 422 Corridor Redevelopment Plan was created as a regional effort to revitalize the 422 corridor for the benefit of the entire Valley (2014). The original project scope included the portion of 422 located in Youngstown and Girard. The corridor project plan then expanded north with the creation of the 2018 Rt. 422 Corridor Niles Plan. The enhancement of Rt. 422 throughout Youngstown, Girard and Niles is all part of the same strategic plan to enhance the corridor across city, township and County lines.
- An Active Transportation Plan was adopted by the City in 2021, to address transportation deficiencies and make recommendations. The Plan specifically addresses portions of 422 within the study area to incorporate trails, on street bikeways, and sidewalks.
- A Traffic Study of Rt. 422 was also completed by the City of Niles showing 18,000 trips a day are taken within the study area.

Outline the scope of work required to conduct this planning process

- Review of existing corridor data and plans to be provided by City, including the 422 Corridor Regional Chamber Study, Prime AE Traffic Study, and Active Transportation Plan.
- Develop a feasibility plan for a complete street concept with a conceptual drawing and potential cross-section.
- Prepare a very high level, preliminary cost estimate.
- Prepare a final plan to deliver to the City and Eastgate.

What is the total cost to develop this plan?

22,500

How much in funding from the Planning Grant is being requested?

15,000

How much local cash match is being contributed to this project?

7,500

Local Cash Match Commitment - *A Letter of Commitment from the lead applicant community confirming the local cash match contribution identified above is required by May 31, 2022. A resolution will be required should your project be selected to receive funding.*

Do you agree to provide the information regarding local cash match contribution as a part of the application process?

Yes

Project Area Map

City of Niles

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