

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Plan – RFP No. 24-0036
INITIATED BY:	Finance Department

It is requested that Council authorize the execution of a contract with Alfred Benesh & Company (Atlanta, GA) to support the creation of a city-wide Safety Action Plan in accordance with Safe Streets and Roads for All SS4A guidelines. The vendor cost proposals is within the amount budgeted for this project.

The SS4A Action Plan will be in accordance with the U. S. Department of Transportation guidelines:

- Safety Analysis
- Public Involvement
- Identification and analysis of underserved communities
- Assessment of current policies, guidelines and standards
- Identification and prioritization of projects and strategies
- Implementation and evaluation of quick-build pilot studies to inform action plan strategies.

To prepare the Safety Action Plan, the vendor shall perform the following tasks:

- Task 1 – Project Management
- Task 2 – Data Collection
- Task 3 – Safety Action Plan Development

RFP Advertisement and Receipt of Proposals:

RFP specifications were posted on the web pages of the Purchasing Division, the Georgia Procurement Registry and DemandStar on June 24, 2024. This RFP has been advertised, opened and evaluated. Seven proposals were received by the due date of July 19, 2024, from the following vendors:

Alfred Benesch & Company (Atlanta, GA)
Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc (Atlanta, GA)
Atlas Technical Consultants LLC (Duluth, GA)
Foresite Group (Peachtree Corners, GA)
Heath & Lineback Engineers, Inc (Marietta, GA)
Metro Analytics, LLC (Huntersville, NC)
WSB, LLC (Jacksonville, FL)

The following events took place after receipt of proposals:

RFP MEETINGS/EVENTS		
Description	Date	Agenda/Action
Pre-Evaluation Committee Meeting	09/03/24	The Purchasing Manager advised evaluation committee members of the RFP rules and process, and the project manager provided an overview of the contract requirements. Proposal copies were forwarded to the evaluation committee.
1 st Evaluation Committee Meeting	09/17/24	The committee discussed each proposal and determined clarifications were required from one vendor.
Clarifications Requested	09/20/24	The Purchasing Division requested clarification from one vendor.
Clarification Received	09/23/24	Clarification responses were received and forwarded to the evaluation committee for review, the committee did not require further clarifications.
Evaluation Forms Sent	10/10/24	Evaluation forms were forwarded to voting committee members.
Last Evaluation Received from Committee Member	11/02/24	Evaluation forms were completed and returned to Purchasing for compilation results.
2 nd Evaluation Committee Meeting	11/25/24	The committee met and discussed scores and comments
Recommendation	11/25/24	Four of the voting Committee Members voted for Benesch, the second highest-scoring firm and one voted for the highest-scoring firm Kimley-Horn.

Evaluation Committee:

The proposals were reviewed by the Evaluation Committee, which consisted of one voting member from the METRA/Transportation Department, two voting members from the Engineering Department and two voting members from the Planning Department.

Serving as an alternate voter was one representative from the Planning Department.

Serving as non-voting advisors were one representative from the Planning Department, one representative from the Engineering Department and one representative from the Columbus Police Department.

Recommendation Award:

Benesch, the second highest-firm, is recommended for award for the following reasons:

- Benesch is already part of the project team who is working on the Columbus-Phenix City 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Update and the 2024 Congestion Management Plan (CMP) Update.
- Benesch has 1100 employees/20 states and is a sub already working on Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)
- Benesch Stakeholder and Public Involvement Management is only handled by one person
- Benesch has done multiple vision zero and SS4A projects.

Vendor's Experience/Qualifications:

- **Alfred Benesch & Company**

- Vendor is a mid-size firm with over 70 years of experience enhancing infrastructure and communities across the country.
- Below are some recent projects for which the contractor has performed similar services, at the time the contractor submitted a proposal:
 - Sarasota/Manatee MPO
Benesh embarked on the development of the Destination Zero Safety Action Plan. Destination Zero and the Action Plan that supports its effort that goes beyond identifying strategies to eliminate traffic-related deaths and serious injury in that it focuses to also increase healthy and equitable mobility for all roadway users. Guided by a detailed analysis of the region's crash history, stakeholder and local agency partners, public feedback, and input from elected officials, the Destination Zero Action Plan identified strategic safety focus areas and established a set of implementable action strategies.
 - Ocala/Marion County TPO
Serving as a General Planning Consultant, Benesch led several task orders, including the Commitment to Zero Safety Action Plan. Safety has long been a priority of the Ocala Marion TPO and Commitment to Zero is the TPO's call to action to eliminate traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries. It also serves as the Safety Action Plan for this 385,000-person North-Central Florida community. The Action Plan strategies were developed and modeled on the Safe System approach, which acknowledges that traffic-related deaths and serious injuries are preventable and that system designers, operators and users have a shared responsibility to put safety first.
 - Hillsborough County TPO
The Hillsborough TPO along with its county and municipal partners adopted Vision Zero and a goal of achieving zero traffic deaths. Benesch evaluated two of the Top 20 High Injury Network corridors and identified a menu of implantable countermeasures focused on eliminating fatal crashes while also improving the overall safety, mobility and livability of the corridors. Benesch identified a range of improvement and planning-level cost estimates to aid in obtaining funding for implementation and facilitated coordination between transportation planning, engineering and law enforcement to ensure that safety is addressed from different aspects.

The City's Procurement Ordinance Article 3-110 (Competitive Sealed Proposals for the procurement of Equipment, Supplies and Professional Services) governs the RFP Process. During the RFP process, there is no formal opening due to the possibility of negotiated components of the proposal. In the event City Council does not approve the recommended offeror, no proposal responses or any negotiated components are made public until after the award of the contract. Therefore, the evaluation results and cost information have been submitted to the City Manager in a separate memo for informational purposes.

Funds are available in the FY25 Budget: Special Project-Capital Project Fund – Paving Fund Supported Capital Project – Professional Services – Federal Highway Administration Grant - Safe Streets for All; 0508-660-3000-CPPF-6311-24052-20250.

A RESOLUTION
NO. _____

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT WITH ALFRED BENESCH & COMPANY (ATLANTA, GA) TO SUPPORT THE CREATION OF A CITY-WIDE SAFETY ACTION PLAN IN ACCORDANCE WITH SAFE STREETS AND ROADS FOR ALL SS4A GUIDELINES. THE SS4A ACTION PLAN WILL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION GUIDELINES.

WHEREAS, an RFP was administered (RFP No. 24-0036) and 7 proposals were received; and,

WHEREAS, the proposal submitted by Alfred Benesch & Company met all proposal requirements and was deemed most responsive to the RFP.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

That the City Manager and/or his designee is hereby authorized to execute a contract with Alfred Benesch & Company (Atlanta, GA) to support the creation of a city-wide Safety Action Plan in accordance with Safe Streets and Roads for All SS4A guidelines. The SS4A Action Plan will be in accordance with the U.S. Department of Transportation guidelines. Funds are available in the FY25 Budget: Special Project-Capital Project Fund – Paving Fund Supported Capital Project – Professional Services – Federal Highway Administration Grant - Safe Streets for All; 0508-660-3000-CPPF-6311-24052-20250.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the ____ day of _____, 2024 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of members of said Council.

Councilor Allen	voting _____
Councilor Chambers	voting _____
Councilor Cogle	voting _____
Councilor Crabb	voting _____
Councilor Davis	voting _____
Councilor Garrett	voting _____
Councilor Hickey	voting _____
Councilor Huff	voting _____
Councilor Thomas	voting _____
Councilor Tucker	voting _____

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. “Skip” Henderson III, Mayor