



Request for Proposal/Qualifications

**Downtown
Streetscape Design
2023: Questions
& Responses**

*City of St. Joseph
700 Broad Street
St. Joseph, MI 49085*

Consultant Questions & City Responses

1. **Question:** Is there an expected budget for this work?

Response: There is no specific budget amount for this work at this time. The budget for this work – along with a number of other initiatives – is expected to come from a budget allocation to the DDA intended to implement recommendations coming out of the [Downtown Vision Master Plan](#).

2. **Question:** Is the City willing to provide a projected budget for this pursuit?

Response: There is no specific budget amount for this work at this time. The budget for this work – along with a number of other initiatives – is expected to come from a budget allocation to the DDA intended to implement recommendations coming out of the [Downtown Vision Master Plan](#).

3. **Question:** Is this effort grant funded? Are there fundraising efforts currently, or will be underway?

Response: There is currently no grant funding or fundraising planned for this effort. If consultants are aware of potential grant opportunities, they are encouraged to highlight them in their proposals or through the course of the engagement.

4. **Question:** How many hard copies does the City require for submission for this pursuit?

Response: The consultant should provide three hard copies of the final plan document in addition to a digital copy, all including relevant attachments and graphics.

5. **Question:** What is the current relationship of the city with MDOT?

Response: The City has a good relationship with MDOT.

6. **Question:** What is the nature of the future MDOT work? Can any additional detail be provided? (Reconstruction, noted within RFP)

Response: Managed by MDOT with input and financial participation from the City, this project will reconstruct Main Street and the utilities beneath it from the Main Street / Niles intersection to the Blossomland Bridge and Port and Ship Streets, from Main Street to the Bicentennial Bridge. The scope may also include Wayne Street between Ship and Port Streets.

7. **Question:** Are there other goals for Main Street? (ownership shift to the City, reconfiguration, etc.),

Response: Any additional scope is yet to be determined, but there is interest in improving pedestrian safety, improving the connections across the west and east sides of Main Street and allowing for nonmotorized transportation. More details – including recommendations related to medians, gateways, bump outs and more – can be found in the [Downtown Vision Master Plan](#).

8. **Question:** What specific scope items require: Economic Development and Marketing?

Response: The City of St. Joseph seeks to develop a Downtown Streetscape Design plan in order to improve St. Joseph’s downtown on a number of fronts. Among these is the goal of enhancing economic development, leading to more downtown visitors and shopping and business opportunities. There is no requirement to have economic development or marketing expertise on staff, but certainly looking at this work through the lens of economic development and marketing, among other factors, could be helpful.