



**Missouri's  
Local  
Program**  
*for community  
development*

## COVER SHEET

(This must accompany your firm's letter of interest and does not count in the page limit)

Firm's Full Legal  
Name:

**GFT Infrastructure, Inc.**

Firm Contact Name:

Deanne Winkelmann, AICP

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Kansas City, MO 64108

Work Category:

- Roadway Design
- Trails & Sidewalks
- Construction Inspection
- Traffic Engineering & TEAP
- Structures
- Environmental
- Historic Preservation
- Multimodal Planning / Systems and Facilities Design
- Transportation Planning – **NEW CATEGORY**

# Letter Of Interest



December 12, 2025

Missouri Department of Transportation  
LPAOnCall@modot.mo.gov

## Re: MoDOT 2026-2029 LPA On-Call Solicitation - Transportation Planning

Dear Selection Committee:

GFT would like to be considered for the 2026-2029 LPA on-call contract for Transportation Planning. We are committed to serving our clients and helping you “provide a world-class transportation system that is safe, innovative, reliable, and dedicated to serving customers for a prosperous Missouri” as we partner together for the next three years. We are prequalified with MoDOT, E-Verify, and LPA Basic Training.

### GENERAL EXPERIENCE OF FIRM

GFT has been in Missouri for nearly 60 years and is now one of the top engineering firms in the country, ranked #6 overall in Transportation and #8 in Missouri Design Firms in the Midwest by ENR for 2025. GFT has 130+ offices located across the nation. This allows our staff to bring decades of multiple state experience related to transportation planning, research, regulatory analysis, advanced mobility strategies, strategy development, and development of planning work products to MoDOT.

### PAST PERFORMANCE

#### Republic Transportation Master Plan | Republic, MO Funding: Local

Developed Republic’s first formal Transportation Master Plan to serve as a foundation and promotional tool for future transportation improvement projects. The **plan includes data collection, multimodal transportation system analysis, and public engagement** with recommendations for policies, programs, and projects to guide decision-making for road, sidewalk, and trail improvements.

#### Monett Transportation Improvement Plan and Sales Tax Initiative | Monett, MO Funding: Local

Developed a set of multimodal transportation improvement projects for the City of Monett. Three public engagements sessions and an online survey were held to obtain valuable feedback and build consensus around transportation priorities. The plan and voter education materials were used to support a sales tax initiative to enable the city to obtain funding and complete the transportation projects. The plan received the *Outstanding Project Award* from the APA-Missouri Chapter.

#### Southeast Kansas Safety Action Plan | Southeast Kansas Regional Planning Commission Funding: Federal & Local

Led the regional Safety Action Plan initiative including detailed crash analysis and community engagement to advance Vision Zero goals in the 12-county Southeast Kansas region. Individual **plans were developed for each county with safety projects specific to their jurisdiction as well as regional initiatives for a multi-county coalition approach**. The project was selected as the *2025 Impact Award* winner from the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO). The GFT team has also completed or is developing six other Safety Action Plans in Kansas.

#### Liberty Route 291 & Blue Jay Drive Improvements | Liberty, MO Funding: Federal, State, & Local

Developed an innovative way to leverage city funds by successfully obtaining state cost share funds to maximize pedestrian and safety improvements along this Route 291. **Traffic analysis, community engagement, and a comprehensive funding strategy were key components** to delivering sidewalk, intersection, and stormwater improvements along a growing corridor.

#### Joplin Area Bicycle & Pedestrian Transportation Plan | Joplin, MO Funding: Federal & Local

Developed an active transportation plan for the Joplin area that utilized a Complete Streets approach to emphasize safety and connectivity. The plan addressed the expansion of the on-road network through a combination of short-term road diet options and a long-term vision consisting of a bicycle loop and spine throughout the region. The off-road network was expanded through a combination of trail extensions and new rails-to-trails concepts.

# Letter Of Interest

## Emporia-Lyon County Comprehensive Plan | Emporia, KS **Funding: Local**

Developed the transportation and utility chapters for the Joint Comprehensive Plan. The process was a unique initiative in which both jurisdictions collaborated to develop policies and strategies to plan for economic, social, and environmental sustainability. The transportation chapter provided policy recommendations including road diet concepts, downtown multimodal improvements, priority sidewalk and trail connections to community parks, a loop system of on-street bicycle arterials, and a Quiet Zone through core neighborhoods. The utilities chapter focused on **providing cost-effective infrastructure improvements** while also preserving the rural character of the county by driving future growth in desired areas. The plan received the *Pioneer Award* from the American Planning Association - Kansas Chapter and the *Award of Excellence - Comprehensive Plan* from the American Planning Association - County Planning Division.

### Additional firm experience:

- Missouri State Freight & Rail Plans (MO)
- TxDOT Freight Resilience Project (TX)
- TxDOT Texas Triangle Strategic Mobility Plan (TX)
- Herculaneum Site Feasibility Analysis (MO)
- Platte City Highway 92 Corridor Plan (MO)
- Johnson County CNG Conversion Facility (KS)
- Regional Feasibility Studies for OATS, Inc. (MO)
- Re-Imagine 75th Street Corridor Design Guide (KS)

## Qualifications of Personnel



### Deanne Winkelmann, AICP

Deanne is a senior planner, project manager, and Midwest Planning Team Leader with 12 years of experience in both public and private sector planning. She is passionate about transportation and land use planning, particularly multimodal studies that involve vehicular, transit, rail, bicycle, and pedestrian transportation. She brings valuable skills in GIS analysis, communication and graphics, and public engagement strategies to support planning initiatives. Deanne's interdisciplinary approach to planning and design issues creates a bridge between the community and technical spheres such as engineering, planning, and urban design. She is also actively involved in industry organizations including the American Planning Association, Women in Transportation, and multidisciplinary Kansas City Center for Architecture & Design.



### Michelle Kratzer, PE, PTOE

Michelle is the Midwest Planning and Environmental Group Leader for GFT which includes Transportation Planning, Freight & Maritime Planning, Environmental, Program Management, and Grants. She brings more than 27 years of experience at MoDOT including more than ten years as the Multimodal Operations Director, nearly five years as the Assistant Motor Carrier Services Director, and was MoDOT's representative on the Transform Missouri Task Force. In these three positions, Michelle frequently had to analyze a multitude of statutes and regulations, both state and federal, to develop recommended plans of action. She directed development of three state Freight Plans, two state Rail Plans, and the statewide Aviation System Plan as extensions of the MoDOT LRTP. Michelle led her divisions to develop meaningful performance measures identifying critical issues from MoDOT's family of plans that could be impacted by her team's activities. Since joining GFT, she led regional freight studies in Florida and Indiana, as well as supporting statewide efforts in Kansas and Texas. She also successfully authored competitive grant applications for TxDOT. Michelle is a lead engineer for the MoDOT State Freight and Rail Plan including Long Range Transportation Plan statewide economic impact studies for passenger rail and public ports.



### Laurie Matkowski, PMP

Laurie is a trusted project manager with extensive experience in managing complex, multi-stakeholder, and public-facing projects related to emerging technologies. She is GFT's Planning Practice Leader, internationally recognized as a subject matter expert in comprehensive planning for technology, connected and automated vehicles (CAV), and Roadway Digital Infrastructure. She has over 28 years of experience, with most of her career spent in the public sector at a major metropolitan planning organization, working with the public on a regular basis. Laurie serves on several national boards, including ITS America. Her expertise includes planning for operations and "corridors of the future" in the areas of CAV, transportation systems management and operations (TSMO), traffic and transportation engineering, multimodal connections, electric vehicle implications, intelligent transportation systems (ITS), traffic incident management (TIM), freight, policy, workforce development, and AI integration.

# Letter Of Interest



## **Barb Frost, PE**

As a multimodal transportation planning engineer, Barb has conducted a variety of qualitative and quantitative analyses for transportation alternatives comparisons, corridor studies, regional growth management planning, inland port feasibility studies, and numerous transportation research efforts. She also brings comprehensive experience with transportation project prioritization and program management at the statewide and regional level. In her over 30 year career, Barb has also assisted clients with federal funding applications.



## **Nicole Hood, PE**

Nicole joined GFT after 29 years with MoDOT, most recently serving as the State Highway Safety and Traffic Engineer. Nicole's experience includes traffic operations, highway safety, program delivery, design, and planning. Her focus on safety shows through her leadership on initiatives she led while at MoDOT such as the Safety Response Team for Work Zone and Highway Safety priorities. As a vital contributor to the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), she delivered over 75 STIP commitments totaling \$126 million as a project manager.



## **Andrew Young, AICP**

Andrew has been a member of the GFT Planning Team for over eight years and has supported a variety of multimodal transportation projects in Missouri. Andrew is driven by his zeal for equitable planning, particularly environmentally conscious initiatives. From citywide comprehensive plans to detailed corridor studies, Andrew brings valuable skills in GIS analysis, professional writing, and public engagement strategies to support planning initiatives.



## **Lisa Koch**

Lisa leads GFT's Grants Practice with over 20 years of experience across nonprofit, government, university, and private sectors. She has successfully secured and managed grants from USDOT, HUD, HHS, NSF, DOE, DOJ, FEMA, various state programs, and private foundations. In addition to her grant expertise, Lisa is a seasoned transportation project manager with deep knowledge of the full project lifecycle, covering transit, rail, NEPA, funding, asset management, compliance, safety, planning, and community development—bringing valuable insight into aligning projects with federal aid requirements.

## **Familiarity/Capability**

Our team brings unmatched familiarity and capability in delivering federally funded projects. Several senior staff members previously served at MoDOT, giving us firsthand insight into client-side processes and expectations. We have extensive experience navigating federal requirements, including successful administration of FHWA, FRA, and FTA programs. We also have a funding strategy team to provide our clients expert guidance on securing and managing federal dollars, including compliance and optimization of resources. We stay current with regulatory updates and guidance publications to apply the most up-to-date practices. Our staff is fully versed in MoDOT standards, documentation processes, and software, and certified in the LPA process. Additionally, we maintain deep expertise in design and regulatory requirements outlined in the EPG, AREMA, MUTCD, and USDOT standards helping our clients deliver projects efficiently and in full compliance.

## **Accessibility**

GFT serves the entire state of Missouri anchored by our two offices in Kansas City and St. Louis. Our Transportation Planning group also has staff located in mid-Missouri that can easily deploy to other communities across the state. We frequently blend in-person, hybrid, and virtual methods to engage with clients and communities. Our team is available to our clients 24/7 to meet your needs and identify feasible options for consideration. With a depth of more than 5,500 employees - including over 200 transportation planning professionals across the company - we mobilize rapidly to serve our clients. Our key staff in Missouri routinely works on on-call contracts that require responsiveness and close client coordination. Projects include the KDOT Transit Program Administration, MoDOT and TxDOT Section 130 Rail Grade Crossing Safety Program, BNSF Discretionary Grant Services, and St. Louis Regional Freightway On-Call Services. We pride ourselves in being trusted advisors to our clients and working towards solutions that meet community goals and needs.



Transportation  
Water  
Power

► WHO WE ARE

## Ingenuity That Shapes Lives™

Buildings  
Construction

Essential infrastructure touches all of our lives – so how can we shape it for the better? At GFT, a privately held AEC firm, we innovate where transportation, water, power, and buildings converge. **We call this the Infrastructure of Life.**

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We measure our success by the strength of our relationships – that’s why we’re the employer of choice for 5,500+ of the industry’s brightest engineers, planners, architects, inspectors, designers, construction managers, and more.

Our clients choose us for our expertise and prefer us for our nimble approach, creativity, and personal touch. Backed by over a century’s experience, together, we’re building a world where infrastructure creates well-being and opportunities for everyone.



**Client  
satisfaction  
ratings over**

**90%**

when surveyed



➤ OUR MARKETS

# Infrastructure of Life

Our team of experts design, engineer, and construct resilient, creative solutions that uplift communities across North America.

Through technical excellence and enduring client relationships, we create better access and opportunities for people every day.

- Transportation
- Water Resources
- Power
- Education
- Federal
- Life Sciences
- Civic
- Industrial

## Engineering News-Record Annual Rankings

- #6 Transportation
- #8 Mass Transit and Rail\*
- #10 Pure Designers
- #6 Bridges
- #9 Dams and Reservoirs
- #22 Education
- #8 Highways
- #14 Water Treatment, Desalination Plants
- #16 Water Supply
- #18 Top 500 Design Firms
- #40 Designers in International Markets



**5,500+**  
dedicated professionals



**110+**  
year history of ingenuity



**130+**  
offices across North America



# Transportation

GFT has partnered with clients to improve how people and goods move across today's connected transportation networks. We provide consulting, engineering, and architecture solutions that balance innovation with practicality, focused on delivering systems that work for the people who rely on them every day. Our 5,500 professionals in more than 130 offices across the U.S. offer a full range of advisory, planning, design, and construction management services. We take a collaborative, hands-on approach that helps clients address complex transportation challenges with clarity and confidence. As a single source for integrated transportation solutions, GFT supports every stage of project delivery. From early planning through construction, our award-winning planners, architects, engineers, and construction managers guide each effort with technical excellence and a personal commitment to quality.

## Transportation Capabilities

GFT's transportation professionals bring deep experience supporting agencies, cities, and states as they enhance mobility, safety, and resilience. We help clients tackle complex transportation and infrastructure challenges through data-driven, people-focused solutions. Our expertise spans nearly every mode and phase of transportation, from planning and grant management to design, construction, and program delivery. We work closely with clients to define challenges, deliver results, and bring their vision to life.

## OUR SERVICES

▶ **TRANSIT & RAIL PLANNING**

▶ **TRAFFIC ENGINEERING & OPERATIONS**

▶ **BRIDGE DESIGN & INSPECTION**

▶ **ROADWAY & CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS**

▶ **MULTIMODAL PLANNING & DESIGN**

▶ **ENVIRONMENTAL & RESILIENCY SERVICES**

▶ **GRANT & COMPLIANCE SUPPORT**

We bring together more than just planners. We are also engineers, architects, designers, writers, technologists, environmental scientists, economists, and more. Our clients value the variety of expertise we bring to the planning process – integrated all under one roof. The result is more effective collaboration, innovation, and planning solutions so the dividends of your investments can be enjoyed for many years to come.



### Comprehensive Transportation Planning Solutions Include:

- Advanced mobility solutions
- Alternatives analysis
- Bicycle/pedestrian
- Corridor studies
- Data collection & visualization
- Feasibility studies
- GIS & mapping
- Grant writing
- Inland port planning
- Land use & site planning
- Master & long-range planning
- Model development & visualizations
- Multi-modal & complete streets
- NEPA & environmental studies
- Performance management
- Public involvement & stakeholder engagement
- Transit & rail planning
- Transit-oriented development & station planning
- Travel demand forecasting
- Urban planning & design



# Construction Services

GFT has partnered with clients to improve how people and goods move across today's connected transportation networks. We provide consulting, engineering, and architecture solutions that balance innovation with practicality, focused on delivering systems that work for the people who rely on them every day. Our 5,500 professionals in more than 130 offices across the U.S. offer a full range of advisory, planning, design, and construction management services. We take a collaborative, hands-on approach that helps clients address complex transportation challenges with clarity and confidence. As a single source for integrated transportation solutions, GFT supports every stage of project delivery. From early planning through construction, our award-winning planners, architects, engineers, and construction managers guide each effort with technical excellence and a personal commitment to quality.

## Construction Services Capabilities

At GFT, our construction professionals turn plans into lasting infrastructure. We work alongside agencies, owners, and contractors to deliver projects that improve safety, mobility, and quality of life. From inspection and field services to program management and project controls, we bring practical insight and technical precision to every assignment. Our people-first approach builds trust and drives performance, helping clients complete complex projects efficiently and confidently. Backed by many years of experience, we're proud to shape the places and systems that keep communities thriving.

### Driving Project Success

**End-to-End  
Construction Oversight**

**Streamlined  
Project Delivery**

**Reliable Cost, Schedule,  
& Quality Management**

**Skilled Field Teams  
for On-site Execution**

## OUR SERVICES

▶ **CONSTRUCTION  
MANAGEMENT**

▶ **CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING  
& INSPECTION**

▶ **PROGRAM MANAGEMENT**

▶ **PROJECT CONTROLS**

▶ **FIELD SERVICES**

▶ **SAFETY OVERSIGHT**

▶ **QUALITY ASSURANCE/  
QUALITY CONTROL**



*MoDOT Route 30 CEI - St. Louis County, MO*



*MoDOT CEI Bundle in Clay County, I-435 - Clay County, MO*