



**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:

Kelsey Kropp

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Address:

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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**

December 12, 2025

Missouri Department of Transportation  
LPAOnCall@modot.mo.gov

## RE: MoDOT 2026-2029 LPA On-Call Solicitation - Environmental

Dear Selection Committee Members,

GFT would like to be considered for the 2026-2029 LPA on-call contract for Environmental services. We are committed to serving Missouri communities to “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, financial, and LPA Basic Training.

### General Experience of Firm

GFT is one of the top engineering firms in the country, ranked #6 overall in Transportation and #8 Top Design Firms in Missouri by ENR in 2025. Our staff have decades of experience securing NEPA clearance for the evaluation, design, and rehabilitation of intersections, bridges, highways, interchanges, and ADA facilities. GFT has provided NEPA services to our clients for more than 30 years. These include all required NEPA analysis with field services including wetlands, streams, and hazardous waste, along with public engagement support.

### Past Performance

#### I-35 & 19th Street Interchange | Kearney, MO Funding: State & Local

This project involved a Categorical Exclusion (CE) Level 2 under the direction of MoDOT, including an evaluation of the standard categories required for a CE2. GFT completed a delineation for waters of the US, site reviews and analysis for threatened and endangered species, Phase I cultural resource survey, a noise study, socioeconomic impacts, farmland conversion, and standard CE2 documentation, including authoring of memos/reports. This project required coordination with the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Missouri State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO), Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The proposed diamond interchanges required investigation of all four quadrants for above and below ground resources.



#### Pryor Road Widening | Lee’s Summit, MO Funding: Federal & Local



This project improved Pryor Road from Hook Road to Longview Road. The road design widened Pryor Road to four lanes with a raised median. Lane configurations were evaluated at the major intersections along the corridor and updated accordingly, resulting in one displacement and several partial acquisitions of right of way. The work was done in accordance with MoDOT LPA Manual standards for projects potentially receiving federal funding; therefore, NEPA approval was required. GFT coordinated the process with MoDOT and the City of Lee’s Summit. Specific NEPA evaluations included historic/cultural resources, delineation for waters of the US, threatened and endangered species evaluations

with coordination for protected bat habitat, and a noise study. Clearances/permits were coordinated with SHPO, MDNR, USFWS, and USACE. The CE2 and all analysis, including fieldwork, were performed in-house by GFT environmental staff.

#### TRRA Merchants Bridge Replacement | St. Louis, MO Funding: Federal & Private

The Terminal Railroad Association of St Louis (TRRA) project involved the replacement of the Merchants Bridge Mississippi River span trusses, including seismic pier rehabilitation, and improvement of the east approach span. GFT led the design and environmental services through construction completion including NEPA documentation, permitting, and compliance. NEPA documentation included a CE [Lead agencies: Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and US Coast Guard (USCG)] and subsequent CE re-examination (Lead: USCG); Environmental Assessment (Lead: USACE) at the request of the Emergency Management Branch. The environmental tasks for this complex, bi-state project included fieldwork and investigations; preparing NEPA documentation; and coordination with review agencies at the local, state, and federal level. GFT obtained no-rise certification due to development in the floodway.

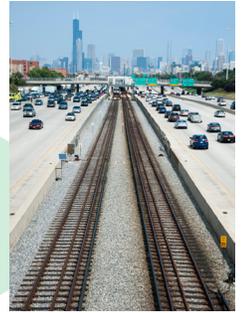


Support included Section 404 and 408 permits. Due to historic significance this required additional coordination culminating in a Memorandum of Agreement amongst the USCG (lead agency), SHPO (both MO & IL), FRA (potential funding entity) and the owner, TRRA. Project coordination also included Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Missouri and Illinois Departments of Natural Resources, Metropolitan Sewer District of St. Louis, Metro East Sewer District, the cities of St. Louis (MO), and Venice (IL), Madison County Transit and Great Rivers Greenway.

# Letter Of Interest

## CTA Red Line Extension | Chicago, IL Funding: Federal

The Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) is extending the Red Line from the existing terminal at 95th/Dan Ryan (the current end of the line) south to 130th Street. The 5.6-mile extension will include four new stations near 103rd Street, 111th Street, Michigan Avenue, and 130th Street, opening important transportation options for an area underserved by transit. GFT prepared and received approval for two significant NEPA documents by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) – Supplemental EA and the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)/Record of Decision (ROD). Environmental resource issues and concerns involved: coordination of impacts to a wetland mitigation site and an approved jurisdictional determination with the USACE, greenfield development, property acquisition and associated hazardous materials investigations (Phase I and II ESA investigations), adjacent historic district designation of Altgeld Gardens concurrent with NEPA documentation, requiring Section 106 coordination that resulted in a No Adverse Effects determination, completing Section 4(f) coordination culminating in a de minimis finding for Fernwood Parkway and a temporary use consideration for Wendell Smith Park. Received the *Award in Excellence in Environmental Documentation* from FTA.



## Qualifications of Personnel



**Barb Frost, PE** | Project Manager/Senior NEPA Specialist – Barb’s 30 years of experience in writing and reviewing alternative analyses and NEPA documents for highway, transit, and railroad projects enables her to guide clients through the NEPA process with ease. She also facilitates public involvement and the acquisition of the corresponding permits. She has comprehensive experience with transportation project prioritization through planning and program management (statewide and regionally). Barb has provided sound, defensible NEPA documentation to maintain project eligibility for federal funding sources while promoting project readiness to demonstrate the project sponsor’s ability to implement when funding becomes available. Her value has been proven by a track record of expedited federal approvals and her service to state and federal agencies as a trusted extension of their own staff. Her Missouri NEPA projects include: [I-35 & 19th Street Interchange](#), [Pryor Road Widening](#), [MoDOT/UPRR Second Main Line \(High Speed Rail\)](#), [TRRA Merchants Bridge Replacement](#), and [St. Louis Regional Bi-State Port Improvement Projects](#). She also led the [CTA Red Line FEIS/ROD](#) (approval in 2022). Barb is a NEPA subject matter expert reviewing documentation on behalf of the FRA for GFT’ [FRA Monitoring and Technical Support contracts](#).



**Grace Dysico, PE** | Senior NEPA Specialist – Grace has over 37 years of experience in management of projects and preparation of EISs, EAs, and CEs. She offers extensive knowledge and experience in transportation projects including major interchanges, roadway, railroad, high-speed rail, transit, bikeway, and pedestrian improvements. Grace is well versed in the NEPA process. She is also well versed in Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) and has led public involvement and outreach activities as a meeting facilitator and consensus builder. Her NEPA projects include: [North Aurora Road \(CE\)](#), [Jane Byrne Interchange \(EA\)](#), [FRA Monitoring and Technical Support contracts](#), and [CTA Red Line Extension](#).



**Lynne Marie Whatley, AICP** | Senior NEPA Specialist – Lynne Marie serves as a senior project manager with 30 years of experience in transportation and land use planning, NEPA, community impacts, training, and public participation. Her primary area of responsibility is to provide professional expertise on a variety of the firm’s transportation and environmental projects. Her NEPA projects include: [FRA Monitoring and Technical Support contracts](#) and [CTA Red Line Extension](#).



**Kelsey Kropp** | Environmental Scientist/NEPA Author – Kelsey has 20 years of experience in the natural resources field in both the public and private sector. His specialties include environmental site analysis and permitting focused on linear transportation projects throughout the Midwest. His current scope of project work involves NEPA document production, wetland delineation and permitting, traffic noise impact analysis, environmental site assessments, technical reviews, and storm water pollution prevention plans. He provides a breadth of environmental experience crucial to navigating the regulatory processes. His NEPA projects include: [I-35 & 19th Street Interchange](#), [Pryor Road Widening](#), [I-35 & Highway 152 Kansas Street and Route 291 Interchange and Roadway Upgrades](#), [TRRA Merchants Bridge Replacement](#), and [CTA Red Line Extension](#).



**Michael Christianson** | Environmental Scientist - Michael has six years of environmental regulatory experience. He provides guidance in the requirements of Sections 404/401 of the Clean Water Act, biological resources, and other environmental permitting. He regularly performs wetland delineations and assists clients during the regulatory permitting process. Routine work includes Sections 404/402/401 documentation development and habitat assessment. His professional experience has spanned both public and private sectors, focused on regulatory oversight. His current scope of project work involves NEPA document production, wetland delineation with permitting, and habitat assessments. His recent project experience includes: [Pryor Road Widening](#), [NDOT I-80: Newberry Interchange to US-30](#), and [Kearney 19th St: Nation Rd to Rte 33](#).

# Letter Of Interest

## Familiarity/Capability

Our staff is familiar with MoDOT environmental procedures as well as MoDOT’s LPA standards, documentation, and process. We are familiar with MoDOT’s EPG, LPA Manual, and federal requirements for obtaining environmental clearance to satisfy NEPA, including all the human and natural resource-specific analytical requirements. We routinely work with other state regulatory agencies to gain approvals and concurrences necessary to advance projects. Our team of NEPA specialists stay up to date on changes in Missouri, neighboring states and beyond in the federal code and the fluctuations in the regulatory environment (e.g., Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act). With decades of experience working across the Midwest, our team has a solid understanding and a depth of knowledge of the environmental issues and constraints across Missouri.

## Accessibility

Missouri communities are a central focus for GFT, particularly for our Kansas City and St. Louis offices. Our project managers collaborate closely with LPA project managers across Missouri to address challenges as they arise with timely strategies and solutions. In NEPA-driven efforts, public comments can introduce complex issues late in the process; however, GFT’s environmental staff is well prepared to navigate these situations. For example, on the I-35 & 19th Interchange project, GFT’s team developed a detailed, defensible response to public comment critical of the project, allowing the NEPA process to advance without delay. In addition to the standard submittals, the team also met with agencies on site to facilitate the consultation process, obtaining timely authorization and concurrences.

	ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS / IMPACTS ASSESSMENT	NEPA DOCUMENTS (EIS, EA, CE/CATEX)	ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (EJ)	LAND USE & SOCIOECONOMICS	PERMITTING (USACE, USCG, EPA, DNR)	PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT	SECTION 7 (THREATENED & ENDANGERED)/(T&E)	SECTION 4(f) / 6(f) (PARKS, RECREATION, HISTORIC)	SECTION 106 (SHPO & THPO/TRIBES)	ARCHAEOLOGICAL / HISTORIC / ARCHITECTURAL	ECOLOGICAL SURVEYS (T&E, HABITAT, TREES)	NOISE & VIBRATION ANALYSIS	ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENTS (ESAs - PHASE 1 & II)	WETLAND DELINEATIONS	LEAD AND/OR ASBESTOS	COMPLIANCE MONITORING	USDOT EXPERIENCE: FHWA / FRA / FTA / FAA / and/or MARAD
NAME	PROCESS NAVIGATION & DOCUMENTATION									FIELDWORK & TECHNICAL REPORTS							
Lynne Marie Whately, AICP	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X								X
Rebecca Valdez, QSP	X	X	X	X	X		X		X		X					X	X
Sarah Frost, AICP	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X								X
Kelsey Kropp	X	X	X	X	X		X		X		X	X	X	X		X	X
Deanne Winkelmann, AICP	X	X	X	X		X	X		X				X				X
Mike Christianson		X			X		X				X	X	X	X		X	X
Andrew Young	X	X	X	X		X		X									X
Grace Dysico, PE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X								X
Barb Frost, PE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X								X
Brian Metz, CP	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X		X	X	X	X	X
Amber Taylor, RPA	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X		X	X			X	X
Jessica Deeds	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Jen Spinosi, GISP	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X							X
Brian Holman, PE	X	X				X		X				X					X



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, and 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

# GFT

## 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.

At GFT, we leverage science, engineering, technology, and innovation to create resilient and sustainable solutions for today's environmental issues.

Our team is dedicated to preserving natural ecosystems, solving problems in natural and built environments, and assisting clients with compliance, investigation, and remediation for human and environmental health and safety.

Read on to discover how our engineers, scientists, and planners provide comprehensive environmental and regulatory solutions to ensure a vibrant future for our communities.

### OUR SERVICES

▶ **TRANSIT & RAIL PLANNING**

▶ **TRAFFIC ENGINEERING & OPERATIONS**

▶ **BRIDGE DESIGN & INSPECTION**

▶ **ROADWAY & CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS**

▶ **MULTIMODAL PLANNING & DESIGN**

▶ **ENVIRONMENTAL & RESILIENCY SERVICES**

▶ **GRANT & COMPLIANCE SUPPORT**



### Comprehensive Environmental & Regulatory Services Include:

- Environmental impact analysis
- Ecosystems restoration
- Natural resources and permitting
- Economic analysis
- Social and community analysis
- Acoustics, noise and vibration
- Regulatory compliance, investigation and remediation
- Public outreach and engagement



# 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