Response to submitted questions   **12/08/2020**
Repeated questions have been consolidated.

What is the City of Opelika's anticipated budget for consultant services based on the anticipated 12-15 month project timeline?

The City of Opelika always takes steps to ensure that we are good stewards of public funds.   We have budgeted up to $200,000 for the plan. We are willing to look at some additional funding if specific needs or specialized requests are identified.

Has the City undertaken any specific retail market studies (like a gap analysis), a housing study, industrial development projections or planning, or economic development planning, etc.?

Will the City want populations projections developed or any retail or other in-depth economic development analysis performed?

The City has not recently performed any major market or economic analysis. The City does work with a retail strategy group to look at some potential needs and trends.

The City has recently seen a significant growth in housing, especially in single-family housing and some medium density housing types (townhouse, cottages and duplex). Future housing needs and strategies would be area of interest.   Additionally, some general population projects would be a desired goal. We do not anticipate the need for population to be broken down by census block or other small unit.

The City is finalizing a Bicycle and Pedestrian Masterplan that has an expected approval date in early 2021.   The City is also part of the Auburn-Opelika Metropolitan Planning Organization which recently approved its 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan.

Given recommendations to minimize human contact due to COVID-19, would the City consider accepting electronic submissions for RFQ #21004 (New Comprehensive Plan) to reduce risk to the team required to print the proposal, delivery professionals, and the City staff?

At this time, the City would still like to receive printed documents as specified in the RFQ. Samples and work products noted in Tab 4 may be submitted electronically.