

## GATEway Grant Program– Project Description Example



### Project Description:

Echo City is working together through a series of 4 meetings with the surrounding businesses and residential communities to provide enhancement to the proposed project area. Currently, the area is untended and has grown up in weeds and volunteer tree seedlings, creating a messy look to what is considered the gateway to the Echo City community.

As you can see from the conceptual plan, the goal is to eliminate the existing weeds and brambles, prepare a smooth planting surface, and add a simple line of 11 large canopy shade trees under-planted with a vigorous mass of native understory shrubs of two types, tightly spaced to deter additional weed growth from the mulched beds. Additional seasonal color will be added twice a year in front of the shrub mass at the City's expense. The simplicity of the design is essential to the City's goal of providing a clean, well-maintained welcome mat for travelers arriving by way of the interstate.

Since the proposed project is within the interstate quadrants at Exit 47 of I - 85, the single line of trees along the ramp area are proposed at least 42 feet from the edge of the road to meet the horizontal clearance minimums required by the GDOT. The speed limit in the area is 70 MPH. The concentration of plant material is focused on the two southern quadrants of the interchange since the majority of visitors enter Echo City from that side.

Once approved through a Special Encroachment permit, the city crews will work with guidance from our local landscape construction company, Echo Landscapes, Inc. , to install container plants and trees and sod the area immediately surrounding the plant beds. The itemized cost estimate is included in the application package.

Our local newspaper has agreed to chronicle the project's process through all phases with photos and narratives.

The City has budgeted an additional annual amount of \$ 3,000 per year to provide monthly weeding and litter pickup as well as mowing during the growing season. The health and maintenance of the installed landscape will be monitored by city crews as they perform monthly tasks.