

Posting Date: April 1, 2026

Request for Proposals Notification

Title: City of Elkhart **High Dive Park to Walker Park Multiuse Path (Baldwin Street and Bristol Street)** Bicycle/Pedestrian Facility (Des # 2500471) in the Fort Wayne District.

Response Due Date & Time: May 15, 2026 at 4:00 PM Local Elkhart Time

This Request for Proposals (RFP) is official notification of needed professional services. This RFP is being issued to solicit a letter of Interest (LOI) and other documents from firms qualified to perform engineering work on federal aid projects. A submittal does not guarantee the firm will be contracted to perform any services but only serves notice the firm desires to be considered.

Contact for Questions: Jeffrey Schaffer, City Engineer (ERC)
1201 S. Nappanee St.
Elkhart, Indiana 46516
(574) 293-2572
jeff.schaffer@cityofelkhartin.gov

Submittal Requirements:

- 1. Letter of Interest – 0 Copies (required content and instructions follow) sent through the U.S. Mail;

OR

- Letter of Interest – submitted electronically (pdf) to **Jeffrey Schaffer, City Engineer** at email address **jeff.schaffer@cityofelkhartin.gov**.

AND

- 2. One (1) signed Affirmative Action Certification and associated required documents for all items if the DBE goal is greater than 0% sent through the U.S. Mail;

OR

- N/A One (1) signed Affirmative Action Certification and associated required documents for all items if the DBE goal is greater than 0% sent electronically (pdf) to **N/A** at email address **N/A**.

Submit To: Jeffrey Schaffer, City Engineer (ERC)
1201 S. Nappanee St.
Elkhart, Indiana 46516
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jeff.schaffer@cityofelkhartin.gov

Selection Procedures:

Consultants will be selected for work further described herein, based on the evaluation of the Letter of Interest (LOI) and other required documents. The Consultant Selection Rating Form used to evaluate and score the submittals is included for your reference. Final selection ranking will be determined by:

- The weighted score totals with the highest score being the top ranked firm
- Rank totals with the lowest rank total being the top ranked firm

Requirements for Letters of Interest (LOI)

A. General instructions for preparing and submitting a Letter of Interest (LOI).

1. Provide the information, as stated in Item B below, in the same order listed and signed by an officer of the firm. Signed and scanned documents, or electronically applied signatures are acceptable. Do not send additional forms, resumes, brochures, or other material unless otherwise noted in the item description.
2. LOI's shall be limited to twelve (12) 8½" x 11" pages that include Identification, Qualifications, Key Staff, and Project Approach.
3. LOI's must be received no later than the "Response Due Date and Time"; as shown in the RFP header above. Responses received after this deadline will not be considered. Submittals must include all required attachments to be considered for selection.

B. Letter of Interest Content

1. Identification, Qualifications and Key Staff

- a. Provide the firm name, address of the responsible office from which the work will be performed, and the name and email address of the contact person authorized to negotiate for the associated work.
- b. List all proposed sub consultants, their DBE status, and the percentage of work to be performed by the prime consultant and each sub consultant. (See Affirmative Action Certification requirements below.) A listing of certified DBE's eligible to be considered for selection as prime consultants or sub-consultants for this RFP can be found at the "Prequalified Consultants" link on the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) Consultants Webpage. (<https://www.in.gov/indot/doing-business-with-indot/consultants/consultants-prequalification/>).
- c. List the Project Manager and other key staff members, including key sub consultant staff, and the percent of time the project manager will be committed for the contract, if selected. Include project engineers for important disciplines and staff members responsible for the work. Address the experience of the key staff members on similar projects and the staff qualifications relative to the required item qualifications.

- d. Describe the capacity of consultant staff and their ability to perform the work in a timely manner relative to present workload.
2. Project Approach
- a. Provide a description of your project approach relative to the advertised services. For project specific items confirm the firm has visited the project site. For all items address your firm's technical understanding of the project or services, cost containment practices, innovative ideas and any other relevant information concerning your firm's qualifications for the project.
 - b. This project will require the acquisition of approximately eighty (80) parcels. Provide a specific description of your approach for Project Management for Acquisition Services, including cooperation between the project team, update meetings with City staff, procedures to maintain the project schedule, and coordination with in-house City legal services when required.

Requirements for Affirmative Action Certification

A completed Affirmative Action Certification form is required for all items that identify a DBE goal greater than "0", in order to be considered for selection. The consultant must identify the DBE firms with which it intends to subcontract.

On the Affirmative Action Certification, include the contract participation percentage of each DBE and list what the DBE will be subcontracted to perform.

If the consultant does not meet the DBE goal, the consultant must provide documentation in additional pages after the form that evidences that it made good faith efforts to achieve the DBE goal.

All DBE subcontracting goals apply to all prime submitting consultants regardless of the prime's status of DBE.

INDOT DBE Reciprocity Agreement with KYTC

An Agreement between INDOT and the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) established reciprocal acceptance of certification of DBE firms in their respective states under the Unified Certification Program (UCP) pursuant to 49 CFR 26.81(e) and (f).

Copies of the DBE certifications, as issued by INDOT or the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC), are to be included as additional pages after the AAC form for each firm listed on the AAC form. The following are DBE Locator Directories for each State Transportation Agency:

INDOT: <https://entapps.indot.in.gov/DBELocator/>

KYTC: <https://transportation.ky.gov/Civil-Rights-and-Small-Business-Development/Pages/Certified-DBE-Directory.aspx>

Information about the Indiana DBE Program is available at:
[**INDOT: Doing Business with INDOT: Business Opportunity Initiative Division.**](#)

Information about the KYTC DBE Program is available at:
[**Kentucky Transportation Cabinet.**](#)

Work item details:

Local Public Agency: City of Elkhart

Project Location: Baldwin Street, from High Dive Park (Columbian Avenue) to Bristol Street; Bristol Street, from Johnson Street to Baldwin Street; and Bristol Street, from Baldwin Street to Walker Park (Marguerite Avenue)

Project Description: The proposed project will include preliminary engineering and right-of-way services for a new multiuse path (bicycle/pedestrian facility) from High Dive Park to Walker Park along Baldwin Street and Bristol Street, as described in the Project Location. The proposed project also includes a sidewalk along the south side of Bristol Street, between Johnson Street and Baldwin Street. As part of Right-of-Way Services, approximately eighty (80) parcels must be acquired.

INDOT Des #: 2500471

Phases Included: PE, RW

Estimated Construction Amount: \$3,954,000

Funding: 80% Federal Funds, 20% Local Funds

Term of Contract: Until Project Completion

DBE goal: 0%

Required Prequalification Categories:

- 5.2 Environmental Document Preparation – CE
- 6.1 Topographical Survey Data Collection
- 8.1 Non-Complex Roadway Design
- 9.1 Level 1 Bridge Design
- 11.1 Right of Way Plan Development
- Additional Categories Listed Below
- 12.1 Project Management for Acquisition Services
- 12.2 Title Search
- 12.4 Appraisal
- 12.5 Appraisal Review
- 13.1 Construction Inspection

[Click here to enter Additional Categories](#)

LPA Consultant Selection Rating Sheet

Sample:

RFP Selection Rating for:	Des. No.
(City, County, Town) or (Local Public Agency)	
Services Description:	
Consultant Name:	

Evaluation Criteria to be Rated by Scorers					
Category	Scoring Criteria	Scale	Score	Weight	Weighted
Past Performance	Performance evaluation score averages from historical performance data.				
	Quality score for similar work from performance database.			6	
	Schedule score from performance database.			3	
	Responsiveness score from performance database.			1	
Capacity of Team to do Work	Evaluation of the team's personnel and equipment to perform the project on time.				
	Availability of more than adequate capacity that results in added value.	1		20	
	Adequate capacity to meet the schedule.	0			
Insufficient available capacity to meet the schedule.	-1				
Team's Demonstrated Qualifications	Technical Expertise: Unique Resources that yield a relevant added value or efficiency				
	Demonstrated outstanding expertise and resources identified	2		15	
	Demonstrated high level of expertise and resources identified	1			
	Expertise and resources at appropriate level.	0			
Insufficient expertise and/or resources.	-3				
Project Manager	Predicted ability to manage the project, based on: experience in size, complexity.				
	Demonstrated outstanding experience in similar type and complexity.	2		20	
	Demonstrated high level of experience in similar type and complexity.	1			
	Experience in similar type and complexity shown in resume.	0			
	Experience in different type or lower complexity.	-1			
Insufficient experience.	-3				
Approach to Project	Project Understanding and Innovation that provides cost and/or time savings.				
	High level of understanding and viable innovative ideas proposed.	2		15	
	High level of understanding of the project.	1			
	Basic understanding of the project.	0			
Lack of project understanding.	-3				
Weighted Sub-Total:					

It is the responsibility of scorers to make every effort to identify the firm most capable of producing the highest deliverables in a timely and cost effective manner without regard to personal preference.

I certify that I do not have any conflicts of interest associated with this consultant.

I have thoroughly reviewed the letter of interest for this consultant and certify that the above scores represent my best judgment of this firm's abilities.

Signature: _____	Print Name: _____
Title: _____	Date: _____
(Form Rev. 1/27/2023)	