

**NOTICE TO CONSULTANT ENGINEERS
REGARDING A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

**July 28, 2026
(Alternative Delivery Division)**

The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) seeks to retain the services of professional engineering consulting firms to provide expertise in **construction, engineering, and inspection (CEI) services** as described below. The method of payment shall be **cost plus fixed fee**. Fixed fee is calculated using the following formula: Fixed fee = (Direct salary + Overhead based on the most recently approved field and/or office indirect cost rate) x (fixed fee rate as determined by the Fixed Fee Calculator). Payment of the fixed fee will be based on the actual labor costs rather than the estimated labor costs used for the basis of the agreement.

Items may be withdrawn if anticipated funding does not become available.

Item No. 1

Project Description and Location:

Provide **project specific CEI** services I-40 Truck Parking and Bridges Replacement over the Caney Fork River (PIN 131552.01), Smith, Putnam County.

Schedule

Execution of the Design-Build contract took place on February 17, 2026. Construction is expected to begin in November 2026, and the completion date is estimated to be May 21, 2029. CEI services will begin in a limited capacity during the pre-construction phase, transition to full support at the start of construction, continue throughout the entire construction period, and extend through project close-out and the final records phases. The selected CEI firm must submit all documentation to final records within one (1) month of the date that the completion notice is issued to the highway contractor. The selected CEI firm must complete all corrections needed by regional final records and regional materials and tests within six (6) weeks after request.

Construction costs will be around **\$76,000,000**. This project is funded with state and federal funds.

Scope of Services:

Shall include but not be limited to construction engineering, inspection, surveying, and materials testing.

When applicable in the scope of services, a consultant may assist in evaluating certain goods and services and making recommendations to the State under the services provided. Under no circumstances may a professional services contract be utilized to procure goods, services, or assets for use by the State that are not project related and/or required for the performance of engineering and design related services, including software and hardware.

When support services are anticipated in the performance of a consultant contract, they may include providing the appropriate level of staff as outlined by disciplines defined in scopes of services generated under this contract. It is expected that the scope of work for these future work

orders may require the selected consultant to make some of their staff available on-site within TDOT Headquarters and/or the regional offices as required.

Technical requirements in applicable standards, specifications, and policies must be satisfied in the performance of this contract. These include, but are not limited to: TDOT's [Design Guidelines](#), TDOT's [Drainage Manual](#), TDOT's [Instructional Bulletins](#), TDOT's [Standard Drawings](#), TDOT's [Design-Build Standard Guidance](#), TDOT [Structural Design Guidelines](#), TDOT's [Right-of-Way Manual](#), TDOT's [Standard Specifications](#), TDOT's [Construction Circular Letters](#), TDOT's [Standard Operating Procedures](#), TDOT's Field Operations Training, [Construction Special Provisions](#), [National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System \(NPDES\) Permit](#), [Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices \(MUTCD\)](#), [Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#), Contractor Employee Safety and Health Program, and TDOT Policy 355-01 (Approval of Construction Change Orders and Force Account Work).

Firms should request consideration by electronically submitting a PDF packet to **TDOT.PSAdvertisements@tn.gov** with "CAD011 – Firm Name" in the subject line of the email.

	Deadline
Primary Contact: Erin Rakus	TDOT.PSAdvertisements@tn.gov (615) 253-3997
Questions	August 5, 2026, 2:00 pm (CST)
Request for Proposals	August 13, 2026, 2:00 pm (CST)
Phase II Selection Results	October 2, 2026(Anticipated)

All firms must be pre-qualified or have a completed prequalification form filed with the Department by the first submission deadline. Any sub-consultant shall be one that is prequalified by TDOT to perform the specific tasks required. Prequalification procedures, list of prequalified firms and DBE's, TDOT's standard procurement policy, and additional information, including the Prequalification Form ([DT-0330, Part I](#)), can be found at: [Consultant Information \(tn.gov\)](#). A pending prequalification status will be acceptable. **Please include a valid email address and phone number for the point-of-contact.**

Evaluation Process

Phase I Evaluation

This phase will be eliminated for this advertisement.

Phase II Evaluation

For firms submitting proposals (Part II of the DT-0330 form) during Phase II evaluation, the criteria that will be considered are:

Criteria and Relative Weights	
i. Team capability and work experience (Sections C, D, & E).	20 %
ii. Past work experience in the required disciplines (Sections E, F & G).	30 %
iii. Staff qualification and availability (Section I: Staffing/Certification Matrix)	20%
iv. Past performance evaluations on TDOT Projects.	10 %
v. Project history detailing staff retention through completion (Section I).	10 %
vi. Project exhibitions highlighting Department goals were met (Section I).	5%

Section E shall be no more than **10** pages. Section F shall include no more than **10** projects. The proposal package shall contain no more than **30** pages including front and back cover. Section H will not count toward the **30**-page limit.

Following Phase II evaluation, a number of firms no less than two* greater than the number of contracts being awarded, and that are deemed most qualified by the Consultant Evaluation Committee (CEC) will be recommended to the Commissioner for each Item listed above in alphabetical order for Phase III evaluation.

* In instances where less than the minimum required number of qualified consultants respond with proposals, or where the evaluated proposals do not result in a sufficient number of qualified firms, the Department may proceed with evaluation and selection if it is determined that the solicitation did not contain conditions or requirements that arbitrarily limited competition.

Phase III Evaluation

From the list of firms determined by the CEC to be the most highly qualified firms to perform the solicited services, the Commissioner will rank the firms in order of preference for each item .

Post Selection

TDOT will then negotiate with the firm(s) deemed to be most highly qualified in rank order. Before the invitation of a cost proposal is made, a mutual understanding of the scope of work and all technical and administrative requirements of the proposed undertaking will be established with the prospective consultant. This may be done by conference, phone, or correspondence as determined appropriate by TDOT. Instructions will be given regarding the method of compensation and the documentation needed to justify the proposed compensation.

Evaluation proceedings will be conducted within the established guidelines regarding equal employment opportunity and nondiscriminatory action based upon the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, creed, age, and disability. Interested certified Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) firms are encouraged to respond to all advertisements by TDOT. For more information on DBE certification, please contact the Civil Rights Office Small Business Development Program at (615) 741-3681 or the following website:

<https://www.tn.gov/tdot/civil-rights/small-business-development-program.html>.

Will Reid, P.E.
Commissioner

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