

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

**June 18, 2026
REVISED June 26, 2026
(P3 Division)**

The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) seeks to retain the services of professional engineering consulting firms to provide expertise in **design and construction oversight engineering services** as described below. The method of payment shall be **lump sum, cost plus fixed fee, cost per unit of work, or specific rates of compensation**. 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.

The Department's Program Management Consultant (PMC) will provide day-to-day oversight, management and performance assessment of the selected consultant for the executed contract. TDOT's PMC is not eligible to pursue any Item under this solicitation or be part of a team pursuing any Item under this solicitation.

Items may be withdrawn if anticipated funding does not become available.

Item No. 1

Project Description and Location:

Provide **project specific engineering** services for the addition of price-managed lanes (Choice Lanes) on I-24 between I-40 and I-840 in Davidson and Rutherford counties (the I-24 Southeast Choice Lanes Project) and associated contractual project enhancements.

Schedule:

Commercial Close for the project is anticipated for October 2026. The consultant will begin work as soon as a Notice to Proceed is given. Services may begin during pre-let phases (i.e. before Commercial Close) and will continue into the post-let phase (i.e. after Commercial Close) for the Public Private Partnership contract. While the completion date has yet to be determined, services will begin prior to the construction Notice-to-Proceed, occur during the entire course of construction, and continue into the project close-out and final records phases. The selected engineering firm must submit all documentation for final records within one (1) year of the date of service commencement.

This project is funded entirely with state funds and does not include any federal funding.

Scope of Services:

Shall include but not be limited to design oversight related services that will require the consultant to provide Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) in the fields of roadway, drainage, structural, geotechnical, traffic engineering, utility coordination, landscape/aesthetics, Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) and Electronic Toll Collection Systems (ETCS), lighting, pavement, maintenance of traffic/traffic control, erosion prevention and sediment control (EPSC), geodetics, right-of-way, and environmental (in particular NEPA

re-evaluations) to assist in general management and technical design reviews submitted by the project's P3 Developer. In addition, the consultant will provide construction engineering & inspection oversight related services associated with an Owner Quality Oversight role which will include requiring the consultant to conduct Owner independent quality assurance and verification sampling and testing to confirm contract compliance. The consultant is required to assist in audits of the P3 Developer's Quality Management System Plan (QMSP), Design Quality Management Plan (DQMP) and Construction Quality Management Plan (CQMP), as well as provide support in addressing contractual disputes and tracking costs as needed.

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 and/or P3 Developer-provided 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, AASHTO Project Standards, FHWA Engineering Standards and specific Project Requirements as outlined in the Technical Requirements of the P3 contract.

The Consultant will be exclusive to TDOT as an owner's representative and will be excluded from the P3 Developer team on this project. With respect to this project/contract, the Consultant will perform an owner representative function; therefore, the Department expects consultant compliance and internal management with protection of TDOT's interests to be paramount. Additionally, the Consultant and its subconsultants awarded this contract are required to inform the Department of existing or potential conflicts of interest as early as possible with regard to other work awarded by the Department.

Conflict of Interest:

In accordance with TDOT Policy 101-05, the Consultant and its subconsultants shall not enter into any other contract or work order with the Department during the term of this Agreement which would create or involve a conflict of interest with the services provided without first submitting a Conflict of Interest letter to the Bureau Chief of Major Projects or his/her designee for review; any conflict that cannot be mitigated or waived may render the Consultant ineligible for the contract

or work order. The Consultant shall not have, directly or indirectly, a financial or other personal interest, other than the Consultant's employment or retention by the State, in any contract or subcontract in connection with any work performed under this Agreement. No members of the consulting firm, its subsidiaries, its affiliates, or sub-consultants shall be selected for services on this contract if they are a part of the awarded P3 Developer's team.

Firms may request consideration by submitting a proposal. All proposals must be submitted electronically (PDF format) to **Professional Services** with "**I-24 SE Choice Lanes D&C Oversight Services_Firm Name**" in the subject line of the email.

	Deadline
Primary Contact: Bryan A. Williams	TDOT.PSAdvertisements@tn.gov (615) 253-3997
Pre-Submittal Meeting	July 14, 2026 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm (CST) Region 3 Auditorium 6601 Centennial Blvd Nashville, TN 37209
Questions	September 4, 2026, 4:00 pm (CST)
Proposals due	September 21, 2026, 4:00 pm (CST)
Phase II Selection Results	November 5, 2026 (Anticipated)

*The pre-submittal meeting will be mandatory for consultants submitting as the prime on any of the Items. During this meeting, TDOT will provide information regarding the project delivery goals, anticipated scope, and potential risks. There is no limitation on the number of participants. This presentation will be recorded, and participants will be provided with the opportunity to ask questions during the allotted time. Any information provided by TDOT shall be considered as informational only and is subject to change. The presentation and a list of attendees, including contact information, will be posted to the Professional Services webpage following the meeting.

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, example letter of interest, 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 \(tn.gov\)](https://www.tdot.gov/consultant-information). 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).	25 %
ii. Past work experience in the required disciplines (Sections F & G).	20 %
iii. Staffing Qualifications & Availability (Sections D & F) 1) Staffing/Certification Matrix (Prime & Subconsultants) – staffing matrix shall list the aspects of work that both the prime and subs are proposing on as well as any relevant certifications or licenses held by staff	20 %
iv. Technical Approach (as explained in Section I)	15 %
v. Presentation (See note a) below)	20 %

Section E shall be no more than **10** pages. Section F shall include no more than **5** projects. The proposal package shall contain no more than **40** pages including front and back cover. Section H will not count toward the **40** -page limit.

- a) All proposing teams will be scheduled for in person presentations to be conducted in Nashville during the week of October 5–9, 2026. Participation in the presentation is mandatory for further consideration in the selection process. Each proposing team shall include the primary members of both the Consultant and subconsultant teams. Attendance is limited to a maximum of five (5) individuals. The structure of the presentation will be as follows:

a. Presentation (30 minutes)

Each team shall provide a structured summary of its proposal, including the Consultant’s project approach, key concepts, unique resources, and the qualifications and relevant experience of key personnel. The presentation shall clearly convey the team’s understanding of the project and demonstrate why the proposing Consultant is best suited to perform the work. Emphasis shall be placed on the team’s capabilities, proposed strategies, and the value the team brings to the project. Presentations should focus on the most critical elements of the proposal.

b. Question and Answer Session (15 minutes)

Following the presentation, the Selection Panel will conduct a question-and-answer session. Questions will include standardized items asked of all proposers as well as questions specific to each team’s submitted proposal and presentation.

The presentation and question and answer session will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- a) Project Understanding
- b) Project Approach
- c) Project Management
- d) Communication Skills

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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