

A REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT

Department of Highways
Professional Services Procurement Bulletin 2026-09
Letcher | 12-311.90 | US-119

This document constitutes a Request for Proposals for a Professional Service Contract from qualified individuals and organizations to furnish those services as described herein for the Commonwealth of Kentucky, Department of Highways.

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

County -	Letcher
Route -	US-119
Item No. -	12-311.90
Project Description -	The purpose of this project is to design for improved safety along US-119 near KY-15 at Whitesburg

II. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Manager -	John Michael Johnson
User Division -	Highway Design
Approximate Fee -	\$750,000 Preliminary Engineering & Environmental Services (Lump Sum)
Project Funding -	APD (State or Federal Funds)
Project Length -	Approximately 0.84 mile

III. PURPOSE AND NEED

The purpose of this project is to conclude a corridor-long APD funded series of roadway improvement projects for US-119 in Letcher County. This project should improve roadway geometry and connectivity, address applicable safety concerns and reduce travel time.

This section of US-119 is the final portion to be authorized with APD funding and will extend from the intersection of KY-15 in Whitesburg toward Pine Mountain. Part of Corridor F in the Appalachian Development Highway System, this route also serves as a vital connection point between the cities of Harlan and Whitesburg. This project will complement other improvements of US-119 in Letcher County from the intersection with US-23 to Whitesburg. Portions of this road were last designed and constructed nearly 100 years ago, and contain deficient roadway shoulders, curve radii, as well as maximum grade. Improved roadway geometry will ensure that drivers have more visibility and a consistent roadway experience along this route that has been improved elsewhere.

IV. SCOPE OF WORK

Note: Due to regulations regarding APD funding, the revised project limits are only 0.84 mile in length from MP 14.954 to MP 15.794. This is contrary to the 1.7 mile project from the bottom (North side) of Pine Mountain to the intersection with KY-15 at Whitesburg as defined in the 2024 Enacted Highway Plan.

The selected Consultant will be required to provide Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Services. Preliminary Engineering includes surveying, line and grade plans, traffic engineering analysis in accordance with Design Memo 03-11, conduct stage 1 screening and stage 2 analysis in accordance with the KYTC Intersection Control Evaluation (ICE) Guidance, preparation of engineering studies, identification of appropriate typical sections, identifying any utility impacts, performing preliminary drainage design, developing dependable cost estimates, and conducting and preparing documents for public meetings.

This project may be advanced to Final Design upon the completion of Preliminary Engineering with a Contract Modification. The selected Consultant will then be required to provide engineering services to perform Final Roadway and Structural Design, including the preparation of any design studies, drainage design, right-of-way plans, construction plans, traffic control plans, and cost estimates as well as any other services that KYTC chooses not to perform with in-house forces.

V. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

The Department may retain any of the advertised services to be performed by in-house state forces.

Instructions for Response to Announcement can be found at:

<https://transportation.ky.gov/ProfessionalServices/Pages/Respond-to-an-Announcement.aspx>

Consultants are required to follow the [Commonwealth Office of Technology's Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) policy](#) and affirmatively disclose any use of AI or Machine Learning undertaken as part of any awarded contract.

VI. AVAILABLE STUDIES

[DNA Study – Letcher | 12-311.90 | US-119](#)

VII. METHOD OF DESIGN

The selected Consultant shall utilize the most recent CADD Standards for Highway Plans Policy in the development of the highway plans. Refer to the 2022 CADD Standards for ORD V4.4 Project Development Memo for information pertaining to the latest CADD Standards and plan submittal.

VIII. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Any necessary Environmental Services are expected to be provided by the Consultant. Based on preliminary discussion with the project team and all currently available environmental information

for the proposed project location, we anticipate the required environmental document to be no higher than a Categorical Exclusion Level 2. The final environmental document may be elevated (or reduced) to a different level of environmental documentation if environmental investigation leads to an alternative conclusion or changes in ROW occur. Prequalification of various Environmental Services are required to be identified in the Consultant's Response to Announcement.

IX. PHOTOGRAMMETRIC SERVICES

The Consultant will provide mapping and will furnish manuscripts in ORD format. Statewide Elevation data and Aerial photography can be found at the following link [KyFromAbove - Kentucky's Aerial Photography & Elevation Data Program](#). The selected Consultant shall supplement this information with conventional surveying as determined during project scoping.

At any time, if the Department has the capacity to provide these services, the Department may retain the advertised surveying services.

X. STRUCTURE DESIGN

Structure Design is not anticipated for Preliminary Design. When the project advances to Final Design and if the selected Consultant is retained for Final Design services, the selected Consultant shall do the necessary engineering services to submit to the KYTC an Advanced Situation Folder(s) for the appropriate structure(s). The selected Consultant may be responsible for any necessary Structure Design services. Structure Design of the proposed structure(s) may be added as a Contract Modification. Prequalification in the area of Structure Design is required to be identified in the Consultant's Response to Announcement.

XI. GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES

The selected Consultant may provide all Geotechnical Services required for the project. The Preliminary Design contract may include preliminary geotechnical services to review available geological, mining, or other geotechnical information that could influence the selection of the preferred alternate. Geotechnical services necessary for the completion of Final Design may be added by contract modification at the appropriate time. At any time, if the Department has the capacity to provide these services, the Department may retain the advertised geotechnical services. Prequalification in the area of Geotechnical Services is required to be identified in the Consultant's Response to Announcement.

XII. TRAFFIC ENGINEERING

The selected Consultant will provide the analysis of the existing and proposed operations. Traffic Signal Design and Lighting Design services, if necessary for the completion of Final Design, may be added by Contract Modification at the appropriate time. At any time, if the Department has the capacity to provide these services, the Department may retain the advertised traffic services.

XIII. UTILITIES

The selected Consultant shall acquire adequate information regarding existing utility features to

identify existing utility facilities within the project area, document and confirm those that may be negatively impacted by the project. The selected Consultant shall bring attention to any potential conflicts with existing utility facilities that may result in significant cost or time to relocate. The selected Consultant shall complete or contribute to a utility conflict matrix, documenting the existing utility facilities that may be impacted by the project. The Consultant shall document or confirm the following for each utility in the conflict matrix: type of utility, owner of utility, quantify the extent they may be impacted, potential impacts to project budget, potential impact to project schedule, confidence of utility location depicted, and recommendations for remedy.

XIV. PREQUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

To respond to this project the Consultant must be prequalified in the following areas by the response due date of this advertisement:

ENVIRONMENTAL & UST SERVICES

- UST & Hazmat Preliminary Site Assessment (Phase 1)

ENVIRONMENTAL AQUATIC & TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS ANALYSIS

- Botany
- Fisheries
- Freshwater Macroinvertebrates
- Terrestrial Zoology
- Water Quality
- Wetlands

ENVIRONMENTAL ARCHAEOLOGY & OTHER SERVICES

- Air Quality Analysis
- Cultural-Historic Analysis
- Environmental Document Writing & Coordination
- Highway Noise Analysis
- Historic Archaeology
- Prehistoric Archaeology
- Socio-Economic Analysis
- Stream & Wetland Mitigation

GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES

- Standard Drilling
- Standard Geotechnical Engineering
- Standard Laboratory Testing

ROADWAY DESIGN

- Rural Roadway Design
- *Surveying* (see note below)*
- *Urban Roadway Design* (see note below)*

STRUCTURE DESIGN

- Spans Under 500 Feet

Right of Way Services* (see note below)

- *Acquisition**
- *Appraisal**

- *Appraisal Review**
- *Relocation**

Traffic Engineering* (see note below)

- *Electrical Engineering Roadway Lighting**
- *Electrical Engineering Traffic Signals**
- *Traffic Engineering**

** Note – These prequalifications are not required with the initial proposal as it is uncertain to the extent practicable if they are necessary. Should these services become necessary during the delivery of the project in this or future phases, the selected Consultant team must obtain the required qualifications before providing those services or bring on a prequalified subconsultant at that time.*

XV. PROCUREMENT SCHEDULE

Dates other than Response Date are tentative and provided for information only.

- Advertisement Date: March 10, 2026
- Response Date: April 1, 2026 by 4:30 PM ET (Frankfort Time)
- First Selection Meeting: April 6, 2026
- Final Selection: April 22, 2026
- Pre-Design Conference: April 29, 2026
- Consultant Fee Proposal: May 8, 2026
- Contract Negotiations: May 20, 2026
- Notice to Proceed: June 10, 2026

XVI. PROJECT SCHEDULE

- Alignment Review Meeting December 18, 2026
- Preliminary Line & Grade April 16, 2027
- CE Level II Document January 14, 2028

XVII. EVALUATION FACTORS

Consultants will be evaluated by the selection committee based on the following weighted factors:

1. Project approach and proposed procedures to accomplish the services for the project. (20 Points)
2. Relative experience of consultant personnel assigned to project team with highway project for KYTC and/or federal, local or other state governmental agencies. (15 Points)
3. Past record of performance on projects similar in type and complexity. (15 Points)
4. Capacity to comply with project schedule. (10 Points)
5. The Consultant demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of safety strategies and the ability to generate meaningful ideas that can measurably enhance the safety of the

completed project. This includes both the immediate effectiveness and the long-term safety impacts of the finished facility. (10 Points)

6. Knowledge of the locality and familiarity of the general geographic area. (2 Points)

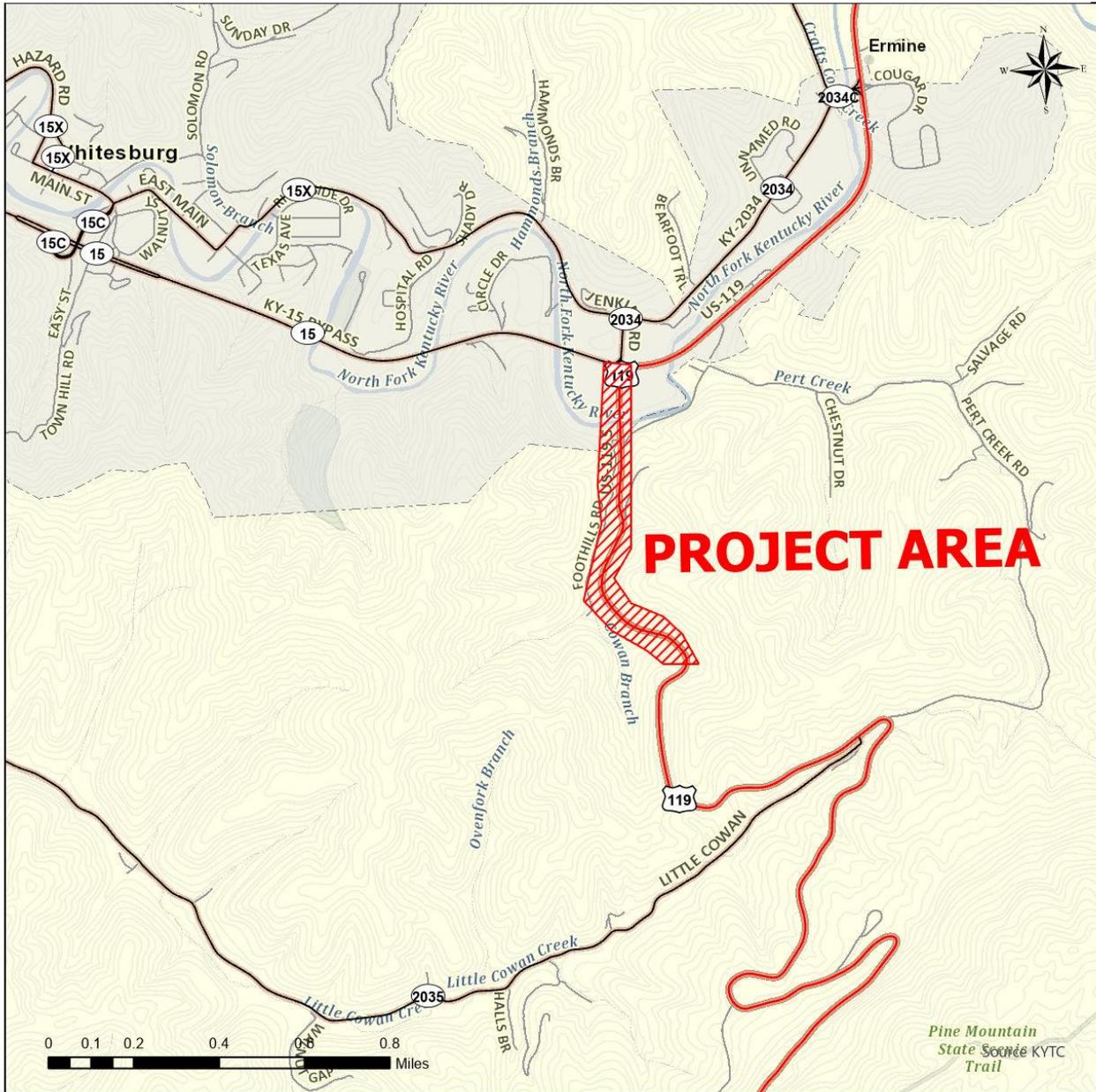
XVIII. SELECTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1. Charlie Dale, P.E., User Division
2. Ben Coomes, P.E., User Division
3. Talya Caudill, P.E., Secretary's Pool
4. Lauren Meighan, P.E., Secretary's Pool
5. Marcelyn Mathews, P.E., Governor's Pool

XIX. AREA MAP



Professional Services



Preconstruction Project Status for item# 12-311.90
 Description: Improve safety along US 119 from bottom (North side) of Pine Mountain to intersection with KY 15 at Whitesburg (MP 14.1-15.8) (2024CCN)
 Location:
 Route1 Letcher COUNTY US-119 From MP 14.1 to MP 15.8
 Route2 - -
 Length:
 1.7 mi.
 Project Status: Active

