

# A REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT

## Department of Highways Professional Services Procurement Bulletin 2026-08 Franklin | 5-551 | I-64

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 - Franklin  
Route - I-64  
Item No. - 5-551.00  
Project Description - Provide engineering design services to improve safety, truck mobility, and reduce congestion along I-64 from directly east of US-127 to US-60 south of Frankfort.

### **II. PROJECT INFORMATION**

Project Manager - Andre Johannes, P.E.  
User Division - Highway Design  
Approximate Fee - \$3,000,000 Preliminary Engineering & Environmental Services (Lump Sum)  
Project Funding - NH (Federal Funds)  
Project Length - Approximately 4.75 miles

### **III. PURPOSE AND NEED**

The purpose of the Item No. 5-551 project is to improve safety and mobility along I-64 in Franklin County, between the US-127 and US-60 interchanges—exits 53 and 58 serving the city of Frankfort. Supporting data-driven needs include:

- Projected future traffic volumes are approaching the capacity of the four-lane facility. I-64 is estimated to carry 63,400 vpd by 2045 with 27% trucks—resulting in volume-to-capacity (v/c) ratios over 0.9 in both travel directions with a four-lane freeway.
- Steep grades surrounding the Kentucky River create long climbing sections that introduce variable travel speeds, especially for large trucks. Both eastbound (3.78% climb over 8,100 feet) and westbound (3% climb over 4,600 feet) exceed the critical length and reduce truck travel speeds by 10 MPH or more
- Due to geotechnical considerations and initial construction techniques, existing rock cuts are subject to erosion with fallen rocks restricting clear zones and requiring routine maintenance. Reduced clear zones negatively influence safety exposure.
- Elevated crash trends characterize the facility. Along mainline I-64 within the study area, 358 crashes were reported during 2018-2022, including four fatalities. Nearly half (48%) are roadway departures, which tend to be more severe than other crash types, influenced

by the reduced clear zones lining the route.

#### **IV. SCOPE OF WORK**

The selected Consultant will be required to conduct Preliminary Engineering studies to identify appropriate typical section, utility impacts, line and grade and a dependable cost estimate. The selected Consultant will provide various environmental services including an approved environmental document.

This project may be advanced to Final Design upon the completion of Preliminary Engineering and an approved Environmental Document 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.

Initially, the selected Consultant will be limited to services that are allowed during the NEPA process as defined in 23 CFR 636.103, 23 CFR 710.501, and 23 CFR 771.113. Upon completion of the NEPA phase the Consultant's contract will either be modified to include services necessary to deliver a Plans, Specification and Estimate (PS&E) package for a design-bid-build contract to the Department or modified to include the services necessary to deliver procurement documents and design oversight for an alternative delivery contract.

#### **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>

#### **VI. AVAILABLE STUDIES**

[I-64 Widening Study – Franklin | Item 5-551](#)

#### **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 3. 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. PHOTOGRAHMETRIC 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.

## **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 Department will provide all Geotechnical Services required for the project. At any time, if the Department does not have the capacity to provide these services, they may be added by contract modification. Prequalification in the area of Geotechnical Services is not required to be identified in the Consultant's Response to Announcement.

## **XII. TRAFFIC ENGINEERING**

The Department will provide all traffic projections and related information.

## **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 any potential conflicts with existing utility facilities that may result in significant cost or time to relocate. The selected Consultant 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.

All utilities including underground and overhead facilities within the project scope shall be field-verified by the Consultant. Sizes and types of underground and aerial utilities shall be identified on the plans for each alignment alternative in the PL&G submittal. In addition to survey horizontal location of visible utility features, the Consultant shall provide elevation of accessible manhole tie

inverts and overhead low wire elevation.

#### **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

##### ROADWAY DESIGN

- Rural Roadway Design
- Surveying
- *Advanced Drainage Analysis & Design\** (see note below)

##### STRUCTURE DESIGN

- Spans Under 500 Feet

##### Maintenance / Bridge Maintenance Services\* (see note below)

- *In-Depth Structure Inspection\**

##### Traffic Engineering\* (see note below)

- *Traffic Engineering\**
- *Electrical Engineering Roadway Lighting\**

##### Utility Design\* (see note below)

- *Subsurface Utility 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:	February 10, 2026
• Response Date:	March 4, 2026 by 4:30 PM ET (Frankfort Time)
• First Selection Meeting:	March 9, 2026
• Final Selection:	March 25, 2026
• Pre-Design Conference:	April 1, 2026
• Consultant Fee Proposal:	April 10, 2026
• Contract Negotiations:	April 22, 2026
• Notice to Proceed:	May 13, 2026

## **XVI. PROJECT SCHEDULE**

• Preliminary Line and Grade Inspection	February 1, 2027
• Joint Inspection	September 1, 2027
• Right-of-Way and Utility Plans	December 1, 2027
• Final Plans	April 3, 2028

## **XVII. EVALUATION FACTORS**

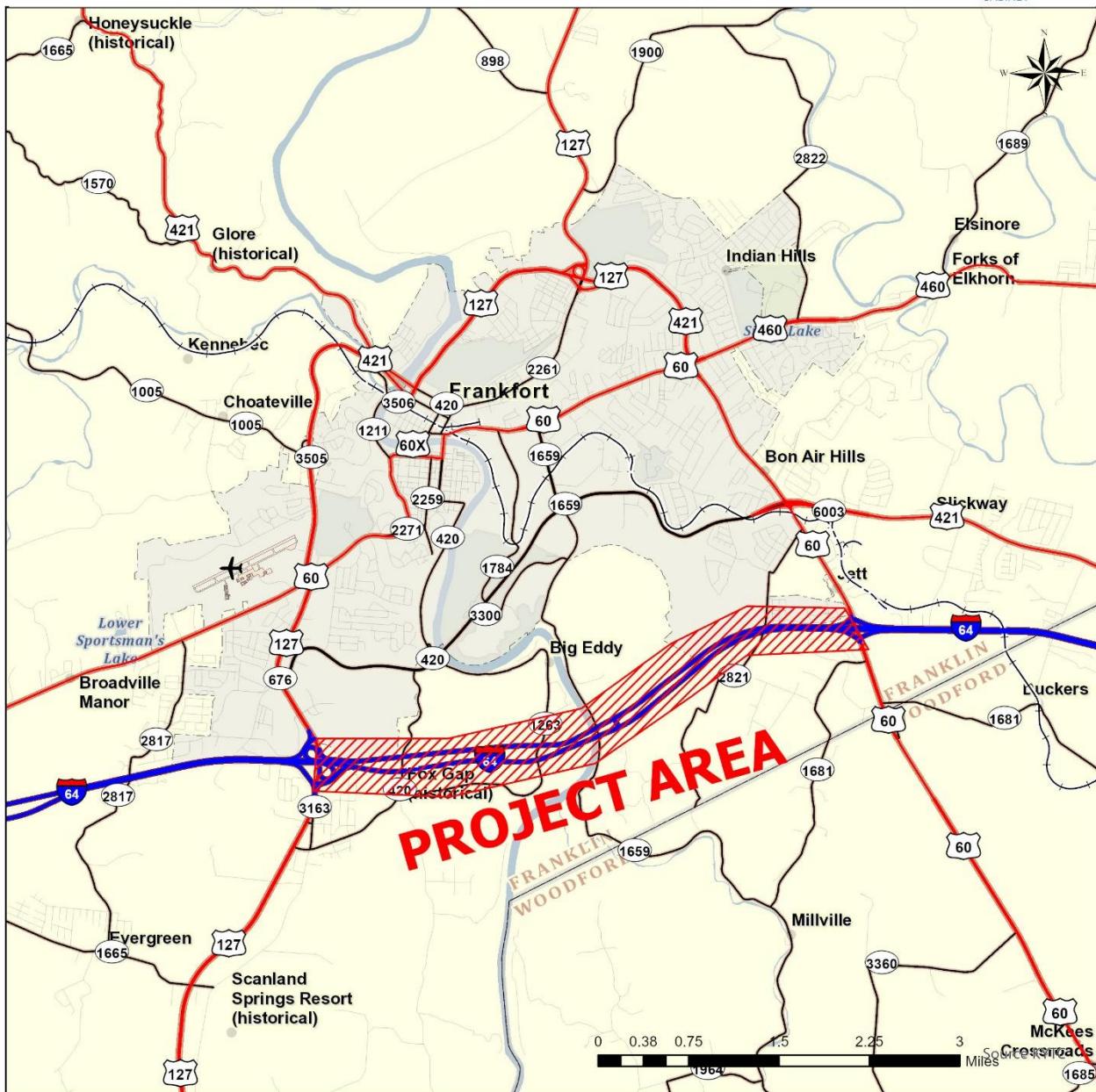
Consultants will be evaluated by the selection committee based on the following weighted factors:

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. Andre Johannes, P.E., User Division
2. Ross Mills, P.E., User Division
3. Ben Coomes, P.E., Secretary's Pool
4. Lauren Meighan, P.E., Secretary's Pool
5. Brian Wood, P.E., Governor's Pool

## XIX. AREA MAP



Preconstruction Project Status for item# 5-551.00

**Description:** IMPROVE SAFETY, TRUCK MOBILITY, AND REDUCE CONGESTION ALONG I-64 FROM DIRECTLY EAST OF US-127 TO US-60 SOUTH OF FRANKFORT. (2024CCR)

**Location:**

**Route 1** Franklin COUNTY I-64 From MP 53.11 to MP 57.86

Route2 - -

**Length:**

4.75 mi.

**Project Status:** Active

