

REQUEST FOR ENGINEERING PROPOSALS
for the
APPLETON ROAD GRADE SEPARATION and CORRIDOR
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Project Background and Description

The City of Belvidere desires to retain a consulting engineer to provide planning, preliminary engineering and environmental review for the construction of a grade separation structure over two existing Union Pacific Railroad at-grade crossings along South Appleton Road in Belvidere, Illinois. The new grade separation will include widening of the existing two lane roadway to a four lane roadway. The initial planning of the project will review the alternative courses of action available and examine the feasibility of a grade separation structure. The preliminary engineering phase will complete the necessary documentation to determine the environmental processing of the construction project as well as conduct thirty percent design plans, topographic surveys, right-of-way/boundary surveys, and develop design criteria for each alternative being considered. Preliminary engineering will also provide a more detailed construction cost estimate and public involvement. Construction project implementation schedules will also be reviewed during the preliminary engineering phase. The environmental review will include conducting resource mapping and impact analysis for each of the alternatives proposed. Resources to be examined include trees, wetlands, regulated substances, threatened and endangered species, and protected lands.

Multiple funding sources will be utilized for this project. The City has received a Fiscal Year 2024 Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvement Grant for this project as well as 2024 IDOT Local Project Funding (LPF). Local funds will also be utilized to complete this work. A budget of \$2,100,000 has been established for this project.

A Scope of Work for this project is attached.

It is the intention of the City to have the planning, preliminary engineering and environmental review of this project completed by no later than March 31, 2027.

If your firm is interested in working on this project, please submit your proposal which includes the following information by no later than 5:00 PM on Wednesday, February 18, 2026 to:

Brent Anderson
Director of Public Works
401 Whitney Boulevard
Belvidere, Illinois 61008

1. Project Personnel (weighting factor 45%)

Provide qualifications for the personnel to be assigned to this project.

2. Firm Experience (weighting factor 45%)

Provide a summary of the three most recent projects similar in nature to the one described above that your firm has completed with final construction cost and engineering cost included. Include a summary of your firm's experience in working with the Union Pacific Railroad on permit projects. Describe the current workload of your firm and your ability to meet the time requirements of this project.

3. Previous Experience with the City of Belvidere (weighting factor 10%)

The City will review and rank the top three proposals based on the items listed above in order. The City shall negotiate with the highest ranked consultant for an agreement and make a recommendation to the City Council for approval. Following City Council approval, the City will expect the selected engineering consultant to submit an IDOT standard agreement form to the City, which incorporates the terms of this proposal.

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SCOPE OF WORK

Planning

- Evaluate Locations, Profiles & Alignments of Grade Separation Structure Over Two (2) Existing UPRR Crossings.
- Evaluation of Structure Configurations, Layout of Retaining Walls, and Pavement Design.
- Prepare Environmental Review Corridor Study

Preliminary Engineering

- Coordinate with Union Pacific Railroad & Federal Railroad Authority (FRA)
- Public Agency Coordination (Illinois DOT, Army Corps of Engineers, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Illinois Natural Areas Inventory)
- Field Survey
- Subsurface Exploration Borings
- Grade Separation Structure Alignment Option Selection
- Type Size and Location (TS&L) Structural Drawings
- Geometric Studies
- Traffic and Crash Analysis
- Preliminary Utility Conflicts/Avoidance Coordination
- Exhibits and Public Hearing Coordination
- Preliminary Estimate of Construction Cost
- 30% Preliminary Design to FRA / IDOT
- Follow-up information Requested/Submission
- IDOT Phase I Design Approval

Environmental Review

- Wetland Delineation and Report
- Traffic Noise Analysis and Report
- Special Waste Screening
- Biological Clearances
- Environmental Justice
- Section 4(f) and 106 reviews

Appleton Road Grade Separation and Corridor Improvement Project

 Right of Way  Project Boundary

