



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
DOUGLAS COUNTY ENGINEERING

**TITAN ROAD & US 85
INTERCHANGE DESIGN**

PROJECT NUMBER: CI 2026-012

Issue Date: January 23, 2026

Submittal Deadline: February 13, 2026 at 3:00 PM

Douglas County Engineering Offices
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INTRODUCTION

Douglas County Department of Public Works Engineering (the “County”) is requesting proposals for a professional service contract for design of the Titan Road & US 85 Interchange project.

This Request for Proposals (RFP) is not being advertised, but it is being distributed via email, to the consulting firms listed below, which were previously selected (short listed) for 2025-2026 by the County to provide consultant services under the “Division 1 - Major Roadway” projects category. A total of five firms were asked if they were interested in receiving an RFP for this project and all have requested this RFP be sent to them:

AECOM
Atkins
HDR
RMS
RS&H

If your firm elects to not submit proposal (or is unable to submit a proposal), please notify Ben Pierce, Project Manager via email at bpierce@douglas.co.us before January 30, 2026 as the County may elect to solicit other firms to submit a proposal for this project.

Project Background

The primary objective of the project is to reconfigure the existing Titan Road & US 85 (Santa Fe Drive) interchange to accommodate the substantial traffic demands generated by ongoing development in the Chatfield Basin region. While the interchange reconfiguration is the central focus of this project, the project is also anticipated to include the widening of US 85 from Highlands Ranch Parkway south to the Titan Road interchange.

This project represents the implementation phase of recommendations established in the 2014 Northwest Douglas County Feasibility Study and the 2016 Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Report. These studies concluded that the existing interchange configuration is insufficient to handle the long-term regional mobility needs of the corridor. While the PEL provided a general framework for certain design concepts, the surrounding land use and traffic demands have changed considerably since that study was conducted. As part of this project, the County desires a renewed evaluation of interchange concepts and configurations to meet the current and future needs.

To determine the most effective solutions for the interchange, the project team will need to conduct a new regional traffic study that will take into account multiple land use considerations including ongoing development in Sterling Ranch, the County’s Zebulon Sports Complex, and other regional growth that will affect traffic through the interchange.

Project Goals & Objectives

The following list of items are provided to guide the respondents on preparing their plan for how to approach the project. A successful proposal will address each of these items throughout the proposal and will be expanded upon to demonstrate how your team will meet these goals and minimize risks that may delay the project and increase cost to the County.

- **Flexible Travel Modeling** – The basis for the necessary improvements at the interchange and throughout the region will need to be supported by a carefully developed regional travel model which considers the surrounding land uses and ongoing development. Some of these land uses may need to be adjusted over the course of the project as developments currently in the planning phase, like the Zebulon Sport Complex, are progressed and better forecasting data becomes available. A successful proposal will provide a project specific approach to travel modeling and discussion regarding how to maintain flexibility while still progressing the other project tasks.
- **Right-sized Operational Improvements and Project Phasing** – A successful proposal will include a project specific plan for how best to right-size improvements based on near-term and long-term needs. Because land use and development will be continuing in the Chatfield Basin region for the foreseeable future, a successful proposal should include a detailed plan for how to evaluate alternatives based on near-term and long-term traffic needs. Proposals should also identify and evaluate potential phased construction solutions that can adapt to the expected growth in the area and surrounding infrastructure build out.
- **Efficient Collaboration with CDOT** – A successful proposal will highlight past success and project specific strategies to efficiently move through CDOT approvals including but not limited to 1601 TDM, NEPA, ROWPR, and project design milestones (DSR, FIR, FOR, concurrence to advertise). In particular, a successful proposal will include discussion about how a project with phased implementation can most effectively and efficiently be coordinated with CDOT staff and moved through the various approvals processes.
- **Risk Mitigation** – Potential interchange solutions for this project will carry different risk profiles as it relates to design schedule, construction schedule, and cost. Some project risks that have been identified by the County include but are not limited to Class 1 railroad coordination (UPRR & BNSF), modifications of existing infrastructure, stakeholder coordination, future land use changes, ROW acquisition, environmental clearances, and water quality challenges. A successful proposal will include a robust discussion of these, and any other project risks identified by the consultant and will propose strategies to minimize or otherwise mitigate these risks for Douglas County and other project stakeholders.

Project Scoping Considerations

The interchange project will generally consist of, but is not limited to, the following tasks:

- Travel modeling and analysis
- Interchange alternatives analysis with the development of a preferred alternative meeting NEPA and 1601 requirements including recent TDM
- Preliminary and final design of the preferred alternative
- CDOT environmental, utility, and right-of-way clearances.
- Accommodate the safe movement of pedestrians and cyclists through the project area
- CDOT Right-of-Way plan preparation
- Right-of-way acquisition professional services
- Typical final design data collection efforts including, but not limited to, traffic data collection, surveying and mapping, geotechnical investigation, and SUE investigation.

PROPOSAL DETAILS

Submittal Deadline

Proposal submittals shall be received electronically no later than **3:00 p.m. (MST), February 13, 2026** via email to Benjamin Pierce at bpierce@douglas.co.us.

Proposals received by Douglas County after the time and date specified shall be considered non-responsive and shall be returned to the Respondents and will not be evaluated.

RFP Schedule

The following schedule is tentative and is subject to change.

January 23, 2026	RFP sent to selected Consultants
January 30, 2026	Deadline for Respondents to notify Douglas County if not submitting a proposal
February 4, 2026	Deadline for written questions at 5:00 PM
February 13, 2026	Proposals due by 3:00 p.m.
February 26, 2026	Selection Committee completes review and ranking proposals
February 27, 2026	Notification of selected consultant (if no interview required)
March 2, 2026	Begin to finalize scope and negotiate final fees (if no interview required)
March 10, 2026	Deadline to have scope and fee finalized (if no interview required)
March 24, 2026	Anticipated award of contract date by BOCC (if no interview required)
March 25, 2026	Anticipated Notice to Proceed (if no interview required)
February 27, 2026	Notification to participate in an interview (if applicable)
March 11, 2026	Presentation and interview (if applicable)
March 13, 2026	Notification of selected consultant (if interview is required)
March 16, 2026	Begin to finalize scope and negotiate final fees (if interview is required)
March 31, 2026	Deadline to have scope and fee finalized (if interview is required)
April 14, 2026	Anticipated award of contract date by BOCC (if interview is required)
April 15, 2026	Anticipated Notice to Proceed (if interview is required)

Questions or Information Regarding the RFP

Questions about this RFP shall be directed by email to:

Benjamin Pierce, Project Manager via email at bpierce@douglas.co.us on or before 5:00 pm on February 4, 2026. All questions will be kept confidential except for those that are specifically related to corrections and / or clarifications in the County's RFP.

From the issuance date of this RFP until a selection is made, Ben Pierce is the sole point of contact for issues or clarifications concerning this RFP and all correspondence shall be done via email. Respondent questions should anticipate a response to their questions within five business days, so Respondents are encouraged to submit their questions early.

Legal Notice to Respondents

Distribution of this request for proposal via email is considered legal notice to those firms short listed to receive an RFP for this project. Respondents are individually responsible for ensuring that the contact information the County has available is current. The County has made a reasonable effort to ensure that the electronic contact information is correct based on all forms of contact that was provided to the County prior to the issuance of this RFP.

Notifications to Unsuccessful Respondents

Douglas County shall notify unsuccessful respondents in writing via email of exclusion from award and will also notify Respondents that were not selected to participate in the oral presentation / interview phase of the selection process (when applicable).

Consultants not selected can request a debrief with the Douglas County Project Manager, which will occur about 9 to 12 weeks after the selection process is completed.

Proposal Requirements

One "page" is defined as one standard 8-1/2 x 11 inch sheet of paper. All charts, graphic displays, etc. must be of readable size. 11 x 17 inch sheets to illustrate particular items are permitted in the proposal and in the Appendixes, however, If the respondent uses an 11 x 17 inch sheet within the main body of the proposal, then it will be considered two pages.

Signature - Proposals shall be signed by a duly authorized official.

Page Limitations - Proposals shall not exceed a total of eighteen (18) single-sided pages. The total page limitation does not include proposal cover, section dividers, or the required appendix materials for this proposal.

Only the successful respondent that receives the highest overall combined ranking will be asked to submit a formal fee proposal which will be negotiated between with Douglas County. If the County and the highest ranked firm cannot reach an agreement on negotiating a reasonable fee, then the County may terminate negotiations with the highest ranked firm and begin negotiations with next highest ranked firm.

Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated and scored according to the following criteria:

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|------|---|---------|
| i. | Firm capabilities and qualifications for this project | 15 pts. |
| ii. | Project team’s past performance and relevant experience | 20 pts. |
| iii. | Project approach and understanding of critical issues | 40 pts. |
| iv. | Draft project schedule | 10 pts. |
| v. | Draft scope of services & list of deliverables | 15 pts. |

Proposal Content

Proposals should contain and will be evaluated based on the following sections:

- a. Cover letter that serves as an executive summary of the proposal, highlighting the value and commitment your project team will bring to this project.
- b. Firm capabilities and qualifications
- c. Project team’s past performance / relevant project experience
- d. Project approach & understanding of critical issues including proposed improvement concepts and other graphics to depict project issues.
- e. Consultant’s draft project schedule (Appendix A)
- f. Consultant’s draft scope of services & list of deliverables (Appendix B)
- g. Resumes of key members of the project team (Appendix C)

The consultant team should identify key staff that will be assigned to the project to deliver the items identified in the draft scope of services. Douglas County requires that each respondent identify a Project Manager in your proposal who will serve as a primary contact person. It is expected that the Project Manager will need to be available to answer questions via email or over the telephone regarding the Respondents proposal and attend an oral interview (if applicable) after evaluation of the written proposal. The proposed Project Manager shall be the primary point of contact throughout the project duration, which is anticipated to be at least three years.

Performance shall commence as of the date specified in the notice to proceed and shall continue until the work is completed.

Initial project milestones should be identified by the respondent in their draft project schedule and draft scope of services.

Selection Conditions

The selected consultant must be willing and able to enter into a contractual agreement with Douglas County under our standard Professional Contract for Services (PCS). This will be a task order type contract with the Douglas County Project Manager approving the scope and fee for each task on an ongoing basis throughout the project. As noted during the short list selection process, **The County will not accept any requested changes to the standard PCS.**