

****** LEGAL NOTICE ******

REQUEST FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES

**ALL-C.R. 270-4.23
(METCALF STREET BRIDGE REPLACEMENT FEASIBILITY STUDY)**

The Allen County Engineer will be selecting an engineering firm to perform a Feasibility Study for the replacement of the Metcalf Street Bridge located over the Norfolk Southern Railroad, 0.15 mile north of W 4th Street in Lima, OH.

Project Description:

The Metcalf Street Bridge was originally built in 1923 as a grade separation over the railyard and carried a streetcar track along the center of the roadway. In 1957 the streetcar line was removed and the deck was replaced with a new concrete deck. The route on the bridge was once designated as U.S. 25 (South Dixie Highway) before U.S. 25 was combined with I-75 in the 1960's at which point the bridge became the joint responsibility of Allen County and the City of Lima. In 1970, the structure underwent minor rehabilitation, then a major rehabilitation in 1989 and another minor rehabilitation again in 2007.

In 2022 the route containing the structure was put on the National Highway System (NHS). A recent inspection produced a "Poor" (4) rating appraisal and the bridge is now posted for Ohio Legal Loads. The poor general appraisal combined with a deck area of over 15,000 ft² (15,763.4 ft²) qualifies the bridge for the Local Major Bridge Program, which can provide federal funds for replacement. To apply for this funding a feasibility study is required.

Project Scope:

Conduct a Feasibility Study to determine the proposed replacement structure type considering environmental impacts, right-of-way, railroad issues, roadway alignment (existing alignment creates a larger span vs. a lesser-skewed railroad crossing minimizing span length), maintenance of traffic, cost of construction, minimization of future maintenance and inspection costs, etc. All alternatives analyzed must include a cost of construction that can be submitted with the Major Bridge Program funding application.

The following prequalification requirements must be met by the consultant:

- Non-Complex Roadway Design
- Level 2 Bridge Design

The project shall be completed by August 31, 2027.

Submittals

Engineering firms interested in being considered for this selection must submit a Letter of Interest conforming to the attached "Letter of Interest Form". Letters of Interest shall be limited to a maximum of 6 single-sided pages not including a one-page cover letter and shall be submitted to the Allen County Engineer, 1501 North Sugar Street, Lima, Ohio 45801 prior to 3:00 PM on Friday, July 17th, 2026.

In addition, the prime consultant's 2026 General Qualification Statement must be submitted and on file with the Allen County Engineer to be considered. For firms that have not submitted General Qualification Statements for 2026, a General Qualification Statement can be submitted along with the Letter of Interest. This General Qualification Statement does not automatically qualify as a submittal for 2026. Please follow the guidelines at www.allencountyohengineer.com/engconsultants/. It is anticipated that the selected consultant will be authorized to proceed by September 1, 2026.

Technical or scope of services questions can be emailed to Doug Karhoff at dkarhoff@allencountyohio.com.