

November 15, 2013

Missouri Department of Transportation  
Local Program Administrator  
105 West Capitol Avenue  
P. O. Box 270  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

**Re: Letter of Interest  
Construction Inspection**

LPA Advisory Committee:

We appreciate this opportunity to express our interest in being considered to provide **On-call Professional Services to the Local Program Administrator (LPA) for Construction Inspection**. We have been fortunate enough to have successfully worked with you on a number of projects over the years and look forward to being given the opportunity to be of service to you in an on-call capacity.

Taliaferro & Browne, Inc. has a long-standing reputation for providing quality civil and structural engineering, landscape architecture, and surveying services, on-time and within budget. Management personnel are dedicated to meeting those goals. As you review our letter of interest and supporting company brochure, you will see that Taliaferro & Browne, Inc. has a substantial amount of construction inspection experience. Our repeat work with clients is a testament to our abilities.

#### **GENERAL EXPERIENCE AND PAST PERFORMANCE**

Taliaferro & Browne, Inc. offers civil and structural engineering, landscape architecture, and surveying services and has a great deal of construction inspection experience to offer. Taliaferro & Browne, Inc. has over **45 years** of experience offering and delivering this type of services for various city departments, counties, the Corps of Engineers, the KC Port Authority, and MoDOT LPA. We have highlighted a few examples of various construction inspection projects below.

#### **Construction Inspection Projects**

**STP-3400 (405) Riverfront Heritage Trail ASB Underpass, Kansas City, Missouri** — As prime consultant, Taliaferro & Browne, Inc. designed trail improvements for the Port Authority of Kansas City, Missouri on the ASB Underpass.

These improvements provided grade separated pedestrian/bicycle access to connect Berkeley Park to the Heritage Trail and other amenities located on the west side of the ASB Bridge. The access consisted of a 12-foot wide concrete trail approximately 1,050 feet in length and included retaining walls, stairs, handrails, lighting and a canopy under the ASB Bridge. The canopy provided protection to trail users from debris falling from the overhead railroad tracks.

Federal Transportation Funding was secured by the Port Authority for construction of a portion of the ASB Undercrossing Improvements. Federal involvement required that construction phase services be provided in accordance with the provisions of the Local Public Agency Manual. The project was also permitted through the City Codes Administration Department and special inspections were required in accordance with the Special Inspections Manual. Taliaferro and Browne, Inc. was retained by the Port Authority to provide construction administration and observation services in accordance with these requirements.

Taliaferro & Browne, Inc. also provided construction phase services which included conducting the preconstruction meeting, construction observation as required by MoDOT, special inspections as required by the Codes Administration Department, preparing monthly progress reports, shop drawing review, processing Contractor pay requests, assistance with semi-final inspection, preparation of final certification documents as required by MoDOT, and preparation of construction corrected drawings.

**STP-3300(454) Riverfront West Pedestrian Bridge, Kansas City, Missouri** — As part of the Riverfront Heritage Trail, the Port Authority of Kansas City's Town of Kansas Pedestrian Bridge and Walkway project added access from Berkeley Park to the River Market area and provided an excellent scenic overlook of the Missouri River and the continuing Riverfront development areas. This 650-foot long pedestrian bridge provides a pedestrian link between the north end of Main Street and the Missouri River. The Bridge spans the Town of Kansas archaeological site, two railroads, and the Mis-

souri River floodwall and serves to connect the River Market area with new amenities along the River.

Taliaferro & Browne, Inc. led the civil and structural design team on this project, providing significant surveying as well as civil and structural design services and construction observation. Key successes included: 1) Obtaining Corps of Engineers (COE) new construction permitting within the Missouri River floodway. This was one of the few locations in the Kansas City area where such permitting had occurred. 2) Developing compliant Section 106 documentation. A Memorandum of Agreement was developed for the project that included measures to minimize the impact on the Town of Kansas and the Main Street corridor. A project archaeologist was present to monitor construction activities during excavations and general construction. 3) Coordinating project documentation with Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) requirements for transportation-enhancement-funded projects. Plan preparation, contract documents, and construction of the project were completed successfully in accordance with MoDOT's Local Public Agency Manual.

**STP-3377(404) Riverfront Heritage Trail Segments 2 and 4A, Kansas City, Missouri** — The Riverfront Heritage Trail project, created to encourage riverfront bicycle/pedestrian traffic and development, was completed in conjunction with the Town of Kansas Pedestrian Bridge and Walkway. The trail project included two segments:

**Segment 2** — Designing a 12-foot wide concrete trail running along the Missouri River linking Berkeley Park to the Riverfront West Pedestrian Bridge

**Segment 4A** — Restoring existing sidewalks and implementing an on-street bicycle facility within the River Market area

Taliaferro & Browne's work on the Port Authority project included providing surveys, structural design of the bridge, site grading, and drainage plans. On Segment 2, Taliaferro & Browne, Inc. worked with the architect to develop a suitable alignment and designed grading, paving, and storm drainage, especially to ensure that construction did not impact the floodway. On Segment 4A, Taliaferro & Browne, Inc. identified which segments of sidewalk, curb, and drainage grates needed to be replaced and provided landscape design for the trail to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements while providing a safe and enjoyable trail experience for all users. Taliaferro & Browne, Inc. also provided construction observation on this project.

**Riverfront Slope Stabilization, Kansas City, Missouri** — Taliaferro & Browne, Inc. was retained by the Port Authority of Kansas City, Missouri to develop concept plans for providing a grade separated pedestrian link under the ASB Bridge to complete the Riverfront Heritage trail connection between Berkeley Park and the Town of Kansas Pedestrian Bridge. During a reconnaissance visit for the project, representatives from Taliaferro & Browne, Inc. observed that the south bank of the Missouri River between the Trigen Pump House and the ASB Bridge had collapsed. The collapse had a significant impact on the Port Authority's plans for the trail connection and had also compromised the outfall for the Main Street Sewer which provides service to a good portion of the central business district of Kansas City, Missouri.

The Port Authority and the Water Services Department undertook a joint project to stabilize this portion of the river bank and to reconstruct the Main Street sewer outfall. The project was broken into two segments that were constructed under one contract. Black & Veatch was retained by the Water Services Department to design improvements to reconstruct the Main Street sewer outfall and Taliaferro & Browne, Inc. was retained by the Port Authority to prepare plans for stabilization of the bank between the Main Street Sewer and the ASB Bridge in preparation for the pedestrian connection.

The bank stabilization project included demolition of the remaining portions of an early 1900's sheet pile wall that had been used to support a concrete and stone fill retaining wall, and construction of a new sheet pile wall. The sheet pile structure consisted of front wall that was tied back into an embedded sheet pile anchor wall. This work was in preparation for the ASB Underpass trail improvements which were constructed under a later contract. Taliaferro & Browne, Inc. was responsible for preliminary and final design of the slope stabilization improvements, construction inspection, and coordinating permit review with the City of Kansas City, Missouri, the Corps of Engineers and the Burlington Northern Railroad.

**Cliff Drive Landslide Restoration, Kansas City, Missouri** — Taliaferro & Browne provided all civil engineering services for this project, including restoration of the parkway embankment and pavement, special curb design, storm sewer and inlet design, preparation of all drawings, specifications, shop drawings, and construction observation throughout the entire project. Phase III of the Cliff Drive Restoration project consisted of the design and construction of approximately 3500 linear feet of roadway. The project included replacing the existing storm sewer system, adding new stone curbs, grading and re-vegetation of graded areas. Design of stone masonry retaining walls was performed, but the walls were not restored due to funding constraints. Taliaferro & Browne also provided the necessary design surveys including topographic and property survey and preparation of base mapping used for the design of the project.

## QUALIFICATIONS OF PERSONNEL

**Dorothy Moss, Construction Inspector**, has more than 36 years of construction inspection experience. She has successfully completed continuing education courses in Survey and Route Construction as well as other math and science courses. Moss has undergone training provided by the American Public Works Association (APWA), the Kansas Department of Transportation for project inspection, attended classes in arc welding for inspectors, and is certified by the American Concrete Institute (ACI) as a Concrete Field Technician. She is OSHA certified for underground construction and confined space entry.

As a resident project representative on multiple projects, Dorothy's responsibilities have included the review of shop drawings; monitoring of daily progress at the site for compliance with plans and specifications; processing RFI's, AFP's, and CO's; reviewing and processing payroll records for compliance; maintaining a daily log of construction activity, personnel, and equipment; maintaining record of phone and field conversations; scheduling and overseeing testing of materials by independent laboratories and facilities; maintaining records of the field test results; completing daily, weekly, and monthly reports and distributing them to the appropriate parties; attending preconstruction conferences and construction progress meetings; keeping photographic records, graphs, and charts as needed to monitor progress; and attending meetings with property owners, utility companies, and other concerned parties, as needed.

**Michael Nossier, PE, Project Manager**, has managed and has had lead planning and design responsibilities for a wide range of projects since 1986. He has considerable experience in the design, construction administration and inspection for public and private developments. Those projects include schools, roadways, parking lots, garages, parkways, transit centers, pipelines, sewers, rehabilitation of transportation facilities, and preparation of traffic control and detour plans. Mr. Nossier was the lead construction inspector on the Cliff Drive Landslide Restoration project. Mr. Nossier has extensive knowledge of LPA procedures and requirements.

Other extremely qualified and experienced staff are available to be assigned to projects as necessary.

## FAMILIARITY/CAPABILITY

Taliaferro & Browne, Inc. has completed several federal projects and is currently working on projects with federal funds. We bring the collective knowledge and experience gained from current and past MoDOT LPA projects. Many of these projects were funded as MoDOT LPA projects. We have also provided professional services on a number of LPA road-work projects for the City of Kansas City. Hence, we are well familiar with the LPA processes and procedures and have a history of delivering federal projects that are compliant with federal law.

## ACCESSIBILITY

Taliaferro & Browne, Inc. has established a successful record of responding to our clients needs. We have a full-time staff of 35 that includes 19 engineers, 17 registered. The staff that have been introduced in the personnel section of this letter of interest are the individuals that you will be working with and will have the power to make decisions. Should you require additional staff, we have the resources to meet your request.

Thank you for your consideration. We would be happy to submit any additional information you may need to evaluate our competency. We look forward to working with you in an on-call capacity. Please call if there are any questions.

Respectfully,

TALIAFERRO & BROWNE, INC.



Hagos E. Andebrhan, PLS, PE

CEO



## Overview of Unique Qualifications

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Today, Taliaferro & Browne, Inc. (T&B) provides comprehensive civil and structural engineering, landscape architecture, planning services, and land surveying for clients throughout the Midwest. The firm employs a staff of 35 and has convenient offices in St. Louis and in Downtown Kansas City, Missouri. Our staff includes 35 full-time professionals, including 19 engineers, a landscape architect, a land planner, two registered land surveyors, and two survey crews.

### Why Taliaferro & Browne?

Taliaferro & Browne is committed to revitalizing historic neighborhoods and urban areas. Doing our part means an ongoing commitment to:

- ▶ *Engineering Excellence* — The firm has been on the St. Louis landscape since 2010. We have repeatedly been listed among Kansas City's 25 largest engineering firms by the Kansas City Business Journal. Additionally, T&B has been honored as the Professional Service Firm of the Year (Minority Enterprise Development Association of Kansas City, MO) and as Minority Professional Service Firm of the Year (State of Kansas).
- ▶ *Fostering Partnerships with Key Government Stakeholders* — Having performed successfully time and time again for diverse government as well as industry and commercial clients, T&B understands the needs and concerns of major stakeholders involved in all aspects of public project development. We've "stepped up to the plate" repeatedly to work with the multi-level government agencies, private developers, and community/ business leaders to foster consensus and leadership on myriad public and private projects.
- ▶ *Maximizing our Infrastructure Development Expertise* — Clients appreciate our diverse expertise and attention to detail in the development of cost-effective solutions for commercial developments, public works, and Corps of Engineers projects. Additionally, we are well known and respected for our expertise in designing roadways, bridges, sewers, waterlines, drainage structures, and other utilities and as well as civil/ structural design for barracks, school districts, and transit projects.
- ▶ *On-Time, On-Budget Track Record* — We have an established reputation for being the "Can-Do" engineering firm. For example, on the site development for the Sprint Arena in Kansas City, T&B tackled the intricate web of site utilities for a four-city-block area of the downtown core. With the least possible disruption to surrounding businesses, T&B completed this intricate work on time and at a savings of \$3,000,000.
- ▶ *Investment in the Community* — T&B is closely aligned with the pulse of urban development renaissance. Management's commitment to the urban core can be seen in its formation of Beacon Hill Redevelopment LLC: a first-of-a-kind redevelopment and rehabilitation of Beacon Hill neighborhood in Kansas City, focusing on providing owner-occupied, single-family housing. Additionally, T&B sponsors a number of youth

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*With engineering industry roots dating back to Kansas City of the 1940s, Taliaferro and Browne, Inc. marries tradition and stability with innovative problem-solving for urban redevelopment and growth.*

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*"They're trusted and well-known by people with the city, which really helps to move your projects through City Hall, but probably the biggest thing was their ability to handle the whole project. They've got the manpower and expertise to handle any size project you throw at them."*

Dave Lovetere, PE  
MC Realty Group, LLC

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Taliaferro & Browne, Inc.  
Engineering - Landscape Architecture - Surveying

programs, such as the Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools' Executive High School Internship Program, and has been instrumental in the FOCUS Kansas City Long-Range and Strategic Plan.

- ▶ *Commitment to Diversity* — T&B is a 100 percent minority owned and operated firm. We're proud to hire and train individuals that mirror the diverse St. Louis and Kansas City metropolitan communities. Our professional team of men and women come from as nearby as down the street to as far away as South and Central America, East Africa, and Asia.

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*"Your support and efforts have been a great asset in catalyzing the renaissance of the [Brush Creek] Corridor; our projects have benefitted from your expertise and problem-solving skills."*

*Barrett Hatches, President/CEO  
Swope Community Builders*

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## Recognition

Taliaferro & Browne is consistently listed in the *Kansas City Business Journal* as one of the **Top 25 Engineering Firms** in the Kansas City area.

In 2009, President Leonard Graham was voted one of the "**100 Most Influential Afro-Americans in Kansas City**" by the *Kansas City Globe Newspaper*.

In 1995, President Leonard Graham was named "**Business Man of the Year**" by the Kansas City Black Chamber of Commerce.

In 1993, CEO Hagos Andebrhan was voted one of the "**100 Most Influential Afro-Americans in Kansas City**" by the *Kansas City Globe Newspaper*.

Since the 1980s, our firm has been recognized for yearly participation as a Sponsor in the **Executive High School Internship Program**, sponsored by the Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools.

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## Minority Business Certifications

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- ▶ The City of Kansas City, Missouri
- ▶ The State of Kansas
- ▶ The State of Missouri
- ▶ The City of Kansas City, Kansas
- ▶ MoDOT
- ▶ Kansas City Minority Supplier Council

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## Practice Areas

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- ▶ Civil Engineering
- ▶ Structural Engineering
- ▶ Landscape Architecture
- ▶ Land Surveying
- ▶ Land Planning

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## Licenses

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- ▶ Missouri
- ▶ Kansas
- ▶ Indiana
- ▶ Iowa
- ▶ Ohio
- ▶ Kentucky

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Engineering - Landscape Architecture - Surveying

## Awards

**2009 — Outstanding MWBE in Professional Services,  
Kansas City, Missouri**

T&B received this award from the Kansas City Government Contracting and Procurement Forum

**2009 — Dr. George Ehrlich Achievement in Preservation  
Black Archives/Parade Park Building, Kansas City, Missouri**

This award, presented by the Landmarks Commission of Kansas City, Missouri, recognized T&B for historic rehabilitation plans.

**2004 — Design Award  
Richard Bolling Federal Building, Kansas City, Missouri**

This citation was awarded to T&B for “Outstanding Contribution to Excellence in Federal Design” by the U. S. General Services Administration/ Public Buildings Service.

**1995 — Minority Professional Service Firm of the Year,  
State of Kansas**

T&B received this award from the State of Kansas, Department of Commerce.

**1992 — Construction Award  
U. S. Courthouse and Federal Building, Kansas City, Kansas**

This award, presented by the Concrete Promotional Group, recognized T&B structural design of cast-in-place concrete on the building.

**1989 — Minority Consultant of the Year Award,  
Capital Improvement Program**

T&B received this award from the Kansas City, Missouri School District.

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*“Taliaferro & Browne’s passion for projects with the potential to transform depressed urban areas was a factor behind its selection as primary design consultant for the MAX on Troost bus rapid-transit route. What really set them apart was they viewed it as not just another engineering job but an opportunity to really impact change.”*

Keith Sanders, PE  
Kansas City Area  
Transportation Authority

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## SELECT PROJECT EXPERIENCE

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### Roadway Design/Planning Experience

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Shoal Creek Parkway, Kansas City, Missouri

Riverfront Drive, Kansas City, Missouri

Blue Parkway/Eastwood Trafficway, Kansas City, Missouri

Grandview Triangle Project, Kansas City, Missouri

Longview Road Improvements, Kansas City, Missouri

Hickman Mills Drive, Kansas City, Missouri

North Amity Road, Kansas City, Missouri

### Trail and Sidewalk Experience

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Riverfront Heritage Trail ASB Underpass, Kansas City, Missouri

Lincoln University Historic District Accessibility Route, Kansas City, Missouri

Riverfront West Pedestian Bridge, Kansas City, Missouri

Riverfront Heritage Trail Segments 2 and 4A, Kansas City, Missouri

I-670 Pedestrian Bridge Safety and Aesthetic Enhancements, Kansas City, Missouri

Shoal Creek Parkway Trail, Kansas City, Missouri

### Construction Inspection Experience

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Riverfront Heritage Trail ASB Underpass, Kansas City, Missouri

Riverfront West Pedestian Bridge, Kansas City, Missouri

Riverfront Heritage Trail Segments 2 and 4A, Kansas City, Missouri

Riverfront Slope Stabilization, Kansas City, Missouri

Cliff Drive Landslide Restoration, Kansas City, Missouri

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