



**Missouri's
Local
Program**
*for community
development*

COVER SHEET

(This must accompany your firm's letter of interest and does not count in the page limit)

Firm's Full Legal
Name:

Benton Engineering

Firm Contact Name:

Stefanie Ballinger

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806C East State Route 72

Rolla, MO 65401

Work Category:

- Roadway Design
- Trails & Sidewalks
- Construction Inspection
- Traffic Engineering & TEAP
- Structures
- Environmental
- Historic Preservation
- Multimodal Planning / Systems and Facilities Design
- Transportation Planning – **NEW CATEGORY**



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December 12, 2025

Ms. Ashley Buechter, P.E.
Local Program Administrator
MoDOT Central Office – Local Programs
105 W. Capital Avenue
Jefferson City, MO 65102

SUBJECT: Letter of Interest for Construction Inspection Services

Dear Ms. Buechter,

Benton Engineering, formerly Benton & Associates, Inc., is pleased to submit this Letter of Interest to provide construction inspection services for Missouri's Local Public Agency (LPA) Program. Our firm is fully prequalified with the Missouri Department of Transportation to provide consulting engineering services. The following sections summarize our qualifications aligned with the evaluation criteria, including general experience, past performance, personnel qualifications, federal familiarity/capability, and accessibility.

General Experience of Firm: Benton Engineering has served municipal and county clients since 1970, providing planning, design, construction engineering, and long-term operational support on a wide range of public infrastructure projects. Our experience spans storm drainage and floodplain improvements, transportation and roadway reconstruction, structural engineering, surveying, GIS, utility infrastructure, and multi-disciplinary project management. We routinely work within teams consisting of survey, geotechnical, materials testing, architectural, and other specialty consultants to deliver projects from initial concept through final construction closeout. Our work includes numerous projects that required intensive construction inspection, documentation, quantity verification, contractor coordination, and public-agency compliance, mirroring the expectations of MoDOT's LPA program.

Representative experience includes:

Historic Route 66 Sidewalk Improvements – Phase I & Phase II (TAP Grant and Local Funds)

Benton Engineering provided both design and construction inspection services for multi-phase pedestrian and drainage improvements along Historic Route 66, creating continuous, ADA-compliant sidewalk connections through the Waynesville corridor. Phase I work included curb and gutter, 5'–6' sidewalks, ADA ramps, storm boxes, 15–18" storm pipe, modular block retaining walls, concrete drive pavement, crosswalks, site restoration, and traffic control. Phase II expanded the corridor with additional curb and gutter, 5' sidewalks, 14 ADA curb ramps, storm boxes, 250 LF of storm pipe, concrete drive pavement, topsoil/seed/mulch, modular block wall, crosswalks, traffic control, and a culvert extension. Our responsibilities included plan preparation, agency coordination, daily field documentation, quantity verification, materials oversight, and contractor coordination to ensure compliance with MoDOT LPA procedures and project specifications. Total cost: Approx. \$1M

Country Club Hills Subdivision – Jacksonville, IL (Private Funding)

Approximately 40 acres developed into a multi-use residential and commercial subdivision. Benton Engineering delivered full design, permitting, and construction observation services, including 3,100 LF of new HMA streets with

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~ SINCE 1970 ~

curb and gutter, sidewalks, storm sewer, detention facilities, sanitary sewer, and potable water distribution. We coordinated an Intersection Design Study (IDS), traffic analysis, and public-agency review (City of Jacksonville and IDOT). Our construction team performed daily logs, pay estimates, and materials documentation. Total construction cost: \$1.4M. estimates, and material testing. Construction cost for this project was \$1,400,000 and utilized private funds from the client.

Stacy Lane Improvements – Macomb, IL (Local Funding)

Design, bidding, and construction observation for 1,100 LF of residential street reconstruction including PCC pavement, curb and gutter, storm sewer, and driveway replacements. Survey services included control, topo, CAD preparation, and design data acquisition. Construction inspection included material verification, shop drawings, pay estimates, and change orders. Total cost: \$407,000.

East Main Cross Street – Taylorville, IL (State Funded; DCEO Grant)

Surveying, design, bidding, and construction observation for 800 LF of business-district roadway, sidewalk, parking, and ADA upgrades. Improvements included HMA mainline pavement, storm sewer structures, and 850 LF of water main with appurtenances. Our inspection team provided documentation consistent with state-grant requirements. Total cost: \$1.551M.

These projects demonstrate a consistent history of providing full-service construction inspection, documentation, federal-style compliance, and multi-agency coordination.

Past Performance: Benton Engineering's reputation is built on delivering cost-conscious, compliant, and well-documented projects that meet local, state, and federal standards. Our repeat clients, municipalities, counties, and public agencies, reflect our reliable performance and ability to maintain schedule, budget, and regulatory compliance.

Our past projects include federally funded TAP, SRTS, and other state-administered programs requiring adherence to specifications, wage rates, materials documentation, and closeout procedures. Whether federally or locally funded, our projects consistently receive positive feedback for accuracy in quantity tracking, communication with contractors, and responsiveness to client needs.

Qualifications of Personnel: Another key to our success is the knowledge and experience of our staff. Our construction inspection team brings decades of combined experience in transportation, utilities, environmental systems, and LPA-style construction documentation. Key personnel include:

William J. Sleeman, PE – Principal / Senior Engineer

30+ years in transportation engineering, including Phase I, II, and III services. Experience includes roadway design for rural and urban corridors, storm sewer and drainage design, bridges/culverts, ADA facilities, traffic control, quantity calculations, and full construction inspection oversight. He leads our transportation and land development projects.

James A. Morris – Construction Supervisor / SUE Manager

26 years in environmental and utility engineering, project management, QA/QC review, construction observation, public coordination, easement interpretation, and ASCE 38-compliant utility designation. Experienced in material testing, plan/spec review, documentation, and GIS mapping. James serves as our lead construction inspector and oversees field training and subsurface utility investigations.

Stefanie J. Ballinger, PE – Project Manager / Construction Observer

21 years of civil and environmental engineering experience including site design, stormwater, ADA-compliant sidewalk projects, MFT program administration, and construction inspection for water/sewer, roadway reconstruction, and pedestrian facilities. Certified through ACI for concrete testing. Experience includes IDOT and MoDOT LPA projects, Phase I/II preparation, documentation, quantity calculations, and full federal-style compliance on construction projects.

Collectively, our team has extensive experience in materials testing, daily documentation, pay estimates, shop drawing review, DBE compliance, traffic control verification, and coordination with contractors and public agencies.

Familiarity/Capability: Our team frequently performs work funded through state and federal programs, including TAP, SRTS, STP, and DCEO grant projects. We understand the critical importance of documentation for federal participation and eligibility. Our inspectors are experienced with:

- FHWA and MoDOT LPA requirements
- Daily reporting and photograph logs tied to pay items
- Wage rate compliance and Buy America documentation
- Verification of materials certifications and testing reports
- Change order justification, force account documentation, and audit-ready files
- Communication with District personnel during construction

Because a significant portion of our work is administered through state/federal agencies, our staff is accustomed to the detailed processes and documentation required for federal reimbursement. This familiarity minimizes risk for the LPA and helps ensure project funds remain eligible.

Accessibility: Responsiveness to client needs is one of our defining strengths. Our staff is available for on-site support, field consultation, and construction meetings as needed, with communication that is direct, timely, and solution-oriented. We maintain close working relationships with our clients throughout design and construction, ensuring that questions, conflicts, and schedule adjustments are addressed quickly. This accessibility builds trust, strengthens project partnerships, and supports smooth project delivery.

Our team's experience, personnel qualifications, federal-project familiarity, and commitment to responsive service make Benton Engineering a highly capable partner for construction inspection within the Missouri LPA program. We appreciate your consideration and welcome the opportunity to support your community's transportation and infrastructure needs.

Respectfully submitted,

BENTON ENGINEERING



Stefanie J. Ballinger, PE
Principal

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Service is our Business

Our primary goal is to serve you, our client, by providing expert advice and comprehensive engineering services. We can help with everything from initial consultations and feasibility studies to final designs and construction oversight.

When you're choosing an engineering partner, you're looking for a firm that's qualified, available, and has a proven track record of delivering projects on time. With over 55 years of experience, we're confident we can meet those expectations. Our size is a key advantage for our clients: we are large enough to take on your most complex projects, yet small enough that a Principal or Associate will be personally involved in your work from start to finish. We work with a wide range of clients on multi-discipline engineering projects, assisting them from the initial concept phase all the way through construction and follow-up operational assistance.

We would welcome the chance to talk with you about your next engineering or survey project. Please feel free to call, email, or visit our office.

Consulting Engineers
& Land Surveyors



We are dedicated to serving our clients throughout the entire project lifecycle, from initial concept to construction completion and facility operations.

www.bentoneng.com



Additional Offices:

Macomb, IL - (309) 837-3151
Kirksville, MO - (660) 665-3575
Rolla, MO - (573) 364-0980
Taylorville, IL - (217) 971-5929

SERVICES

Civil/Site Development: We bring your vision to life, whether it's a residential neighborhood, commercial property, or agricultural site.

Drinking Water: We help you manage and improve your water systems, from routine maintenance to complex new facilities.

Electrical: We provide in-house electrical engineering expertise to ensure your projects are efficient, durable, and safe.

Funding Assistance: We help you find and secure the funding you need to make your project happen.

Pools & Recreation: We help you create inviting community parks and recreational spaces that enhance quality of life.

Rural Water: We are experts in delivering reliable water to rural communities, no matter how vast or challenging the terrain.

Structural: Our licensed engineers design safe, durable structures using advanced tools and decades of experience—building strong foundations for your project.

Surveying & Geomatics: We provide the precise, accurate data you need for your project using the latest technology.

Subsurface Utility Engineering (S.U.E.): We help you avoid costly delays and accidents by accurately locating underground utilities before you start construction.

Transportation: We design effective transportation networks—from local roads to urban streetscapes—that connect your community.

Water Resources: We develop sustainable stormwater solutions that protect your community's natural resources and support its economic growth.

Wastewater: Our experienced engineers and licensed operators are ready to deliver smart, compliant solutions for sewer rehabilitation, treatment upgrades, new facilities, and more.



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Since 1970, Benton Engineering delivers reliable, cost-effective results with a focus on high-quality service. Our team—engineers, surveyors, certified operators, and construction observers—is passionate about continuous improvement and building better communities. We invest in ongoing education to bring you the most advanced engineering practices available.

Clients

- Municipalities & Counties
- Water Districts, Rural Water and Cooperatives
- State & Federal Government
- Industry
- Utilities
- Commercial & Residential Developers
- Drainage Districts
- Land Owners