



**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

Contact Email
Address:

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Firm's Mailing Address:

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 Trails & Sidewalk Services

Dear Ms. Buechter,

Benton Engineering, formerly Benton & Associates, Inc., is pleased to submit this Letter of Interest to provide trail and sidewalk engineering services for Missouri's Local Public Agency (LPA) Program. Our firm is currently prequalified with the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) and has extensive experience delivering pedestrian, ADA, Safe Routes to School (SRTS), and community connectivity projects for municipalities and counties. The following sections summarize our firm's experience, past performance, personnel qualifications, federal project familiarity, and responsiveness.

General Experience of Firm: Since 1970, Benton Engineering has provided comprehensive civil engineering services to local governments, supporting clients through planning, design, permitting, construction, and long-term operation. Our expertise includes transportation and roadway improvements, trail and sidewalk design, Safe Routes to School planning, ADA compliance, drainage and stormwater design, structural engineering, and GIS. We frequently lead multidisciplinary teams involving survey, geotechnical, materials testing, and environmental professionals.

Benton Engineering has delivered numerous sidewalk, pathway, and pedestrian-safety projects funded through state and federal programs—including SRTS, TAP-style grants, and other pedestrian-focused initiatives. Our work emphasizes safety, ADA compliance, constructability, cost-effective design, and context-sensitive solutions that strengthen community walkability.

Representative experience includes:

City of Waynesville – Hwy 17 Roubidoux Creek Access & Trail Project

Benton Engineering provided design and engineering services for a new multi-access trail connection along Roubidoux Creek. Improvements included a new trailhead at Hwy 17 with a 24'x24' ADA-accessible restroom building, concrete/masonry construction, and fish-cleaning station; a 150'x50' parking lot with ADA accommodations; and a 5-foot-wide concrete footbridge. The project also included 1,900 feet of new trail (1,200 feet natural terrain and 700 feet ADA-accessible sidewalk) connecting to the existing City trail system, plus a second access point with a 30'x100' ADA-compliant concrete parking lot on Pine Street. Additional elements included drainage improvements, grading, and installation of an informational kiosk. The project expanded the community trail network, improved accessibility, and enhanced public stream access along Roubidoux Creek.

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

City of Carrollton, Illinois – Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Improvements

Benton Engineering provided full design and construction inspection services for approximately 2,200 feet of new sidewalk connecting neighborhoods to local schools. Improvements included new ADA-compliant ramps with detectable warnings, sidewalk entrances, HMA pavement, relocation of storm inlets, and drainage upgrades. Construction was completed in July 2021 at a cost of \$268,400, with a funding split of 75% federal and 25% local. Our responsibilities included plan preparation, agency coordination, ADA compliance verification, and full construction documentation.

City of Colchester, Illinois – Safe Routes to School Improvements

For this fully federally funded (\$200,000) SRTS project, Benton Engineering designed and provided construction inspection for approximately 2,600 feet of sidewalk, new entrances, and HMA pavement improvements. All elements were designed and constructed to ADA standards. Construction was completed in August 2020 and included coordination with local schools, utility reviews, site constraints, and pedestrian-route safety improvements.

Village of Stronghurst, Illinois – Safe Routes to School Pedestrian Safety Project

This 100% federally funded \$133,000 project included new thermoplastic crosswalk striping, installation of a pedestrian bump-out, new curb and gutter, LED flashing pedestrian crossing signs, speed limit and pedestrian warning signage, and approximately 800 feet of new ADA-compliant sidewalk and ramps. Benton Engineering provided design, plan preparation, ADA compliance review, and construction inspection. The project improved pedestrian visibility, reduced crossing distances, and enhanced access routes for schoolchildren.

City of Waverly, Illinois – Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Replacement

Benton Engineering designed and provided construction inspection for the removal and replacement of approximately 2,500 feet of existing sidewalk, including ADA-compliant ramps at all intersections. The 2015 project had a total cost of \$198,400, funded 80% by federal SRTS dollars and 20% local match. Our services included ADA design verification, drainage adjustments, and coordination with local schools and residents.

Past Performance: Benton Engineering's pedestrian and community connectivity projects consistently meet MoDOT LPA and FHWA expectations for ADA, safety, and documentation. Our strong performance record is demonstrated by repeat clients, successful delivery of multiple federally funded SRTS projects, and our longstanding partnerships with municipalities and school districts. Benton Engineering has not had any contracts canceled or terminated from January 1, 2010 to present.

Qualifications of Personnel: Our trails and sidewalk engineering team is led by experienced transportation and municipal engineers with extensive ADA and pedestrian-infrastructure background.

William J. Sleeman, PE – Senior Transportation Engineer / Principal-in-Charge

30+ years of experience in roadway, pedestrian, and transportation design. His background includes ADA compliance, intersection design, drainage and hydrology, corridor studies, sidewalk and streetscape improvements, and full Phase I, II, and III services. Mr. Sleeman oversees all transportation and land development projects within the firm and reviews pedestrian projects for constructability, accessibility, and funding compliance.

Stefanie J. Ballinger, PE – Transportation / Municipal Engineer

21 years of experience in site design, sidewalk reconstruction, storm sewer and drainage design, ADA-compliant ramp design, urban street improvements, and construction observation. She is ACI certified for concrete testing and has extensive experience preparing PS&E packages for pedestrian, sidewalk, and roadway projects funded through state and federal programs. Ms. Ballinger also assists clients with Motor Fuel Tax programs and ensures compliance with evolving state and federal requirements.

Our team is supported by in-house survey crews, CAD technicians, and construction personnel, allowing us to deliver sidewalk and trail projects efficiently from planning through construction.

Familiarity/Capability: Our pedestrian and Safe Routes to School experience is deeply rooted in federally funded project delivery. We routinely prepare federally compliant ADA designs, construction documents, bidding materials, and field documentation. Our team is familiar with:

- MoDOT LPA requirements
- FHWA ADA standards and PROWAG principles
- Buy America provisions
- Wage rate compliance
- Federally funded construction documentation and closeout
- Project eligibility and reimbursement processes

This experience ensures LPAs receive projects that remain fully compliant and fundable.

Accessibility: Responsiveness to client needs is a core part of our service philosophy. Our engineers remain accessible throughout design and construction, providing prompt coordination, field visits, and support for unexpected site conditions. Open communication and strong coordination with municipal staff, schools, and community stakeholders help ensure projects proceed smoothly and meet their intended safety and accessibility goals.

Benton Engineering's extensive experience delivering sidewalk, trail, and pedestrian-safety projects, combined with our federal compliance knowledge, qualified personnel, and responsive service, positions our firm as a strong partner for providing Trails & Sidewalks engineering services under the MoDOT LPA program. We appreciate your consideration and look forward to the opportunity to support Missouri's Local Public Agencies' mobility and safety goals.

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



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

B BENTON
ENGINEERING

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

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.



Partnership. Commitment. Results.

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