

Request for Proposal & Qualifications
PROPOSALS ARE DUE MAY 27TH AT NOON

WSDOT Local Programs- Fairfax/ Wilkeson/ Carbon River SR 165 Bridge Closure Mitigation- Capital Project State Funding 2026-2029

Background:

The Town of Wilkeson has been working with WSDOT since April of 2025, helping to mitigate the impacts resulting from the closure of the Fairfax Bridge. In the first year, this resulted in communication improvements, emergency mapping, access gate upgrades and creating in-person public forums for community meetings and informational updates. Facilitating these meetings allowed impacted people to meet directly with WSDOT, getting accurate information from the source, allowing information to flow quickly and questions to be answered in real time, with less opportunity for speculation.

In FY2026, The Town of Wilkeson was awarded funding in the legislative session to further assist the residents of Fairfax, improving access, emergency preparedness and response as well as coordinating emergency access on a secondary egress route.

Statement of Need:

The Town of Wilkeson was awarded funding through the Washington State Department of Transportation, Capital Project State Funding intended to:

1. Provide temporary access and mobility solutions to impacted residents and other authorized users.
2. Provide impacted residents of Fairfax, an unincorporated community in remote East Pierce County, with emergency management and emergency operations support.
3. Coordinate planning and design of secondary emergency egress, to include appropriate legal authorization framework through roughly 12 miles of gated private timber lands.

The Town of Wilkeson is seeking proposals from qualified individuals or entities that will be able to coordinate and manage this project, with oversight from the Town of Wilkeson, Washington State Department of Transportation. Coordination will also include the impacted residents of Fairfax, private timber companies, and applicable county, state and federal agencies as necessary.

Estimated Budget for Consultant Services:

FY 2026: \$120,000

FY 2027: \$150,000

Estimated Schedule:

This project has allocated funding through FY 2027.

Historic Wilkeson, Washington

540 Church Street | P.O. Box 89 Wilkeson, WA 98396

Phone: 360-829-0790 Fax: 360-829-4292

Evaluation Criteria:

Submissions will be sent to the Town's contracted Attorney, Will Gunderson for review and verification that the stated proposal elements are met. Attorney Gunderson will make recommendations to the Wilkeson Town Council based on the applicants stated qualifications, project knowledge and suitability for this project. Scoring Criteria can be found in Appendix A

Proposal Elements:

Introduction Narrative:

Outline relevant experience and qualifications for this project. Please include the entity's general approach to the proposed project, an understanding of this region and include an estimated timeline as to when your entity could begin project work.

Element 1:

Demonstrate understanding of the publicly known issues related to the Fairfax bridge closure as well as the regional impacts to surrounding communities and the Fairfax residents impacted by this closure.

- Knowledge of the geographical area impacted by the closure
- Knowledge of full-time Fairfax resident mobility concerns/ issues
- Knowledge related to public land accessibility
- Local economic impacts
- Challenges for law enforcement, fire and emergency medical response

Element 2:

Provide a past example demonstrating entity success advocating for community members to government agencies.

- How did you successfully coordinate the project? Please include the agencies.
- Were you able to successfully advance the desired needs and goals outlined by the community?

Element 3:

Entities must certify that they have experience with state/ local grant administration, including reporting and applicable supporting documentation required for payment and future auditing.

Element 4:

Entities must certify that they are able to travel to Wilkeson to in-person meetings. They will also need to be able to traverse the primitive detour road into Fairfax, with their own transportation. Trips necessary to Fairfax may occur during all 4 seasons and may require 4-wheel drive and or chains.

Quarterly community meetings, in the evening are strongly recommended for broader community updates, progress updates, coordination efforts and next steps.

Element 5:

Attach at least one letter of support, demonstrating your entity's ability to collaborate, coordinate and complete a past project.

Historic Wilkeson, Washington
540 Church Street | P.O. Box 89 Wilkeson, WA 98396
Phone: 360-829-0790 Fax: 360-829-4292

Submittal deadline: May 27th, 2026 at noon

Submissions should be emailed to will@gundylaw.net or mailed to

Town of Wilkeson
PO BOX 89
Wilkeson WA 98396

If you have any questions, please reach out to Clerk@townofwilkeson.com

Thank you,



Marie Wellock
Clerk
360-829-0790

Appendix A Submission Review Criteria

Points Per Category	Proposal Element	Submittal Score
20	Introduction	
10	Relevant Experience	
5	Current understanding of project needs and goals	
5	Understanding of region	
0	Timeline to begin work	
25	Element 1	
5	Knowledge of the geographical area	
5	Knowledge of the current mobility challenges	
5	Knowledge related to relevant public land access	
5	Local High-Level Economic Impacts	
5	Challenges for LW/ Fire/ EMS	
30	Element 2	
15	Past Project- Showing successful coordination	
15	Able to successfully advance goals of community	
10	Element 3	
10	Grant Administration Experience	
10	Element 4	
10	Certification- Can Travel to Wilkeson & Beyond	
5	Element 5	
5	Letter of Support	

Total Score