

PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING AUTHORIZATION

Preliminary Engineering Authorization allows the LGA to be reimbursed for eligible planning, design and professional services costs. Authorization occurs only after a Project Agreement has been fully executed.

POLICY: The LGA shall not initiate any work, nor solicit for professional services, prior to receiving preliminary engineering authorization.

Preliminary Engineering Authorization allows the LGA to be reimbursed for costs related to preconstruction activities, or Preliminary Engineering (PE) – see [Funding Authorization](#). That includes planning, environmental documentation, design, surveys, in short, everything except purchase of [right of way](#), [utility relocation](#), and [construction](#) – these activities have separate authorizations.

After full execution of a Project Agreement, NCDOT will request authorization of preliminary engineering funds, if this is an eligible phase of work. Generally, NCDOT will set up a portion of the total funding for preliminary engineering. PE Funding may be adjusted after the review and approval of a consultant contract. PE expenses should be monitored so that it stays within this range; additional funds may not be available.

WORK PERFORMED BY NCDOT

IMPORTANT: If any reviews are done by NCDOT, the cost will be charged against the project; therefore, it is important to factor those costs into an overall budget.

PROCEDURE

- NCDOT will submit the funding request to FHWA, along with a fully-executed Project Agreement.
- NCDOT will notify the LGA, *in writing*, when funding is authorized and expenses may be incurred.
- Funding Authorization may take as long as two (2) weeks.

IMPORTANT: Any costs incurred before preliminary engineering is authorized and written notification are not eligible for reimbursement.