



NOTICE OF INTENT PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP PROJECT



I-10 Calcasieu River Bridge State Project No. H.003931 Federal Project No. 0.101212 Calcasieu Parish

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA DOTD) is announcing its intent to enter into a Comprehensive Agreement with a Developer possessing the capability to design, build, finance, operate, and maintain the I-10 Calcasieu River Bridge Public-Private Partnership (P3) Project (the “P3 Project”) in Calcasieu Parish.



The I-10 Calcasieu River Bridge opened to traffic in 1952 as part of the US 90 system and was later integrated as part of Interstate 10 (I-10) in the 1960s. Currently, the daily number of vehicles traveling the Calcasieu River Bridge section of I-10 exceeds the existing capacity of 70,876 vehicles per day. The LA DOTD has studied the feasibility of tolling in connection with preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), with results indicating a high likelihood of success.

The P3 Project is part of LA DOTD’s larger I-10 corridor project extending from the I-10/I-210 east interchange to the I-10/I-210 west interchange. The limits of the P3 Project extend from the I-10/I-210 west interchange to the Ryan Street exit ramp on the eastside of the bridge. The Calcasieu River Bridge and the interstate mainline within the P3 Project limits will be reconstructed to ensure that the vertical clearance, horizontal alignment, sight distances, and other road and bridge elements meet current design criteria. The segment of LA 378 (Sampson Street) from I-10 to Sulphur Avenue will be improved and several access ramps and the interchanges at Sampson Street and US 171 will also be reconfigured as part of the P3 Project.

The major elements of the P3 Project may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Replacement of the Calcasieu River Bridge;
- Reconfiguration of interchanges;
- Interstate widening;
- Complex maintenance of traffic and sequence of construction in a congested and confined urban freeway environment;
- Demolition of the existing bridge;
- Tolling and back-office services;
- Potential option for integrated tolling and back-office systems for the LA DOTD's other tolled and user fee facilities;
- Railroad relocation;
- Environmental considerations and mitigation requirements;
- Right-of-Way appraisal and acquisition services;
- Utility coordination and relocation; and
- Aesthetic qualities.

The major elements of the P3 Project may also be further defined or amended in the Request for Proposals (RFP) issued by the LA DOTD.

The larger project extending from the I-10/I-210 east to I-10/I-210 west interchanges is currently in the environmental phase. Three alternatives have been identified as reasonable and will be evaluated in the EIS. A fourth public meeting will be scheduled in spring 2021 to present preliminary findings that will ultimately determine which of these alternatives is preferred. A Record of Decision (ROD) is anticipated by the first quarter of 2022. Additional information can be found at <http://i10lakecharles.com>.

Commercial close for the P3 Project is anticipated to occur no later than **Spring 2023**.

The selection process will consist of two phases. Submissions received in response to the LA DOTD's Request for Qualifications (RFQ) will be evaluated to develop a short-list of eligible proposers. The LA DOTD will then issue the RFP to short-listed proposers inviting them to submit additional information for evaluation and use in determining the successful Developer. The selection process will evaluate the proposers' abilities to plan, design, construct, finance, operate, and maintain the P3 Project while providing a quality product with revenue service on or ahead of schedule.

The LA DOTD is seeking a Developer who is committed to quality; has proven experience in the management, design, construction, financing, operations, and maintenance of tolled bridge projects; will bring innovative approaches to the P3 Project; will ensure timely initiation of revenue service; and is willing to partner with the LA DOTD and local community stakeholders for the success of the P3 Project.

Firms/teams are required to review the LA DOTD's Public-Private Partnership Procurement Guidelines (the "Guidelines") for the P3 Project, which can be found on the LA DOTD's P3 website at:

http://wwwsp.dotd.la.gov/Inside_LaDOTD/Divisions/Engineering/Public-PrivatePartnerships/Pages/default.aspx.

These Guidelines outline the procurement process the LA DOTD is utilizing for this P3 Project, including mandatory procedures relating to communications with the LA DOTD and stakeholders, and information regarding organizational conflicts of interest and firm eligibility.

All firms/teams interested in proposing on this P3 Project should submit a Letter of Interest (LOI) to L-10CalcasieuBridgeP3@la.gov. All correspondence with the LA DOTD on matters concerning the P3 Project should be made in writing to this E-mail address.

LOIs from firms/teams responding to this Notice of Intent must be submitted no later than March 2, 2021. The LOI must include a specific acknowledgement that the firm/team has reviewed the Guidelines and will comply with the Guidelines' provisions throughout the procurement process. The LOI must also, at a minimum, identify the proposed primary team members (if the LOI is being submitted by a team) and provide contact information (name, telephone number, address, and E-mail address) for the official point of contact.

The RFQ will be issued to all firms/teams who have provided the LA DOTD with an LOI in compliance with the provisions of this Notice of Intent. A list of all firms/teams who submitted a compliant LOI will be published on the LA DOTD's P3 website after the expiration of the deadline for submission.