

Questions to ALDOT About Bridge

Citizens have raised the following questions which we could not answer. Please get back with us with answers to the questions below.

1. Length of bond issue? If over 50 years, why so long? (perhaps to reduce toll amounts)
2. Why are there no tolls on other state projects but on I-10?
3. Will Alabama have to “match” as portion of the costs?
4. What is federal involvement/participation?
5. What is state involvement/participation?
6. When will advertisement for construction bids begin?
7. Will there be bids for construction, operation and maintenance?
8. How much “up front” investment would be needed to reduce the toll?
9. Will ALDOT take any of the toll? If so, how much?
10. How much money will the \$0.10 gas tax generate from Baldwin and Mobile counties, and how much of that will be applied toward the bridge’s construction?
11. What timeframe might be expected on a new bridge if no toll is charged?
12. Who will be the Authority and with what criteria to be considered will determine the actual toll to be charged?
13. Are there provisions for the toll to be changed (reduced, increased, eliminated)?
14. Will there be any sort of reduced costs annual pass that can be purchased (residents pass / non-residents pass of Mobile/Baldwin counties)?
15. Who made the decision the bridge would be primarily financed through tolls vs. usual financing of interstate highways of Fed/State cost share. Is the Federal Govt requiring the State to primarily pay for the bridge or is it a State decision to finance bridge through tolls?
16. Who decides on criteria/structure/terms for the toll; amount, number of years for toll, etc?
17. Is it true the plan calls for a 55-year toll? If yes, what is reason for 55 years?
18. Where do the excess funds from the toll go after the financing bonds are paid in full?
19. Once the P3 agreements and legal documents are in place, does the State have an “out”?.? Are there performance standards or something similar for the Partner, that if not met the State can cancel the agreement? Is there any way the State can get out of deal short of the original agreed upon term?
20. Once the P3 plan is in place, who has decision making authority? Will the State have ultimate authority, or will the Partner have final decision-making authority?
21. What alternatives to building a \$2+ billion bridge has ALDOT considered? Does the State have a plan B if the P3 plan does not receive final approval?