# Mobile River Bridge and Bayway

Alabama Transportation Conference February 9, 2022

# Project History/Timeline

Feasibility Study 1997

Alternatives Screening **Evaluation** 

2005

Draft EIS Signed (July 22, 2014) **Public Hearings** 

2014

SDEIS Signed (March 26, 2019)

**Public Hearings** 

FEIS/ROD **Public** Approved Workshops (August 15, 2019) 2016 2019

2003

EIS Notice of Intent **Public Hearings** 

**EA Signed** (June 9, 2003)

2010

Public Involvement 2015

**Preliminary** Design

2017

**ROW** Authorized

Bayway & Storm Surge Analysis

2021

**Phased Project** added back to TIP/LRTP (June 2 and 9, 2021)

PE Project Authorized (June 17, 2021)

# Phased Project



# **Project Direction from MPOs**

"MPO members are hopeful a feasible way can be found to build the phases concurrently...Accordingly, both MPOs request ALDOT broaden its study to enable it to report back to the MPOs as to what financial structure would be required to build all three phases simultaneously..."

Letter from MPO Chairman Stimpson and MPO Chairman Burrell to ALDOT
September 1, 2021

# Project Direction from MPOs

December 15, 2021 letter from MPOs provided additional guidance:

- Be comprehensive and not phased/piecemeal plan
- Free, no toll options including Wallace Tunnel, Bankhead Tunnel, Africatown Bridge, and Causeway
- Need to protect \$125 million federal grant and anticipate at least \$250 million in State Funds
- Tolls for cars should be \$2.50 or less and \$18.00 or less for 18-wheeler trucks
- Continue to work with locals through the MPO process

# Project Team - Technical



Owner's
Representative
and Procurement
Lead



Design Review and Procurement Assistance



Environmental Consultant

### Project Team – Traffic and Finance



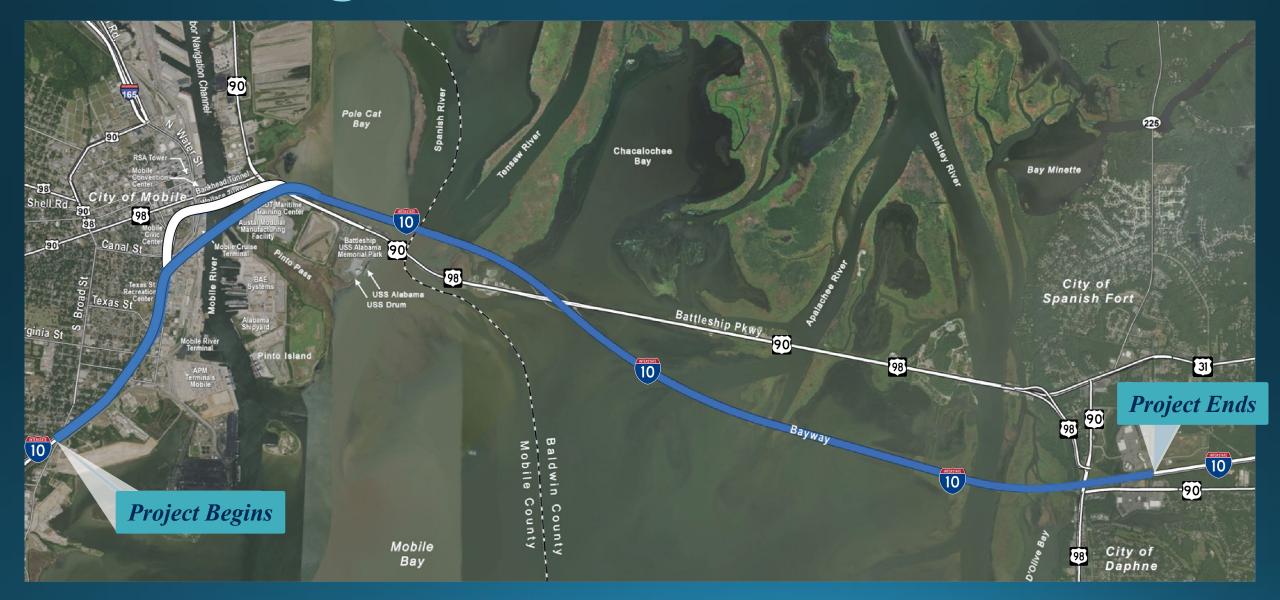
Traffic and Revenue Consultant





Financial Consultants

# Base Design



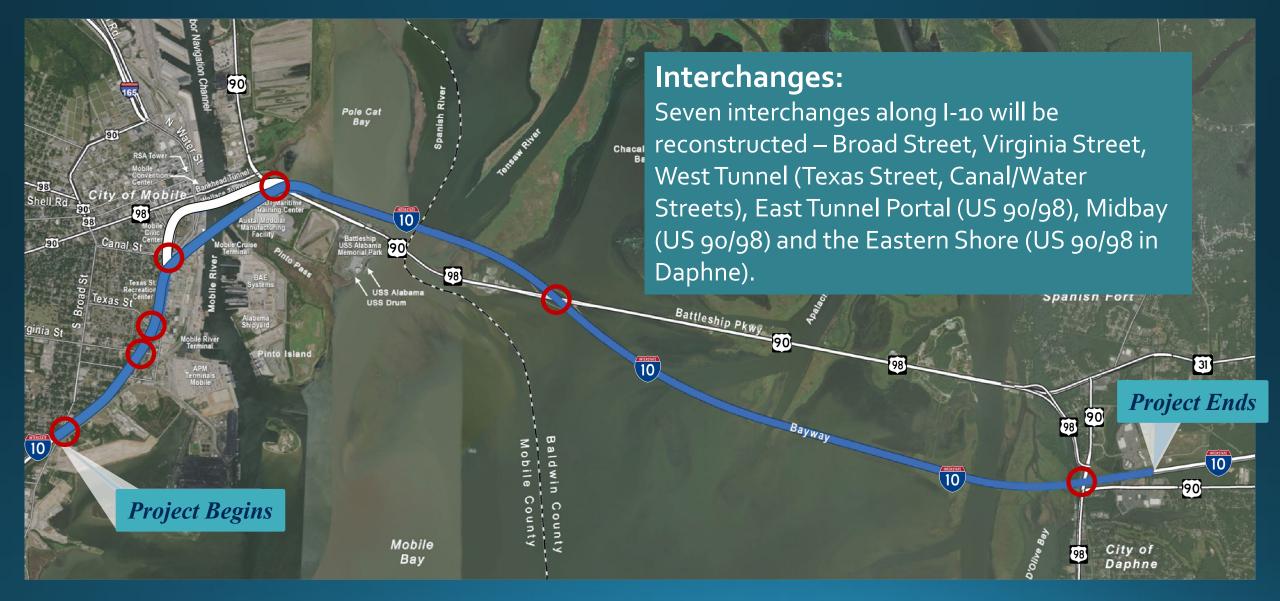
### Base Design – Main Span



### Base Design - Bayway



### Base Design - Interchanges



### Proposed Plan

Toll Plans with varying rates and discount plans will be modeled and abide by guidelines outlined by MPOs:

- Passenger Car rate maximum of \$2.50
- Semi-truck rate maximum of \$18.00
- Wallace Tunnel, US-90/98 Causeway, Bankhead Tunnel and Africatown Bridge will remain toll free

The Financial Structure will be presented to MPOs so they can vote to put the full Project back on the TIPs and LRTPs.

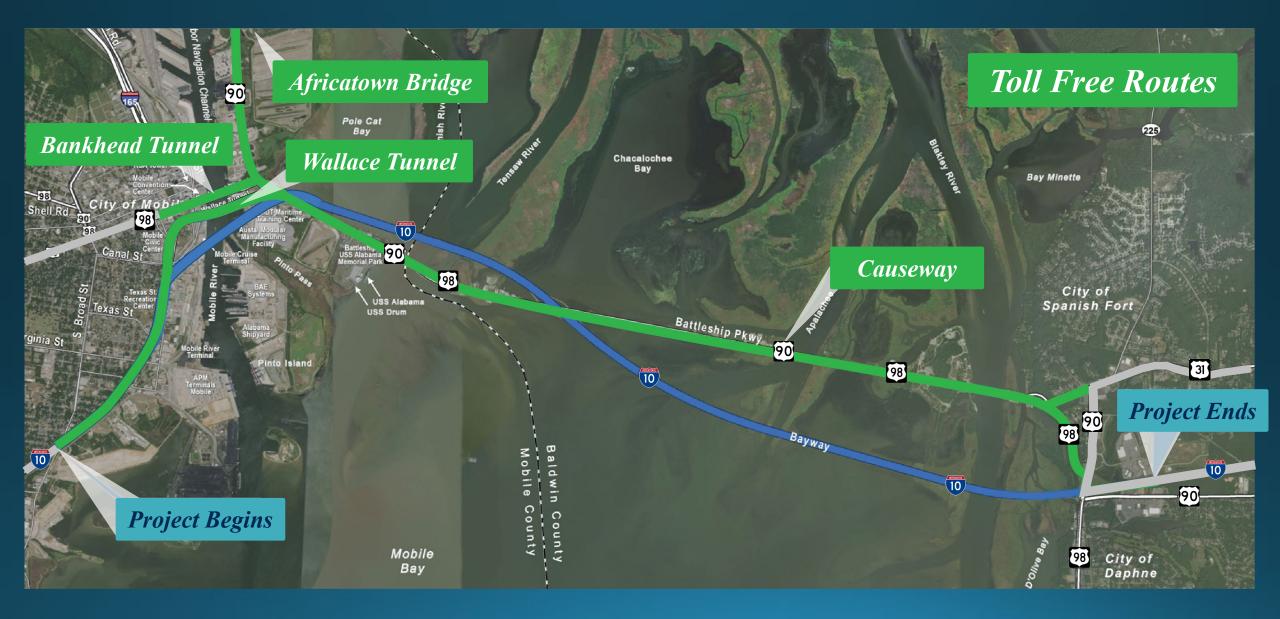
# Proposed Plan - Toll Gantry Locations



#### Toll Route



### **Toll Free Routes**



### **Toll Free Routes**



### Toll Free Routes

Wallace
Tunnel /
Causeway
Connection



# Toll Free Routes

Wallace
Tunnel /
Downtown
Connection



# Proposed Plan – Preliminary Funding Structure

State Funds - \$250 million

Federal INFRA Grant - \$125 million

Senior Financing – Approx. \$955 million

Federal TIFIA Loan – Approx. \$670 million

To be paid back with tolling revenue

### Proposed Plan – Procurement

Procurement split into two projects:

- 1. Design Build Main Span Cable-Stayed Bridge and associated interchanges
- Design Build Bayway and associated interchanges

### Proposed Plan – Procurement

Benefits of doing two DB Procurements:

- Splits project into two smaller projects instead of one large
   \$2 billion project.
- 2. Provides smaller construction and design firms more opportunity
- 3. Could do Progressive DB to allow for quicker start to the design and construction and lowers initial financial investment from teams

# Proposed Plan – Other Projects

Other nearby projects that will be let in the next few years as Design Bid Build:

- 1. Tensaw River Bridge Replacement
- 2. I-10 Widening from Eastern Shore Interchange to SR-181
- 3. Bicycle and Pedestrian Path along Africatown Boulevard and Africatown Bridge
- 4. Access management plan along US-90/98 Causeway

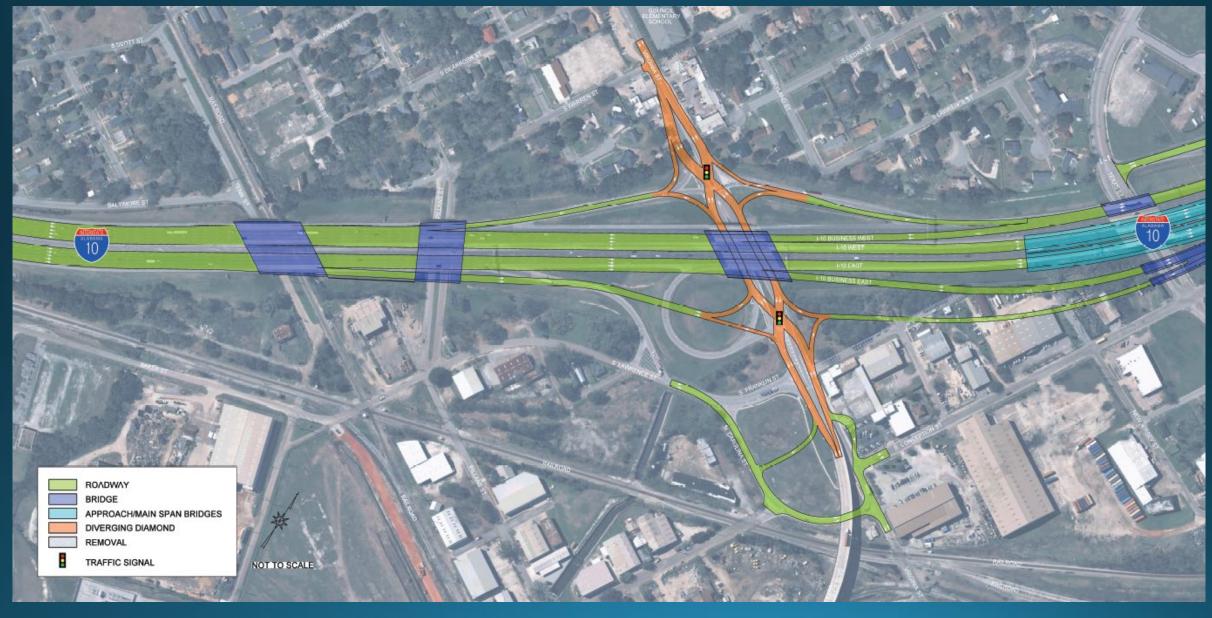
# Proposed Plan – Project 1



# Project 1 – Broad Street



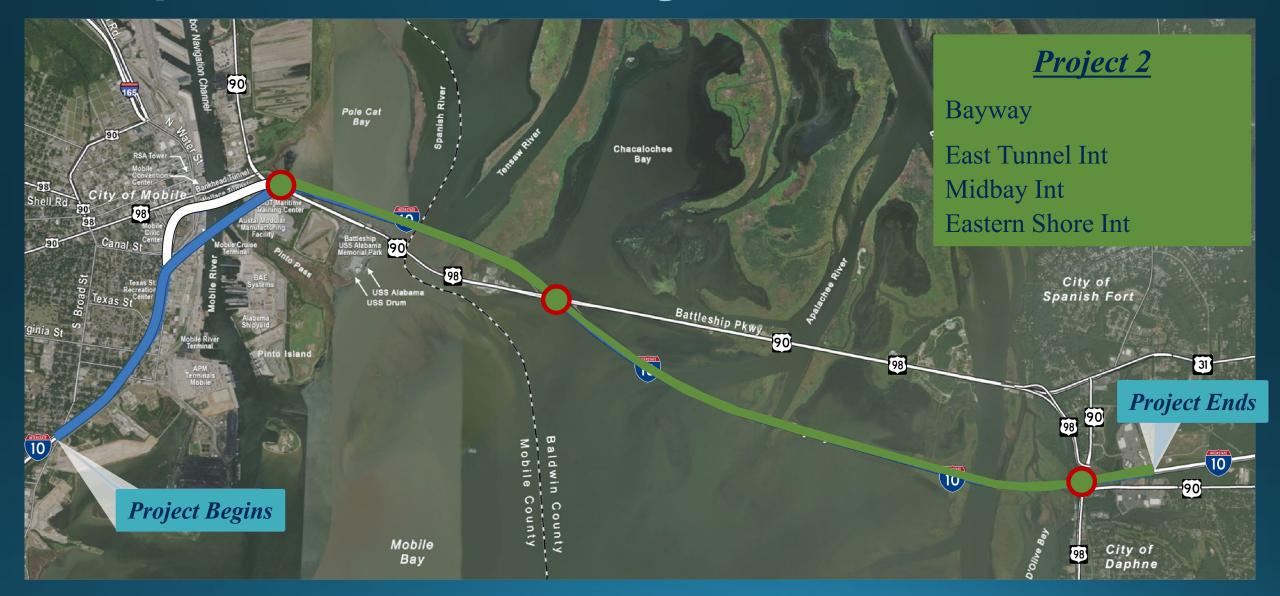
# Project 1 – Virginia Street



# Project 1 – West Tunnel



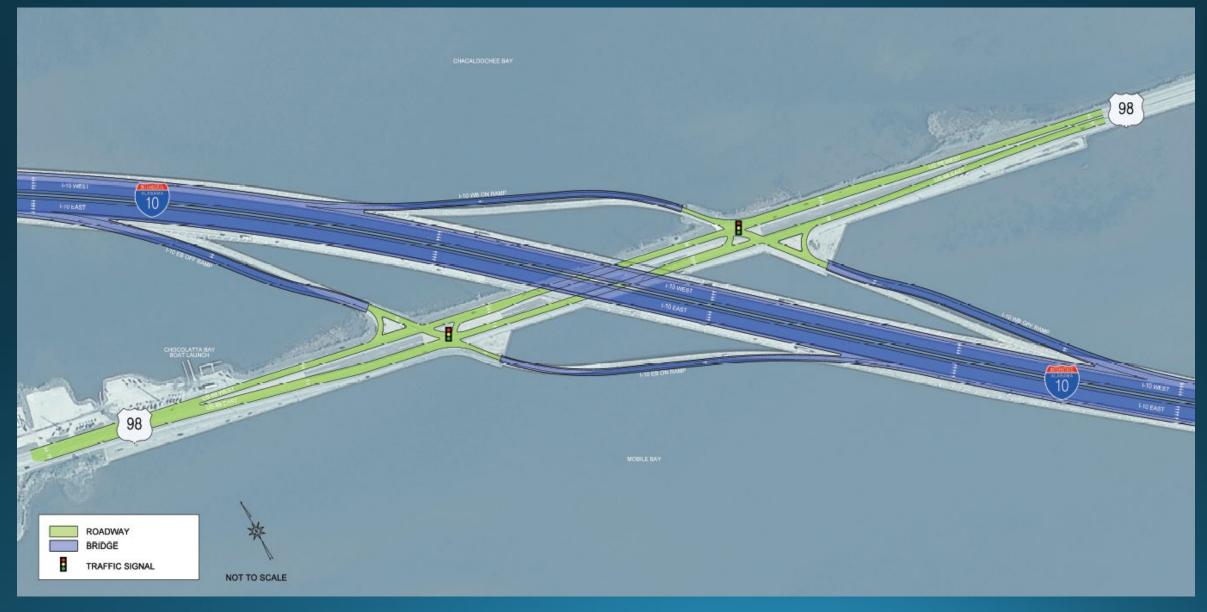
# Proposed Plan – Project 2



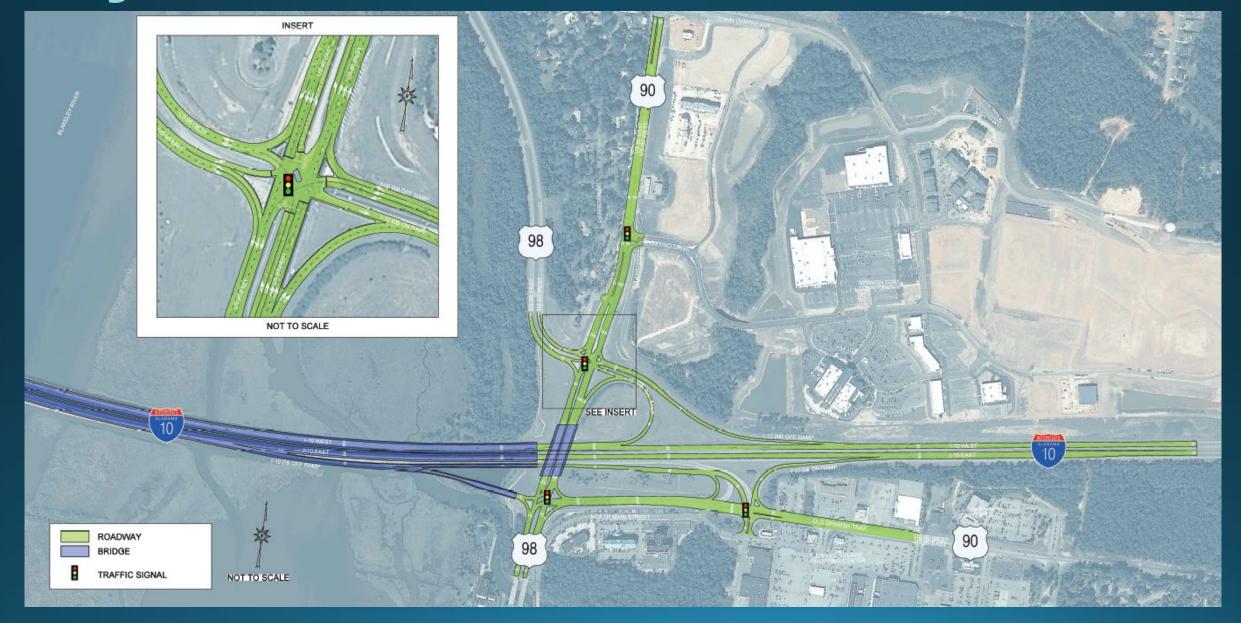
# Project 2 – East Tunnel



# Project 2 – Midbay



# Project 2 – Eastern Shore



### Proposed Plan



### Next Steps

- Finish tolling and revenue modeling
- Present comprehensive plan to MPOs
- MPOs adopt Project
- Start Procurements
- Update Environmental Document
- Public Meeting
- Secure loans and bonds
- Start construction

