



# ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Kay Ivey  
Governor

John R. Cooper  
Transportation Director

April 2, 2024

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Office of the Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**RE: MEGA Grant Funding Commitment  
1-10 Mobile River Bridge and Bayway Project**

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

The Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) is committed to funding the development of the Mobile River Bridge and Bayway Project with a TIFIA loan, Toll Revenue Bonds and public subsidy to relieve the congestion on I-10, an important freight corridor for the United States. Through the USDOT MEGA grant program, ALDOT has submitted an application requesting financial assistance in the delivery of the vital project to aid in the public subsidy that will include ALDOT issued GARVEE bonds, if needed.

The expansive project includes a new cable stayed bridge with a minimum vertical clearance of 215 feet over the Mobile River shipping channel as well as modifications to seven existing interchanges and the replacement of the approximately 50-year-old, seven-mile long, four-lane interstate bridges that cross Mobile Bay with a new facility that will be elevated above the 100-year storm surge impacts. The project will add much needed capacity and protect the interstate from storm impacts that would create 52-mile heavily congested detour. Recent hurricanes and mandated evacuations have reemphasized the need to protect the integrity of the corridor.

This essential project is estimated to cost \$2.8 billion (does not include financing cost and reserve funding) for which ALDOT is requesting a MEGA grant in the amount of \$500 million. ALDOT is committed to fund the remainder of the project costs through a combination of facility tolls, and a direct annual ALDOT capital budget allocation. We are confident that the continued close partnership of the USDOT and ALDOT will deliver this much needed United States and Alabama transportation priority in the very near future.

Thank you for your leadership in this important endeavor.

Sincerely,

John R. Cooper  
Transportation Director

cc: File