



Mobile
Metropolitan
Planning
Organization

September 1, 2021

Director John Cooper
ALDOT
P.O. Box 303050
Montgomery, AL 36130-3050

RE: I-10 Bridge Project

Dear Director Cooper:

When the Mobile and Eastern Shore Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) voted in June to add Phase 1 of the I-10 Mobile River Bridge and Bayway Project to their Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs), members of both organizations recognized the need for more communication and transparency with the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT). We were very appreciative of the project update ALDOT provided to both MPO members and the public on July 27, 2021 and look forward to more meetings to share timely information.

In this spirit of open communication, we are writing jointly in our capacities as the respective Chairmen of the Mobile MPO and the Eastern Shore MPOs to convey further guidance and direction for ALDOT as it begins putting together the teams to conduct required traffic and financial studies.

As you know, MPO members from both Mobile and the Eastern Shore have expressed concern about the three-phase approach. The first concern is that restriping the Bayway may compromise safety as the lanes would be narrowed and the shoulders would be eliminated. Also of major concern is that it will likely take at least 12-15 years to complete the entire project. MPO members are hopeful a feasible way can be found to build the phases concurrently, which would eliminate these concerns.

Accordingly, both MPOs request that 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:

- Phase 1 – Eastbound span of the high-Level Approaches and Main Span Bridge, Broad Street interchange, Virginia Street Interchange, Restriping of the Bayway.
- Phase 2 – Westbound span of the High-Level Approaches and Main Span Bridge, West Tunnel Interchange

- Phase 3 – New Bayway, East Tunnel Interchange, Midbay Interchange, Daphne Interchange

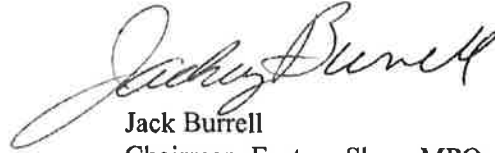
The study information would enable the MPOs to better understand if there are additional options. We are requesting the opportunity to be presented with all reasonable funding options to complete this project in a safe and more timely manner.

Again, thank you for ALDOT's ongoing efforts to keep the lines of communication flowing. Please let me know if you need additional information or want to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,



William S. Stimpson
Chairman, Mobile MPO
Mayor of Mobile



Jack Burrell
Chairman, Eastern Shore MPO
Fairhope City Council President