



Client Alert

Transportation Projects in Florida Made Possible by Economic Stimulus and Private Sector Funding and Financial Institutions

The Economic Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 ("ARRA") will provide funding for more than 700 transportation improvement projects in Florida. Among the projects recommended for funding by the ARRA and approved by the Florida Legislative Commission are the reconstruction of the SR 826/SR 836 Interchange, the construction of a new I-4/Selmon Expressway Interchange and the reconstruction of US 19 (SR 55) from north of Witney Road to north of SR 60.

As the ARRA will provide only partial funding for these projects, the Florida Department of Transportation ("FDOT") will use a combination of public and private sector funding to complete these projects. While not in the traditional sense of the term, these projects are like "public-private partnerships" in that the contractors will finance these public projects and the FDOT will, in turn, reimburse the contractors with FDOT funds upon completion of the projects as funds for such projects become available. As such, these projects offer opportunities for contractors to team-up with financial institutions and for the private and public sectors to forge relationships. In addition, these public-private arrangements allow the FDOT to pursue necessary construction projects, which may have otherwise been deferred, delayed or abandoned without such arrangements.

SR 826/SR 836 Interchange Reconstruction

The SR 826/SR 836 Interchange reconstruction project is a design-build-finance project, which is expected to improve traffic flow between the two expressways. It is the largest and final section of the Palmetto Expressway Improvement Program, which consists of major improvements along the 16-mile corridor.

The total project costs are estimated to be US\$601,429,600. The ARRA funding for the project is approximately US\$87,569,810. The FDOT contract advertisement for this project began in April of 2009 and the contract is expected to be awarded in October of 2009, with construction beginning in January of 2010. The bid due date for short-listed contractors for this project is August 31, 2009. Funds to complete construction of this project without ARRA and private funding would have been available this year but a funding shortfall due to decreased revenues would have delayed the project.

I-4/Selmon Expressway Interchange Construction

I-4/Selmon Expressway Interchange construction project is a build-finance project, which has been designed by the FDOT in cooperation with Florida Turnpike's Enterprise and the Tampa-Hillsborough Expressway Authority to improve regional movement of traffic throughout the Tampa Bay area and provide direct access for trucks to the Port of Tampa. The total project costs are estimated to be US\$538,224,129. The ARRA funding for the project is approximately US\$76,200,000. The FDOT contract advertisement for this project will begin in May of 2009 and the bid letting will begin on August 19, 2009. Funds to complete construction of this project would not be available until 2013 and 2014 without the use of ARRA and private funding.

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US 19 Reconstruction

The US 19 reconstruction project is a build-finance project, which has been designed to provide six lanes (three in each direction) on US 19 with two-lane, one-way frontage roads on each side. The total project costs are estimated to be US\$181,546,196. The ARRA funding for the project is approximately US\$24,100,000. The FDOT contract advertisement for this project will begin in June of 2009 and the bid letting will begin on July 22, 2009. Funds to complete construction of this project would not be available until 2012 without the use of ARRA and private funding.

Accessing Florida Infrastructure Opportunities

You may access proposal details on the projects above by registering as a vendor with the State of Florida via the Florida Department of Transportation website: <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/cc-admin/>.

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