



STATE OF ALABAMA

August 28, 2019

Dear Mayor Haygood and Mayor Stimpson:

I am writing to you in your respective capacities as Chairmen of the Eastern Shore Metropolitan Planning Organization (ESMPO) and the Mobile Metropolitan Planning Organization (MMPO). The purpose of this letter is to attempt to establish a pathway under which the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) can continue the procurement process for the Mobile River Bridge and Bayway Project (the Project) in hopes of finding an agreed-upon solution to this decades-long challenge.

At a meeting last week with the Legislative Delegation from Mobile and Baldwin Counties, ALDOT Director John Cooper proposed a method of moving this project forward which addresses one of the signature concerns of the local citizens and their elected leaders.

In essence, Director Cooper has recommended that if both the ESMPO and MMPO will vote to keep the Project in your respective 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP), ALDOT will be able to proceed with the procurement process with the three concessionaires, affording us all the best alternatives available. We all know that the only way to see if this bridge is possible is to keep the process going.

In return for the aforementioned action by the ESMPO and MMPO, you have my personal assurance and commitment to the following:

- 1) You have my word that at no time will ALDOT move forward to complete the procurement process until the final, best plan available has been disclosed to both the ESMPO and MMPO, with each having sufficient time to remove the Project from its TIP if, for whatever reason, it desires to do so.
- 2) During this same time, ALDOT will be available to work with any effort either of your respective organizations – or both – undertakes to: (a) streamline the Project in order to reduce cost and/or (b) search for additional funding in order to reduce or eliminate the need for tolls altogether. This commitment extends to ALDOT personnel, the experts we have engaged to assist with the development of the Project, and other State resources that may be needed.

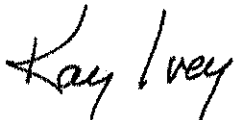
Mayors, as you both know, there is a long history of cooperation between ALDOT and your respective cities and counties. To this point, you should know Director Cooper has recommended we include your projects in the State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) just as you have included our projects in your TIPs. Importantly, we plan to leave this Project in the STIP and we sincerely

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hope you will choose to leave this Project in your TIPS, as well, so that the process can proceed in anticipation of developing the very best alternatives available.

Thank you, in advance, for the leadership you have both provided as well as for the collaboration of so many other elected leaders who share the same goal of trying to bring this project to fruition in a way that has a positive – not negative impact – on the good people fortunate enough to call Mobile and Baldwin Counties home. I sincerely hope my commitment, contained in this letter, will result in a positive result for all concerned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kay Ivey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kay Ivey
Governor

The Honorable Sandy Stimpson
Mayor, City of Mobile
Chairman of the Mobile Metropolitan Planning Organization (MMPO)
P.O. Box 1827
Mobile, Alabama 36633-1827

The Honorable Dane Haygood
Mayor, City of Daphne
Chairman of the Eastern Shore Metropolitan Planning Organization (ESMPO)
P.O. Box 400
Daphne, Alabama 36526

cc:

Members of Mobile Metropolitan Planning Organization (MMPO) and Eastern Shore Metropolitan Planning Organization (ESMPO)