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Four Private-Sector Teams Submit Statements of Qualifications for I-495 & I-270 P3 Program Phase 1

HANOVER, MD – The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) and the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) today announced four private-sector teams responded to a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to be the developer of I-495 & I-270 P3 Program Phase 1. The Phase 1 Developer will be responsible for designing, building, financing, operating, and maintaining managed lanes in Phase 1.

“As we plan for recovery, these critical infrastructure projects are key to rebuilding our economy and keeping the supply chain moving,” said Governor Larry Hogan. “It is great to see leading international firms interested in investing in the National Capital Region. Despite navigating the COVID-19 pandemic health crisis, Maryland is still Open for Business.”

Following the January 8 Maryland Board of Public Works (BPW) vote amending its earlier designation of the I-495 & I-270 P3 Program to advance with a proposed competitive solicitation process, MDOT and MDTA issued the RFQ on February 7 to identify the most highly qualified teams seeking to be shortlisted as potential Phase Developers for Phase 1 of the P3 Program.

After a thorough review of all the responses to the RFQ, which were submitted by the May 20 deadline, MDOT and MDTA expect to announce a shortlist of the most highly qualified teams in July. These shortlisted teams will be eligible to respond to a Request for Proposals (RFP) in early 2021.

“Partnering with the private sector is key to delivering for the businesses and residents of Maryland in the months and years to come. The bottleneck at the American Legion Bridge has been a top regional mobility issue for decades and this is one step closer to addressing it,” said Transportation Secretary Greg Slater. “This project will create jobs, connect people to employment centers, provide a critical bike and pedestrian connection to the C&O Canal and expand transit opportunities in collaboration with our local government partners.”

MDOT and MDTA plan to select a preferred Phase Developer and recommend a Phase 1 Agreement to the BPW for its review and approval late Spring or early Summer 2021. An environmental decision document under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) will be approved before necessary BPW approvals to commence with final design and construction on any portion of Phase 1.

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Phase 1 of the P3 Program would improve I-495 from the vicinity of the George Washington Memorial Parkway in Virginia, across and including the American Legion Bridge to the I-270 west spur, and I-270 from I-495 to I-70. I-495 from the vicinity of the George Washington Memorial Parkway to the I-270 west spur, and the I-270 west spur to I-370, will be delivered first. I-270 from I-370 to I-70 will be delivered after I-270 between I-495 and I-370.

The Phase 1 solicitation process is running concurrent with the I-495 and I-270 Managed Lanes Study, which continues to evaluate a No-Build alternative and range of managed lanes alternatives. I-270 from I-370 to I-70 is undergoing a separate environmental review process.

During Maryland's COVID-19 state of emergency, MDOT has continued to advance critical projects and studies while maintaining practices that ensure the safety of our customers and employees. MDOT remains committed to engage with residents, officials.

The Managed Lanes Study continues to analyze potential environmental impacts associated with the No-Build Alternative and six Build Alternatives along the entire 48 miles of the study corridor. The results of the analysis will be available in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), anticipated to be published for public review and comment soon.

The four teams that responded to the RFQ are:

Accelerate MarylandExpress Partners

Lead Project Developer / Equity: Itinera Infrastructure & Concessions, Inc.

Lead Contractors: Halmar International, LLC and Itinera S.p.A

Designer: Atkins North America, Inc. and Gannett Fleming, Inc.

Accelerate Maryland Partners LLC

Lead Project Developer / Equity: Transurban (USA) Operations Inc. and Macquarie Infrastructure Developments LLC

Lead Contractor: Archer Western Construction, LLC

Designers: Dewberry Engineers Inc. and Stantec Consulting Services Inc.

Capital Express Mobility Partners

Lead Project Developer / Equity: Cintra Global SE, Meridiam Capital Express, LLC, and John Laing Investments Limited

Lead Contractor: Ferrovial Agroman US Corp.

Designers: AECOM Technical Services, Inc.

Potomac Mobility Group

Lead Project Developer / Equity: ACS Infrastructure Development, Inc.

Lead Contractor: Dragados USA, Inc.

Designers: Parsons Transportation Group Inc., Jacobs Engineering Group Inc., and HDR Engineering, Inc.

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