



**For Immediate Release**  
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## **KNIK ARM BRIDGE & TOLL AUTHORITY (KABATA) CLARIFIES THE PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP (P3) PROCUREMENT PROCESS**

**(Anchorage, AK).** The Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority (KABATA) team is proceeding with its procurement process under Title 19, Chapter 75 of the Alaska statutes, the “Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority Act” (the Act). The KABATA Act was enacted “to develop, stimulate, and advance the economic welfare of the state” through the construction of the Knik Arm Toll Bridge.

The Act provides KABATA a unique ability to finance the project and permits through use of a unique modern technique known as a “Public-Private Partnership (P3).” Traditionally, private sector participation is limited to separate planning, design or construction contracts on a fee for service basis – based on the public agency’s specifications. But under this P3 process, the first of its kind for Alaska, the KABATA can combine the strength and stability of government with the financial resources, technology and creativity of the private sector. Use of a P3 process accelerates the project, facilitates the use of new technology developed by private entities, and draws upon private sector expertise in accessing the widest range of financial resources to fund the project.

Thus, in response to the Act’s mandate for KABATA to “exercise its powers to plan, design, construct, operate, and maintain the Knik Arm Bridge,” KABATA has embarked on a competitive government contracting process under the state procurement laws.

The process will involve publication of “Request for Proposals” (RFP) to solicit, identify and engage the most qualified private sector partner to finance, design, construct, operate and maintain the Knik Arm Crossing Project (Project) with KABATA.

KABATA has selected two qualified teams to compete for the Project: the Knik Arm Crossing Constructors (Knik Arm Crossing LLC) and the Knik Arm Crossing Consortium.

These teams have submitted Statements of Qualifications as part of the proposal process and will submit to KABATA detailed pricing and technical proposals and other supporting documentation. All documentation submitted, except documentation specifically identified by the applicant as a “trade secret” or “proprietary” data, will be available for public inspection in accordance with AS 36.30.230 when KABATA issues its notice of intent to award a contract. The KABATA will determine, on a case by case basis, what information qualifies as “proprietary” or a “trade secret” pursuant to state law. Essentially, “proprietary” or “trade secret” information is that which is treated by the proposer as confidential and the public disclosure of that information would adversely affect the competitive position of the proposer, or materially diminish the commercial value of the information to the proposer.

The process to select the qualified private sector partner will take approximately 9 – 12 months, and is currently anticipated for the Winter 2007/Spring 2008 timeframe.

*Additional information about KABATA and the Knik Arm Crossing can be found on KABATA’s website at [www.knikarmbridge.com](http://www.knikarmbridge.com).*

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