



For Immediate Release

July 13, 2011

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**KABATA ISSUES REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR KNIK ARM CROSSING
PRE-SOQ INDUSTRY WORKSHOP SCHEDULED**

(July 13, 2011; Anchorage, AK): The Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority (KABATA) announced today that it has issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for concessionaires to design, construct, finance, operate and maintain the Knik Arm Crossing under an availability payment public-private partnership. Statements of Qualifications (SOQ) are due September 15, 2011 at 4:00PM Alaska Daylight Saving Time. The RFQ can be downloaded at <http://notes4.state.ak.us/pn/pubnotic.nsf> or interested parties can receive the RFQ by contacting Michele Casey at michele.casey@alaska.gov.

A pre-SOQ workshop will be held in Anchorage, Alaska on August 18, 2011 at the Dena'ina Center, 600 W. Seventh Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska at 1:30PM Alaska Daylight Saving Time. Attendance at the pre-SOQ workshop is encouraged but not mandatory for interested parties. Those wishing to attend are advised to make travel and lodging arrangements early, as August is tourist season in Alaska.

KABATA expects to short list qualified proposers by the middle of October 2011, followed by issuance of a Request for Proposals at the end of the first quarter 2012. The current project schedule anticipates financial close in time for the 2013 construction season.

Michael Foster, KABATA's Chairman of the Board, stated "We are pleased with the feedback we received last month during our industry workshop and one-on-one meetings in New York. The workshop demonstrated significant industry interest in the project. The issuance of the RFQ starts the formal competition for the project concession and is the next major step in delivering this important infrastructure to the citizens of Alaska."

About the Knik Arm Crossing and KABATA

The Knik Arm Crossing is a planned toll bridge and associated roadway crossing Cook Inlet between Anchorage - Alaska's largest city, and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough – one of the fastest growing "counties" in the U.S. The Alaska Legislature established the Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority in 2003 under Alaska Statute 19.75 to "develop, stimulate, and advance the economic welfare of the state and further the development of public transportation systems in the vicinity of Upper Cook Inlet with construction of a bridge to span Knik Arm and connect the Municipality of Anchorage and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough." Additional information about the Knik Arm Crossing Project and KABATA can be found on KABATA's website at www.knikarmbridge.com.

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