

A WHITE PAPER ON THE ALABAMA INDUSTRIAL ACCESS ROAD AND BRIDGE PROGRAM

The Alabama Industrial Access Road and Bridge Corporation was created by act of the Alabama Legislature in 1985. The initial act created funding for the corporation through the sale of bonds. The Alabama Legislature changed the method of funding in 1996 to an annual appropriation of \$11 million from the state public road and bridge fund.

The members of the corporation are the Transportation Director, the State Treasurer and the Finance Director. The Transportation Director serves as president of the corporation, the State Treasurer serves as vice-president and the Finance Director serves as the secretary. The corporation adopted the Operating Policies and Procedures in April 2005.

Industrial access funds are intended to provide adequate public access for eligible projects as defined in Section 23-6-1(5) of the Code of Alabama. These funds are not intended for use in providing access to retail operations. The industry must be committed to new investment and the creation of new jobs. The new access must be on public right-of-way (state, city or county), must allow normal public use and must comply with standards for design and construction accompanying the use of state funds. The project sponsor (city or county) will assume maintenance responsibilities for the completed facility consistent with the use of state funds, unless the improvements occur on facilities currently maintained by the state.

Industrial access funds are limited to approved construction and construction engineering & inspection (CE&I) costs. The project sponsor (city or county) is responsible for all preliminary engineering, right-of-way acquisition, utility relocation costs and all construction and CE&I costs not funded by the corporation.

This is not a grant program where the project is approved by the corporation and a check is sent to the sponsor. The sponsor is reimbursed by the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) monthly for eligible work performed on the project and paid for by the sponsor. Unless the project is let to contract by ALDOT, the sponsor must pay the contractor and file for reimbursement from ALDOT. A cancelled check must be furnished with the monthly estimate showing that the contractor has been paid for work performed.

The sponsor cannot advertise the project for contract letting prior to: receiving project approval by the corporation; receiving a fully executed agreement between the state and the sponsor; receiving approval of the plans by ALDOT; and receiving a notice to proceed for advertising by the respective ALDOT Region Engineer or their designee.

The sponsor cannot issue a notice to proceed to the low bid contractor prior to review of the bids received and concurrence in the award by the respective ALDOT Region Engineer or their designee.

This document, the corporation's Operating Policies and Procedures, corporation meeting date and location, and application including instructions and submission deadlines may be found on ALDOT's website at: <http://www.dot.state.al.us/adweb/Industrial%20Access.html>.