



October 6, 2014

Mr. John R. Cooper, Director
Alabama Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 303050
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-3050

RE: Interstate 10 (I-10) Mobile River Bridge / Bay Way Widening Project

Dear Mr. Cooper:

On behalf of the City of Foley, Alabama, we are writing to express our support for the proposed I-10 Mobile River Bridge project. As South Alabama wrestles with ever increasing traffic congestion along the Interstate 10 corridor, this major bottleneck continues to threaten public safety, as well as the vitality of our local and regional economy.

While many years have been spent assessing the need for the I-10 transportation enhancement, it is vitally important that we continue working in pursuit of this needed infrastructure improvement. Interstate 10 serves the southern tier of the United States by providing the main east-west link in the Interstate Highway System. Viewed by many as a regional asset, we must solve the serious economic, environmental and transportation problems caused by the overwhelmed I-10 corridor through Mobile County and Baldwin County.

The City of Foley has a vested interest in The Department of Transportation building a bridge to supplement the I10 tunnel. Severe traffic congestion along I-10 impacts our region in many ways;

- local residents who must travel the route for work are affected daily,
- Local, regional, and national shipping are severely impacted by delays in this route,
- Our single largest segment of our economy, Tourism, is severely hindered by difficult access to our area by our customers.
- Evacuation due to Hurricanes and other disasters is effected by the limitations of the existing I10 infrastructure

There are few decisions more critical to the region's future than those related to planning and funding the I-10 Mobile River Bridge. Therefore, it is our desire to join you and other regional partners in support of this important transportation project.

Sincerely yours,

John E. Koniar
Mayor, City of Foley