



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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News Release

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Milton-Madison Bridge Contract Advertised

INDOT Commissioner Cline Visits Madison Mayor Armstrong

MADISON, Ind. – Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) Commissioner Michael B. Cline today joined Madison Mayor Tim Armstrong to announce advertisement of the joint Indiana and Kentucky design-build contract that will replace the 80-year-old bridge superstructure connecting U.S. 421 across the Ohio River with Milton, Ky.

“Indiana and Kentucky leaders reached across state lines and party lines to fund and build the Milton-Madison Bridge project,” Cline said. “This bi-state cooperation will certainly serve as a model for two future bridges downriver connecting Louisville with Southern Indiana.”

The design-build contracting method will allow detailed bridge design and construction to take place concurrently, speeding up the project’s delivery timeline. This qualified the bridge project as “shovel-ready” to receive \$20 million in grant funding this February under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Indiana is also using design-build contracting methods to open Interstate 69, years ahead of schedule, from Evansville to Bloomington.

“Maintaining a safe river crossing with the Milton-Madison Bridge Project is not only important for our community to sustain what we have, but to ensure Madison’s growth into the future,” Armstrong said.

Draft contract documents were posted online in late April, allowing potential bidders adequate time to develop proposals before bids are opened in September. The contract will be awarded to the qualified private construction and design team with the lowest cost proposal that also meets all contract requirements.

The existing Milton-Madison Bridge will be replaced with a wider, modern steel truss structure that is similar in appearance to the existing bridge. It will be built atop the existing piers, which will be modernized. The estimated cost of the project is \$131 million. Beyond the Recovery Act grant, Indiana and Kentucky have identified state and federal funding for the remaining project costs, which will be evenly split by both states.

Construction will take approximately 24 months, with the bridge expected to close to traffic in the fall of 2011. Contractors will be permitted to close the bridge to traffic for a maximum of 12 months. A free ferry service across the Ohio River will be offered while the bridge is closed to traffic.

The Milton-Madison Bridge Web site has been redesigned in anticipation of the project's next phases, and now also includes a Twitter feed. More information is available online at www.miltonmadisonbridge.com

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