



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR SEAN PARNELL

Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority

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Intent to Award issued for Knik Arm Crossing RFP to Review & Update Socioeconomic Forecast

Anchorage – The global consulting firm Cardno Inc., teamed with Alaska firm Agnew::Beck, has received an Intent to Award letter for a contract to peer review and update socioeconomic data used in the Knik Arm Crossing Traffic and Toll Revenue projections.

Cardno is a global infrastructure and environmental service company with more than 8,000 employees headquartered in Australia. They will staff the project out of their Portland, Oregon office. Agnew::Beck is an Anchorage-based community planning consultancy. The two firms will work as a team for the socioeconomic study.

The updated socioeconomic data developed by the Cardno/Agnew::Beck team will be incorporated into ongoing traffic and revenue forecasts for the Crossing. Variables such as changes in the regional, Alaska and national population, employment and economies since the last independent socioeconomic study for the Crossing was completed will all be factored in to the update.

“KABATA has engaged the Cardno/Agnew::Beck team to conduct a socioeconomic study to ascertain baseline information and generate forecasts of potential future results,” said Kevin Hemenway, KABATA’s chief financial officer. “The outcomes of that work will be used as inputs to updating the traffic and toll revenue forecasts over a range of possibilities.”

The final report from the Cardno study is due by September 30, 2013.

“It’s important to periodically update this information as time passes and new facts become known,” Hemenway said. “We want our traffic and toll revenue forecasts to reflect the best and most current information available.”

For more information contact the Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority at 907-269-6698.

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New traffic and toll revenue forecasts have not been updated yet.

It is now late February, and this report is still not completed.

Legislative Budget and Audit stated in April 2013, "The audit concludes that KAC toll and revenue projections are unreasonably optimistic, and the projected cash flows to the State are likely overstated as a result." The toll & revenue forecasts were done by CDM Smith, and CDM Smith is supposed to be working on a new toll & revenue forecast based on the the new Cardno/Agnew::Beck population & employment data.

Even under the public finance plan proposed by Gov. Parnell, that data is still critical to determine how much the Knik Arm Bridge will eventually cost the State.