

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 to new or expanding distribution, manufacturing and industrial firms. These funds are not intended for use in providing access to retail operations, recreation facilities or other operations not engaged in the production of goods and/or services. The industry must be committed to new investment and the creation of new jobs. The new access must be on public right of way for public use (state, city or county) and the project sponsor (city or county) must maintain the completed facility unless the facility consists of turn lanes, crossovers, etc., that are located on state highways.

Industrial access funds are limited to construction, construction engineering and inspection costs. The project sponsor is responsible for all preliminary engineering, right-of-way acquisition and utility relocation costs.

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) on a monthly basis for 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 project approval by the corporation, prior to receiving a fully executed agreement between the state and the sponsor and prior to approval of the plans by ALDOT and notice to proceed with advertising by the respective ALDOT division engineer. The sponsor cannot issue a notice to proceed to their contractor prior to review of the bids received and concurrence in award by the respective ALDOT division engineer.

This document, the corporation's Operating Policies and Procedures and the application and instructions may be found on ALDOT's web site at <http://www.dot.state.al.us/adweb/Industrial%20Access.htm>.