

CLAY HIGGINS
3RD DISTRICT, LOUISIANA
MEMBER, HOUSE FREEDOM CAUCUS



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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

January 17, 2024

Honorable Jeff Landry
Governor, State of Louisiana
P.O. Box 94004
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Governor Landry,

Thank you for your communication with my office regarding the I-10 Calcasieu River Bridge replacement project. Building a new bridge remains a top infrastructure priority for my office, and I look forward to working with you on the path forward.

When we started pushing the bridge project seven years ago, there was no definitive plan and a rough projected cost of \$600-700 million. In contrast, the P3 proposal under consideration last year had an estimated cost of \$2.1 billion. I understand that the price of everything has increased due to inflation. However, like many, I had significant doubts about the State's cost estimate.

I fully believe we can construct a new I-10 Calcasieu River Bridge at a lower price tag, and I appreciate your efforts to renegotiate the P3 contract. Developing a better cost-share formula is necessary to reduce the burden on Louisiana's citizens. It's my understanding that recent discussions between the State and its private partners have already proven successful in lowering the overall cost of the project. Please know that my office and others in the Louisiana Delegation are at your avail to assist at the federal level.

Your focus on this issue is greatly appreciated. The I-10 Calcasieu River Bridge replacement project is critical for South Louisiana. I look forward to working with you to ensure its completion.

Respectfully,

Clay Higgins
Member of Congress