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Jefferson Parkway Statement about Soil Sampling Analysis

Background

The Jefferson Parkway is a privately-funded, publicly-owned regional toll road that has been planned for decades. The Authority has selected three contractors as finalists to respond to a yet-to-be released RFP to design, finance, construct, operate and maintain the parkway, with the award of the contract and beginning of construction planned for 2020.

In preparation for construction of the future Jefferson Parkway, field tests to establish baseline soil conditions in the Jefferson Parkway right of way have been ongoing since May. Nearly 250 soil samples have been collected for analysis, with final results expected by the end of the year.

The Jefferson Parkway notified the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) today of inconsistent testing results from one soil sample. One result indicated elevated plutonium levels. A second test of soil from the same sample had a significantly lower result, which is consistent with all other test results received so far.

Statement from Bill Ray, Jefferson Parkway Public Highway Authority Executive Director

“Public safety is the number one priority for the Jefferson Parkway. We are committed to working closely with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment on the ongoing soil analysis and will follow their lead on next steps. Once the soil analysis is complete, the Jefferson Parkway Public Highway Authority Board of Directors will determine how our contractor procurement process will move forward.”

About Jefferson Parkway Public Highway Authority

The Jefferson Parkway is a privately-funded, publicly-owned regional toll road that has been planned for decades and is scheduled to begin construction in 2020, improving regional connectivity and providing choice and convenience to residents, commuters and travelers in greater metro Denver and northern Colorado. The roadway will provide enhanced regional mobility, taking traffic off of local roads while generating economic vitality for local communities. Grounded in a long-term vision, the Parkway is an opportunity to bring new infrastructure to the region at no cost to taxpayers.

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