

### □ **Colorado Jefferson Parkway Launched**

A new public highway authority in Colorado plans to seek private input on its plan to close the gap in the Denver beltway, a project for which there is no public money and no certainty yet that it is financially viable.

The Jefferson Parkway Public Highway Authority (JPPHA) anticipates putting out an invitation soon for statements of interest. It has hired Parsons Brinckerhoff/Stantec for project management and engineering services and Icenogle Norton for legal advice, and is still looking for a financial advisor. The authority was formed in May by three local governments in the northwest metro area—Arvada, Broomfield and Jefferson County.

An approximately 20-mile gap exists between the Northwest Parkway and C-470. The Jefferson Parkway would fill about 13 miles of that gap, from the planned end of the Northwest Parkway to SH 93, just north of the city of Golden and five miles short of C-470. The initiative could be good news for Portuguese toll road operator Brisa, which purchased the Northwest Parkway in 2007.

The Colorado Department of Transportation spent about five years and \$14 million analyzing alternatives for the northwest corridor. The agency announced in June it would not complete the environmental impact statement, citing lack of funds and consensus among local communities. The JPPHA does not intend to use federal funds so will not be required to finish the EIS.

Public Works Financing  
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