



MEDIA ALERT Port of Miami Tunnel Project

**For immediate release
February 16, 2006**

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Miami port tunnel a step closer **State seeks bidders for public private partnership**

Statements of qualifications are being sought by the Florida Department of Transportation, District 6, as the first step in a nine-month process to select a business organization that will design, finance, build, operate and maintain the Port of Miami Tunnel. The project will link Interstate 395 and the MacArthur Causeway on Watson Island with Port of Miami facilities on Dodge Island. The Port is the area's second-leading economic generator.

A request for qualifications (RFQ) will be posted on the official project website www.portofmiamitunnel.com 5:00 P.M. (EST), February 17, 2006 and will include specifications and requirements for prospective bidders. A short-list of no more than four qualified bidders will be selected by FDOT in April. Those short-listed will receive the Request for Proposals in mid June. Award of the project to the winning bidder is expected in December, 2006. The schedule is:

- February 17, 2006 FDOT publishes a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) from proposers seeking to develop, design, construct, finance, operate and maintain the Port of Miami Tunnel Project through a Concession Agreement.
- March 31, 2006 FDOT receives Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) from potential proposers
- April, 2006 FDOT announces short-list of qualified proposers
- Mid-June, 2006 FDOT publishes a Request for Proposals (RFP) for short-listed proposers
- Fall, 2006 FDOT receives proposals from short-listed proposers
- December, 2006 FDOT makes final selection and awards contract to a concessionaire

The RFQ will also be available to any party at:

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
District Contracts and Procurement Office
1000 Northwest 111th Avenue, Room 6203
Miami, FL 33172