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P3 and Your Tax Dollars — Federal Government Makes Next Foray Into Public Private Partnerships

Westlaw

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In an interesting turn, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (the “Corps”) published a Request for Information On Conceptual Public Private Partnership Delivery of Specific Corps Projects.[1]

Under this RFI Notice, the Corps has been directed to create a pilot program on P3s to try and determine the viability of different and new (at least new to the Government) delivery methods. It is the hope that these “new” methodologies will result in reduced cost and time impacts to project deliveries.

P3s, like the name suggests, are partnerships between, in this instance, a federal agency and private/commercial sector partners in which the agency retains ownership of the facility or system, but the private partner invests capital to design, develop and operate the facilities, typically with a revenue stream in mind.[2]

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