

**Negotiating and Implementing Private Participation in Infrastructure:
What the U.S. Can Learn from the World Bank**

Richard G. Little, AICP¹

The Keston Institute for Public Finance and Infrastructure Policy
University of Southern California

For a variety of reasons, governments at all levels in the United States are considering partnerships with the private sector for what has traditionally been considered public infrastructure. Despite widespread excitement over two noteworthy brownfield concessions (the Chicago Skyway and the Indiana Toll Road) that provided large, up-front cash payments against future toll revenues, the successful negotiation and implementation of PPPs in the U.S. has slowed dramatically since that time. Enabling legislation has been slow to emerge from state legislatures and the question of private participation in infrastructure in the U.S. remains ideological and divisive. Many of the issues regarding PPP in the U.S. have been identified and studied in conjunction with World Bank projects. In fact, much of the knowledge base that has been developed on these projects in the developing world is directly applicable to the U.S. This presentation will focus on selected topics such as risk management, transparency, renegotiation, and equity in PPP from around the world and discuss how lessons learned from World Bank projects could inform ongoing discussions in the U.S.

¹ 650 Childs Way, Room 236, Los Angeles, CA 90089; (213) 740-4120; rglittle@usc.edu