



**Covid 'changing future' of infrastructure
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The Covid-19 global pandemic has been handled well by the P3 sector, say experts, but it will change the way future infrastructure is built.

A recent webinar hosted by law firm Squire Patton Boggs saw experts from across the infrastructure market come together to discuss a range of issues, with all in agreement that the model has served the public well during the crisis.

Emeka Moneme, vice president for corporate strategy and innovation at Transurban, praised the contract structures, particularly on its project with the Commonwealth of Virginia, where he said the dynamic pricing model meant the sides “were not having conversations about redressing tolls”.

Former Secretary of Transportation Rodney Slater, who moderated the discussion, pointed out that keeping transportation options open for users had become a very important issue in the wake of the pandemic: “Transportation is essential and is now about moving essential workers.”

The experts also discussed the way the pandemic will change future design and construction of projects.

“The experience has allowed us to take a step back and look at things like spacing at gates as we build the new concourse,” said Earl Adams, chair of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, referring to the new 14-gate concourse being developed at Reagan National.

Gerrard Bushell, chief executive of the Terminal One Development Project at JFK Airport, agreed, pointing out that the way design is developed will need to reflect people’s concerns during and after the pandemic.

“For example, contactless door knobs, germ-killing UV lamps for escalators. We have had to give great consideration to these things. People do not want to touch things.”