Press releaseCracow, 8th June 2021

**Representation of the Tramway to Mistrzejowice at PPP Leaders Forum**

**Partners in the project of construction of a tram road to Mistrzejowice will be among panelists of this year’s edition of PPP Leaders Forum. The conference under the auspices of the Minister of Development Funds and Regional Policy is dedicated to, i.a., financing, bankability and effectiveness of the public-private partnership model (PPP).**

 Participation in the PPP Leaders Forum planned for 17 June has been confirmed by representatives of Kraków Municipal Road Authority (ZDMK) and Gülermak, who represent partners in the public and private project of construction of a tram road to Mistrzejowice. It is the first such large transport project implemented in the model of public-private partnership in Poland, which will be a role model for other regional governments looking for alternative ways of funding investment projects. One will be able to hear about the Cracow project during panel discussion “PPP in public transport and cluster projects” planned for 13:10.

 - Cracow chose the PPP formula for the project of construction of a tram road to Mistrzejowice. Use of private capital from the free market will enable construction of this connection, which is so important for residents, within only a few next years. One of the key elements in our contract is providing the city with a grade-separated means of transport already after opening the tram road – within 20 years of operation – says Marcin Hanczakowski, Director of the ZDMK.

 The panelist representing Gülermak will be Łukasz Wypych, Investment Project Manager. – Construction of the tram road to Mistrzejowice is a pioneering project, which draws attention of regional governments as well as companies specializing in infrastructure projects. We hope that, by paving the way in this field, we will popularize the PPP model in public transport, and that the success of Cracow will encourage other cities to use advantages of this model for own investment purposes – convinces the representative of the private partner.

 The PPP Leaders Forum is the most important periodic commercial conference dedicated to cooperation between professionals from the public and the private sector, who implement partner investment projects in the PPP formula. The last year’s edition of the event was attended online by 400 auditors. This year, the main topics of the discussion are: financing, bankability, analysis of effectiveness and provisions ensuring flexibility of a PPP contract due to its long-term nature. The event takes place under honorary patronage of the Minister of Development Funds and Regional Policy.

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A new tram road of the Kraków Fast Tram (KST, IV) of approx. 4.5 km will connect Mistrzejowice with the intersection of Lema and Meissnera Streets in 2024. It is the first time that such a large transport project is implemented in the model of public-private partnership in Poland. The project encompasses construction of 10 stop pairs, a tunnel in the area of Polsadu roundabout, extension of the tram terminus in Jancarza Street as well as associated infrastructure. The private partner of the project is consortium of PPP Solutions Polska Sp. z o.o. (leader) and Gülermak Ağir Sanayi Inşaat ve Taahhüt A.Ş. The entity responsible for the project on behalf of the city is Kraków Municipal Road Authority (ZDMK).

**Contact:**

E: media@tramwajdomistrzejowic.pl

M: (+48) 601 770 504