

Resolution #BTE-2022-03-03

Committing a BTE funding match for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant to address one Statewide Bridge and Tunnel Enterprise eligible bridge as part of the US 6 and Wadsworth Blvd. Interchange Improvements Project

Approved by the Bridge and Tunnel Enterprise Board of Directors on March 17th, 2022.

WHEREAS, the Colorado General Assembly created the Colorado Bridge Enterprise (CBE) in C.R.S. 43-4-805 as a government-owned business within the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT or Department) for the business purpose of financing, repairing, reconstructing, and replacing Designated Bridges, defined in C.R.S. 43-4-803(10) as those bridges identified as structurally deficient or functionally obsolete and rated poor; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, the Colorado General Assembly passed Senate Bill 21-260, which was signed into law by the Governor on June 17, 2021, expanding the BE to include both designated bridge projects and surface transportation infrastructure projects for tunnels, and renaming the expanded enterprise the Statewide Bridge and Tunnel Enterprise (BTE), C.R.S. § 43-4-805(2)(a)(I); and

WHEREAS, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law or IIJA) authorized and appropriated \$1.5 billion to be awarded by the US Department of Transportation (USDOT) for FY 2022 for Local and Regional Project Assistance Program grants; and

WHEREAS, a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) was issued by the USDOT on January 27, 2022 for the FY 2022 RAISE Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, applications for the FY 2022 RAISE Grant Program are due to the USDOT by 5:00 PM E.S.T on April 14, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2022 RAISE Grant Program will award discretionary funds to surface transportation projects that will have significant local or regional impacts; and

WHEREAS, the USDOT's evaluation of FY 2022 RAISE Grant Program applications will be based on key program objectives: reduce greenhouse gas emissions, designed with specific elements to address climate change impacts, address environmental justice, address racial equity and barriers to opportunity, and support the creation of good-paying jobs; and

WHEREAS, Staff performed an evaluation of potential projects for the Department to submit under a unified grant application and identified one project with BTE eligible scope that will be submitted based on the key program objectives; and

WHEREAS, Staff recommend the US 6 and Wadsworth Blvd. Interchange Improvements Project as a priority candidate for the FY 2022 RAISE Grant Program application; and

WHEREAS, the US 6 and Wadsworth Interchange Improvements Project scope includes one BTE eligible structure; and

WHEREAS, the BTE Board is being asked to commit matching funds to address this deficient structure and increase the competitiveness of the Department's application.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, in order to show the Department's financial commitment to the US 6 and Wadsworth Interchange Improvements Project, and because a state match is required and enhances the viability of the application, the BTE commits to providing up to a maximum of \$20 million of available revenues to be used for the replacement of the BTE eligible bridge if the Department's application is awarded a grant by the USDOT.

Herman
Stockinger

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Herman Stockinger
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Herman Stockinger, Secretary
Bridge and Tunnel Enterprise Board of Directors