



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO: BRIDGE AND TUNNEL ENTERPRISE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**FROM: JEFF SUDMEIER, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**  
**DATE: MARCH 17, 2022**  
**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION TO APPROVE BRIDGE AND TUNNEL ENTERPRISE FUNDING MATCH FOR THE FY2022 RAISE GRANT PROGRAM**

**Purpose**

The Statewide Bridge and Tunnel Enterprise Board of Directors (Board) is being asked to approve the attached resolution that commits Statewide Bridge and Tunnel Enterprise (BTE) funding for the replacement of the BTE eligible US 6 ML over SH 121 bridge (6<sup>th</sup> Ave. and Wadsworth Blvd.) as part of the state funding match for the larger US 6 and Wadsworth Blvd. Interchange Improvements project that is being submitted for the fiscal year (FY) 2022 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Discretionary Grant Program.

**Action**

Staff is requesting Board approval of Proposed Resolution BTE#3: FY2022 RAISE Grant Applications, to commit a BTE match for the FY 2022 RAISE Grant Program.

**Background**

On January 27, 2022, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) released a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the FY 2022 RAISE Grant Program. The RAISE grant program is part of the Local and Regional Project Assistance Program in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law or IIJA) which is focused on advancing significant local and regional surface transportation projects. CDOT Staff performed an evaluation to identify projects with the highest probability of award based on the selection criteria outlined in the NOFO. Through this process, the US 6 and Wadsworth Blvd. Interchange Improvements project in Jefferson County was identified as a top candidate for submission. Additionally, the project is a high priority for CDOT, BTE, and numerous other stakeholders and is included in the CDOT 10-Year Strategic Project Pipeline (10-Year plan).

**Details**

The existing configuration of the US 6 and Wadsworth Blvd. interchange and roadway within the project limits has not kept pace with increasing traffic and multi-modal travel demands. This proposed interchange improvement project will meet current design and safety standards, improve safety and mobility, and improve multi-modal travel options at the US 6 and Wadsworth Blvd. interchange and along Wadsworth Blvd. The proposed project east-west limits along US 6 are from the eastern interchange ramps with Wadsworth Blvd. west to Garrison Street. On Wadsworth Blvd., the project limits are 4th Avenue to 14th Avenue. This area is a vital regional hub of the western Denver metropolitan as well as a vital interchange for the City of Lakewood. The replacement of the BTE eligible bridge, US 6 over Wadsworth (F-16-O), is a key element of the project.



<u>Structure ID</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Deck Area (sq. ft.)</u>	<u>BTE Prioritization Tier</u>
F-16-O	US 6 ML over SH 121 ML	Jefferson	21,065	1 <sup>st</sup>

Structure F-16-O is a continuous concrete tee beam bridge that was constructed in 1972 with a poor-rated deck and superstructure. A poor rating for these structural elements means that the bridge has been recorded by the Staff Bridge inspection unit as having advanced section loss, deterioration, and/or spalling. Inspection reports for F-16-O indicate that 100% of the visible deck area contains efflorescence, rust staining, spalls, delamination, or map cracking. These defects indicate that the structure has experienced heavy moisture and chloride intrusion and has reached the end of its anticipated service life.

BTE staff is requesting \$20M maximum in BTE match funding to replace the structure based on high-level cost estimates by the project team. Allocation of these funds will be contingent on a RAISE grant award. Current BTE program forecasts indicate that this project can be accommodated between FY2024-25 and FY2026-27 using unprogrammed resources. The project design work was previously completed to a near FOR (90%) design level and is currently being updated to reflect current design standards and codes. The project also has completed the Environment Assessment (EA) review and has been issued a Finding of No Significant Impact and Final Selection Evaluation by FHWA, however, a re-evaluation of the EA is required.

**Next Steps**

1. CDOT will submit a grant application for the project by the USDOT April 14<sup>th</sup> deadline.
2. If a grant is awarded, BTE staff will return to the Board requesting funding as part of the monthly budget supplement process.
3. If a grant is not awarded, CDOT will evaluate the viability of advancing the project to construction with other funding sources.

**Attachments:**

Attachment A: Proposed Resolution BTE#3: FY2022 RAISE Grant Applications: 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 (BTE) eligible bridge as part of the US 6 and Wadsworth Blvd. Interchange Improvements Project

