

Resolution #BTE-2022-05-03

Committing BTE funds for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Opportunity (MPDG) to address five Bridge and Tunnel Enterprise eligible bridges as part of three separate projects.

Approved by the Bridge and Tunnel Enterprise Board of Directors on (May 19th, 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 BIL) authorized and appropriated \$2.85 billion to be awarded across three funding programs by the US Department of Transportation (USDOT) in FY 2022 for projects of regional or national significance; and

WHEREAS, a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) was issued by the USDOT on March 25, 2022 for the FY 2022 MPDG Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, applications for the FY 2022 MPDG Grant Program are due to the USDOT by 11:59 PM E.D.T on May 23, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2022 MPDG Grant Program will award discretionary funds to highway and bridge, intercity passenger rail, railway-highway grade and separation, wildlife crossing, public transportation, marine highway, and freight and multimodal projects, or groups of such projects, of national or regional significance, as well as to projects to improve and expand the surface transportation infrastructure in rural areas; and

WHEREAS, the USDOT's evaluation of FY 2022 MPDG Grant Program applications will be based on key program objectives: safety, state of good repair, economic impacts, freight movement, job creation, climate change, resiliency, and the environment, equity, multimodal options, and quality of life; and innovation areas, technology, project delivery, and financing, and

WHEREAS, Staff performed an evaluation of potential projects for the Department to submit under a common grant application and identified three separate projects with BTE eligible scope that are recommended for submittal based on the key program objectives; and

WHEREAS, Staff recommend the following three separate projects as priority candidates for the FY 2022 MPDG common applications:

1. Floyd Hill to Veterans Memorial Tunnel Improvement Project – Region 1

2. I-76 Phase IV: Safety and Mobility Project – Region 4
3. US 160 Safety and Mobility Project – Region 5; and

WHEREAS, the BTE Board is being asked to commit BTE funds to address these deficient structures and increase the competitiveness of the Department’s common applications.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the BTE Board commits to providing up to \$260 million of BTE funds for two BTE eligible structures under the common grant application for Floyd Hill to Veterans Memorial Tunnel Improvement Project in Region 1 if this grant application is successful.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the BTE Board commits to providing up to \$18 million of state matching funds for two BTE eligible structures under the common grant application for I-76 Phase IV: Safety and Mobility Project in Region 4 if this grant application is successful.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the BTE Board commits to providing up to \$10 million of state matching funds for one BTE eligible structure under the common grant application for US 160 Safety and Mobility Project in Region 5 if this grant application is successful.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in order to show the Department’s financial commitment to the three recommended projects, the BTE commits to providing up to a combined maximum of \$288 million of funding to be used for the replacement of the five BTE eligible bridges if all of Department’s applications are 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