

**Resolution #BTE-2022-06-02**

Increase the BTE funding commitment to the I-70 Vail Pass Safety and Operations Improvements Project from \$61.5M to \$93.4M

**Approved by the Bridge and Tunnel Enterprise Board of Directors on June 16, 2022**

**WHEREAS**, in 2009, the Colorado General Assembly created the Colorado Bridge Enterprise (BE) in C.R.S. § 43-4-805 as a government-owned business within CDOT 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 expanded BE to include both designated bridge projects and surface transportation infrastructure projects for tunnels, and, in so doing, re-named the expanded enterprise as the Statewide Bridge and Tunnel Enterprise (BTE), C.R.S. § 43-4-805(2)(a)(I); and

**WHEREAS**, a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) was issued by U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) on January 13, 2020 for the FY 2020 INFRA Discretionary Grant Program; and

**WHEREAS**, CDOT was awarded a \$60.7M grant through the USDOT FY 2020 INFRA Discretionary Grant Program for I-70 Vail Pass Safety and Operations Improvements Project on June 18, 2020, fully funding the project; and

**WHEREAS**, the I-70 Vail Pass Safety and Operations Improvements Project scope included one BTE eligible bridge, I-70 EB over Polk Creek (F-12-AS); and

**WHEREAS**, the legacy CBE Board approved Resolution # BE-20-02-02 in February 2020 committing a maximum of \$40 million of Bridge Safety Surcharge revenue to be used on BTE eligible structures if the Department's application was awarded a grant by the USDOT; and

**WHEREAS**, a value engineering workshop identified that reconstructing I-70 WB over Polk Creek (F-12-AT) before building the F-12-AS structure allows for a more efficient alignment for F-12-AS, resulting in a cost savings of approximately \$20M when compared to the original alignment for F-12-AS; and

**WHEREAS**, the BTE Board approved Resolution # BE-21-09-03 in September 2021 to increase the program's maximum funding commitment to the I-70 Vail Pass Safety and Operation Improvements project from \$40M to \$61.5M to fund the replacement of I-70 WB over Polk Creek (F-12-AT), thereby accelerating its replacement and capitalizing on the opportunity to achieve \$20M in cost savings for the replacement of I-70 EB over Polk Creek (F-12-AS); and

**WHEREAS**, design refinements and cost escalation due to the global COVID-19 pandemic and inflation have increased the total estimated cost for the BTE eligible portions of the Vail Pass Operations and Safety improvement project to \$93.4M.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, in order to fully fund the project and allow for the completion of two deficient BTE eligible bridges, the BTE commits to increasing the program's maximum funding commitment to the I-70 Vail Pass Safety and Operation Improvements project from \$61.5M to \$93.4M to be used on the reconstruction of BTE eligible bridges and other items required for the optimal functioning of the bridges.

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Herman Stockinger, Secretary  
Bridge and Tunnel Enterprise Board of Directors

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Date