

Resolution #BTE-2023-02-03

Committing a BTE funding match for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program to address four Bridge and Tunnel Enterprise eligible bridges as part of three separate projects.

Approved by the Bridge and Tunnel Enterprise Board of Directors on February 16th, 2023.

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 2023 for Local and Regional Project Assistance Program grants; and

WHEREAS, a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) was issued by the USDOT on January 03, 2023 for the FY 2023 RAISE Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, applications for the FY 2023 RAISE Grant Program are due to the USDOT by 11:59 PM E.S.T on February 28, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2023 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 2023 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 recommends the following three separate projects as priority

candidates for the FY 2023 RAISE Grant Program applications:

1. US 6 and Wadsworth Interchange Improvements 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 through these projects and increase the competitiveness of the Department’s common applications.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the BTE Board commits to providing up to \$20 million of BTE funds for one BTE-eligible structure under the grant application for the US 6 and Wadsworth Interchange Improvements 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 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 \$14 million of state matching funds for one BTE-eligible structure under the grant application for US 160 Safety and Mobility Project in Region 5 if this grant application is successful.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT 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 \$52 million of funding to be used for the replacement of the four BTE eligible bridges if all of Department’s applications are awarded a grant by the USDOT.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in order to show the Department’s financial commitment to the three recommended projects, the BTE may commit funding in an amount not-to-exceed the limits stated herein for future federal discretionary grant opportunities.

Herman
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Herman Stockinger
Date: 2023.02.22
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Herman Stockinger, Secretary
Bridge Enterprise Board of Directors

Date