



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
**FROM:** JERAD ESQUIBEL, DIRECTOR OF PROJECT SUPPORT  
**DATE:** NOVEMBER 15, 2018  
**SUBJECT:** RESOLUTION TO APPROVE STATE FUNDING MATCH FOR FY 2018-19 FHWA COMPETITIVE HIGHWAY BRIDGE GRANT

**Purpose:**

The Transportation Commission is being asked to approve the attached resolution that endorses the grant applications for the fiscal year (FY) 2018-19 FHWA Competitive Highway Bridge Program, and commits TC funding as a portion of the required state funding match.

**Background:**

In October, CDOT Staff Bridge Branch and BE Staff held a joint workshop to inform the Bridge Enterprise Board and the Transportation Commission of key details provided in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) released by the FHWA on September 5, 2018, and to provide the selection methodology for the structure bundles being submitted in the grant applications. State funding match levels are recommended at 50% or greater to increase the probability of award. Based on the selection criteria outlined in the NOFO, the following projects and funding matches were recommended:

App#	Description	Requested CBE Match (est.)	Requested TC Match	USDOT Grant	Total Cost (est.)
1	R1: I-70 between Colfax Ave. and Harlan St. (10 Structures)	\$41.7M	\$15M	\$24.3M	\$81M
2	R2: Concrete Box Culvert and Corrugated Metal Pipe Culvert Program (14 Structures)	\$17M	-	\$17M	\$34M
3	R1/R4: Eastern Plains Timber Bridge Replacement Program (9 Structures)	\$11M	-	\$11M	\$22M
<b>Total Requested Match</b>		<b>\$69.7M</b>	<b>\$15M</b>	<b>\$52.3M</b>	<b>\$137M</b>

Staff requested consideration and feedback from the Board and the Transportation Commission regarding the proposed grant applications and funding levels and the response was positive. As discussed in the October workshop, the potential exists for USDOT to award multiple grants. All three grant applications have structures that are eligible for Bridge Enterprise funding whereas applications #1 and #3 contain non-eligible structures. A TC match of up to \$15.0 million is being requested for grant application #1 in order to maximize both the BE and potential USDOT grant funding and address an additional 4 structures if this grant is awarded.

**Next Steps:**

- Staff will submit applications for all three project bundles by the USDOT December 4<sup>th</sup> deadline

**Attachment:**

Attachment A: Resolution #TC X-X-X: Instructing the Department to submit an application under the Competitive Highway Bridge Program and support priority bridge projects submitted by the Colorado Bridge Enterprise and CDOT Staff Bridge Program



**Resolution #TC-18-11-XX**

Instructing the Department to submit an application under the USDOT Competitive Highway Bridge Program and support priority bridge projects submitted by the CDOT Staff Bridge Program and the Colorado Bridge Enterprise

**Approved by the Transportation Commission on November 15, 2018.**

**WHEREAS**, The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018 made available \$225 million for highway bridge replacement and rehabilitation projects on public roads through the Competitive Highway Bridge Program, (Pub. L. 115-141, March 23, 2018); and

**WHEREAS**, a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) was issued by U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) on September 5, 2018 for the FY 2018 Competitive Highway Bridge Program; and

**WHEREAS**, applications for the Competitive Highway Bridge Program; are due to the U.S. Secretary of Transportation on December 4, 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, the USDOT's consideration of Competitive Highway Bridge Program discretionary grant applications will be based on four key program objectives: innovation, supporting economic vitality, life cycle cost and state of good repair and project readiness; and

**WHEREAS**, projects that are eligible for the Competitive Highway Bridge Program discretionary grant funding must be considered major structures, demonstrate cost savings through bundling and be located on a public road; and

**WHEREAS**, both CDOT Staff Bridge and Bridge Enterprise have analyzed potential bridge structures for the Department to submit under a unified grant application and identified three project bundles that will be submitted for consideration; and

**WHEREAS**, all project bundles include CBE eligible structures and project bundles #1 and #3 include non-CBE eligible structures, both the CBE Board and the Transportation Commission are being asked to commit matching funds to increase the competitiveness of the Departments application.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Department is instructed to submit the maximum allowed three applications for the following three different bridge project bundles as part of the Competitive Highway Bridge Program.

1. I-70 between Colfax Ave. and Harlan St. – Region 1
2. Concrete Box Culvert and Corrugated Metal Pipe Culvert Program – Region 2
3. Eastern Plains Timber Bridge Replacement Program – Regions 1 and 4

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, in order to show the Department's financial commitment to project bundles and because a state match is required and enhances the viability of the application, the Commission commits to providing up to \$15 million of state match, from Transportation Commission Program Reserve or other available state funds, with the source to be determined and allocated if the USDOT awards the Department's grant application #1.

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Herman Stockinger, Secretary  
Transportation Commission of Colorado

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Date