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*New Hampshire's Main Street™*  
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**REPORT TO MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL**

**FROM:** Martha Drukker, Interim City Engineer

**DATE:** March 27, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a municipal agreement with the State of New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) for State Bridge Aid Program funding in conjunction with the Loudon Road Bridge Rehabilitation and associated Roadway Improvements Project (CIP #588).

**Recommendation**

Accept this report and approve the attached resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a municipal agreement with the State of New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) for State Bridge Aid Program funding in conjunction with the Loudon Road Bridge Rehabilitation and associated Roadway Improvements Project, State Project #41212.

**Background**

The Loudon Road Bridge has been programmed in the New Hampshire Department of Transportation "Red Listed" bridges for several years. In FY2020, City Council appropriated funds for the design, permitting and acquisition of right of way and construction for a rehabilitation of the bridge deck and other amenities on the Loudon Road Bridge over the Merrimack River.

As a result of public input during the initial engineering study for the proposed improvements, the project scope was amended to include an expanded bridge deck to facilitate proposed extension of the Merrimack River Greenway Trail along this portion of the planned corridor. This alternative design was presented and accepted to City Council in the fall of 2020. The engineering study was completed in the fall of 2021. Over the past 12 months, city and state officials have been working closely to coordinate the City's proposed bridge improvements with the State's Bow/Concord I-93 Expansion Project.

## **Discussion**

In order to advance this municipally managed project to the next phase of design, the City Manager must enter into a municipal agreement with NHDOT to participate in the State Bridge Aid Program.

The project, including design and construction, is currently estimated at \$23,484,140 in the New Hampshire State Department of Transportation 10-year plan and is further defined in the City's Annual Capital Improvement Program and Budget as CIP#588. This project is funded by both State and Federal dollars at 80% with a 20% City match.

Therefore, it is recommended that the City Council accept this report and approve the attached resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a municipal agreement with the State of New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) for State Bridge Aid Program funding in conjunction with the Loudon Road Rehabilitation and associated Road Improvements Project.

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