



CITY OF CONCORD
New Hampshire's Main Street™
Community Development Department

REPORT TO THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Martha Drukker, Interim City Engineer
DATE: December 26, 2022
SUBJECT: Appropriate and Accept \$1,959,113.76 from the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) and establish a Bridge Reserve Fund for the purpose of supplementing the city share towards programmed NHDOT Bridge Aide Projects and/or repairs/replacement of city bridge projects as programmed in the approved Capital Improvements Program

Recommendation

Accept and appropriate the one-time allocation of Bridge Aid funds from the NHDOT to be used to assist the city in their cost sharing as a match to NHDOT Municipal Bridge Aid Projects and/or repairs or replacement to city bridge improvements as programmed in the annual Capital Improvements Program or other wise approved by City Council.

Background

The NHDOT notified City on December 14, 2022 that in accordance with the passage of Senate Bill 401, effective July 2022, the state department is to distribute \$36 million dollars as a one-time payment to municipalities throughout the state based on population and bridge deck square footage within the municipality. These funds are surplus funds from the State Bridge Aid Program and the State has determined that due to their back log of state-wide bridge replacement projects they cannot manage this additional work load. The NHDOT has over 300 bridge replacement projects to manage and this surplus fund would increase the managed bridge projects state wide to over 100 per year. Over the past several years, the NHDOT has provided training for municipalities to manage their design/construction administration of their bridge replacement/restoration projects to reduce the state administration on these projects and encourage municipalities to be proactive in their bridge maintenance/replacement programs. This program, state wide has been successful and has allowed the State to allow municipalities to manage their locally bridge capital improvement programs in house with the assistance of local professional consultants. Therefore, they are distributing these funds back to the municipalities to be used to either assist in

cost sharing for programmed bridge projects or to be programmed by the municipality for repairs/replacements of their municipally owned bridges and to be managed by the municipality.

Discussion

Acceptance and appropriation of these funds would allow the City to establish a Bridge Reserve Fund to be used to supplement the City share to programmed bridge repairs/replacement as part of the NHDOT Municipal State Aid Bridge Program or to repair/replace programmed bridge improvements as programmed in the annual Capital Improvements Program and Budget or as otherwise approved by City Council.