



# CITY OF CONCORD

## REPORT TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Michael S. Bezanson, PE, City Engineer

DATE: December 14, 2023

SUBJECT: NH House Bill (HB) 2 Special One Time Bridge Funding

### **Recommendation:**

Accept this report and set for public hearing on January 8, 2024 the attached resolution accepting the sum of \$544,318.75 in a special one-time payment in accordance with HB 2 for the maintenance, construction, or reconstruction of municipally owned bridges; and, appropriating the sum of \$544,318.75 as a transfer to the Bridge Reserve Fund for future bridge projects.

### **Background:**

The NH Department of Transportation (NHDOT) notified the City in a letter dated December 1, 2023 (see attached letter) that in accordance with the passage of HB 2, effective July 2023, NHDOT is distributing \$10 million dollars between all New Hampshire municipalities that have municipally owned bridges; and, that the City of Concord's share is a one-time payment of \$544,318.75. The distribution to municipalities throughout the state is based upon population and bridge deck square footage within the municipality. These funds shall only be used on the maintenance, construction, or reconstruction of municipally owned bridges; and, these funds shall not be used to supplant locally budgeted and approved funds for bridge maintenance or construction.

### **Discussion:**

The City of Concord has 21 municipally owned bridges maintained by the municipality. Two of those bridges have been included on the municipal red list by NHDOT, meaning one or more of the major elements of a bridge has been rated as being in less than "fair" condition. Those two bridges are NH 9 (Loudon Road) over Merrimack River (163/111) and Iron Works Road over Turkey River (190/067).

In 2023, a Bridge Reserve Fund was established by the Concord City Council for capital repairs or replacement of the City's bridges. Because the HB 2 funds are designated for limited use only in the maintenance, construction, or reconstruction of municipally owned bridges, staff recommends that HB 2 one-time payment in the amount of \$544,318.75 be accepted and appropriated as a transfer to the Bridge Reserve Fund for future bridge projects.