

Local Assistance
 Highway Bridge Program (HBP) Advisory Committee Meeting
 April 28, 2022—Decisions Made, Action Items and Summary

Attendees

Dee Lam, DLA
 Sujaya Kalainesan, DLA
 Linda Newton, DLA
 Andy Chou, DLA
 Roberta Jensen, DLA
 Bobby Zezoff, DLA
 Eileen Crawford, DLA
 Sudhakar Vatti, SLA
 Jim Perrault, DLAE D6
 Parminder Singh, DLAE D10
 Jon Pray, CTC

Max Katt, FHWA
 Michael Chung, San Joaquin County
 Jason Vivian, Tulare County
 Jesse Gothan, City of Sacramento
 Rebecca Neves, City of Placerville
 José Luis Cáceres, SACOG
 Kenneth Kao, MTC
 Naomi Caietti, CSUS
 Erol Kaslan, SM&I
 Jeremy Wright, SLA
 Tim Sobelman, CTC

Decisions

No decisions were made at this meeting.

Action Items

All completed or closed Action Items will be removed from the list for the next meeting summary.

Item Number	Status	Who	Action	Date Created	Target Date
A110	Open	CSAC reps	Contact county agencies whose unprogrammed bridge projects appear on the scour critical list coded 1 or 2, to promote awareness of HEC 23 chapter 2 (Scour Plan of Action and Countermeasures), available mitigation funding, and HBP prioritization criteria.	2/21/19	2022

Item Number	Status	Who	Action	Date Created	Target Date
A114	Open	All	Discuss possible changes to 6-A scoping document to help estimate project cost more precisely.	4/18/19	2022
A120	Open	DLA	Circulate letter for comment to 6 county agencies whose yet-to-be programmed bridge projects appear on the scour critical list coded 2, seeking response on Scour Plan of Action and Countermeasures.	8/22/19	2022
A131	Open	DLA	Prepare Office Bulletin on high-cost bridge policy reform for posting in early 2022.	8/26/21	Complete

Discussions

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Dee Lam introduced Sujaya Kalainesan as Acting Deputy Division Chief of Local Assistance and welcomes her leadership working with the Highway Bridge Program.
- Dee reported that the Fix it First committee is making progress on State/Local split for the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA).

2. Agenda Review

No changes to agenda.

3. Review of 12/02/22 Draft Action Summary

No comments were received. The document will be made final and posted to the HBP web page.

4. Financial Status

HBP managers shared the Fund Status report as of 04/19/2022 and the following points:

- March Financial Constraint maintained FAST Act level apportionment. The Financial Status spreadsheet showed \$297.3 million of total apportionment, which includes an additional \$25 million for off-system funding from IIJA.

- Projected OA allocation based on end of Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2021 and adjusting it for August redistribution and DLA salaries/wages, actual will be approximately \$219.6 million.
- De-obligations so far for FFY 2022 are approximately \$10 million.
- Obligations made to date is \$198 million for FFY 2022.

5. Off System Funding Reimbursement Rate

HBP Managers shared the Off System Funding Reimbursement Rate and the following points:

- HBP managers discussed changing the reimbursement rate to 100%. Current rate is 88.53%.
- HBP managers recommended the change in reimbursement rate because the Bridge Formula Program (BFP) Funds in the IIJA states that off-system bridges shall be reimbursed at 100%. The Core Apportionment funds (STBGP) do not require 100% reimbursement. Changing the rate back to 100% would conform with BFP requirements.
- The BFP funds cannot be transferred and have a Timely Use of Funds clause. Annual-apportioned BFP funds must be obligated within 3 years they are apportioned, and projects have 5 years to expend the funds after obligation. It is our understanding that any unobligated or unexpended funds that violate the clause will be lost.
- There are currently 24 off system bridge projects programmed that have the reimbursement rate at 88.53%. These projects could not take advantage of the BFP funds if the reimbursement rate remained as currently programmed.
- The current programming of total federal funds is approximately \$89 million for 24 local agency projects that have not started yet. The change back to 100% would impact the program by \$10.3 million, based on available estimates.

6. Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Information

HBP managers provided a brief overview of the IIJA information by providing a Fix It First Talking Points overview.

The talking points highlights new bipartisan Infrastructure law basics, and current local HBP summary.

IIJA basics:

The IIJA will provide funds to the Division of Local Assistance Local Highway Bridge Program. There are three ways funds will flow into the Local HBP from IIJA. i.e.: National Highway Performance Program (NHPP), Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP) and the new BFP.

The current proposal for HBP from the core formula programs is:

- NHPP - \$221 million per year
- STBGP - \$100 million per year

The new funding, BFP, comes from the General Fund. The total amount is California is receiving for BFP is \$575 million for FFY 2022 (on and off federal-aid system bridges). This will be split with the State and the local HBP portion proposal is \$253 million/year.

Current Local HBP Summary:

- 740 Projects in the Local HBP
- 403 On Federal-aid projects
- 337 Off Federal-aid projects

Local HBP Project priority areas for discussion:

Priority	On Federal-aid projects	Off federal-aid projects
1 - Projects in construction	31	05
2 - Projects ready to advertise (RTA) for construction	35	16
3 – Projects nearly ready to advertise for construction (within 1 year)	18	25
4 - Projects that could potentially advance	45	27
5 - Projects waiting to get into the HBP since 2018	82	83

- Discussion of priority of funding, high-cost projects, and reimbursement rate; request to add to agenda for the June meeting.

7. Advancement of Off Systems Projects

HBP Managers requested to advance 24 projects on the off-system project listing to FFY 22/23. This discussion is tied to the Off System Funding Reimbursement Rate in Topic 5. This topic will be deferred to the June meeting.

Committee requested HBP Managers provide an analysis of the on/off system rate as an agenda item for future meeting.

Committee requested adding Bridge Investment Credit (BIC) as an agenda for future meeting and develop training for it. A BIC analysis will be added to the June meeting. Training will be developed in the future.

8. 2022 HBP Project Prioritizations Lists

The HBP Project Lists for on system and off system sorted in priority order were presented to the Committee for review. These lists consist of 82 On System projects funded for over \$431 million and 83 Off System projects funded for approximately \$179 million. No decision as to a funding cutoff for these lists has been made. HBP managers recommended to have the funding Programmatic Agreement complete before any funding decisions are made.

9. Review New Action Items

No new Action Items added.

10. Round Table

HBP Advisory Committee members discussed meeting in person for future meetings; virtual meeting planned for June.

SACOG discussed potentially increasing high-cost programming limit of \$20 million to a higher amount. Caltrans recommended waiting until final IIJA values are determined before this is considered.

City of Sacramento is requesting to present a white paper to the committee at the June meeting. HBP Managers recommended working with District 3 to plan a pre-meeting, prepare a presentation and schedule a debrief meeting with Dee Lam prior to presenting at the HBP Advisory Committee meeting.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 2:31 pm.