

NOTEABLE CHANGES to the 2025 Bridge Improvement Grant (BIG) Program

- **BIG Application** – Unfortunately we are unable to offer local federal replacement / removal programs for 2024 so that component of the application has been removed.
- Page 3
 - The definition of **Bid Review Ready** has been updated to clarify that it “only” applies to rehabilitation/replacement projects.
- Page 6
 - Added clarification to the definition of **Bridge Improvement Grant (BIG)** that it is only for structures that meet the definition of a bridge and that a BIG cannot be used as match requirements for other grants or federal programs.
 - Added a restriction to the definition of **Bridge Preservation** for a condition-based maintenance activity, that a BIG cannot be a phased approach where 30% is replaced in one year and then another 30% is addressed in subsequent years.
 - Changed the definition name of Detour Length to “**Bypass Detour Length**”.
- Page 11
 - In the **PE-BIG** section of **Table III-1 GRANT LIMITING AMOUNTS**, the separate limit of <451 hours for small drainage areas was deleted and is now included with medium areas.
- Page 12
 - A sixth screening requirement has been added as noted below. Having everything submitted by the deadline and in the same location by the LPA’s selected firm, will help to reduce the DOT’s review time and most importantly reduce the chance that an application is not accepted due to its appearing incomplete.

*6. **Complete Application** – LPA will select a professional engineering firm from the current SDDOT consultant retainer list for the applicable category of work and that firm will submit the application electronically to DOT’s secure FTP site on behalf of the LPA. All applicable items in the checklist as provided in Appendix F for the appropriate type of work must be received by the application due date for the application to be considered complete. Incomplete applications may be deemed non-responsive and not eligible for a grant.*
- Page 14
 - V.A.2. – Changed “LPA will” to “LPA’s Engineer will” (due to the addition of the sixth screening requirement as previously noted.)
- Page 15
 - V.B.1. – Changed “LPA must” to “LPA’s Engineer must” (due to the addition of the sixth screening requirement as previously noted.)
 - V.B.3. – Changed “LPA will” to “LPA’s Engineer will” (due to the addition of the sixth screening requirement as previously noted.)
 - V.C.1. – Changed “LPA will” to “LPA’s Engineer will” (due to the addition of the sixth screening requirement as previously noted.)
- Page 20

- VI.B.6. **Scour (5 points or zero points)** – Changed what is being reviewed and that a hydraulic analysis needs to accompany the proposal.
- VII. **Project Development Requirements Following Grant Award** –
 - A requirement has been added that the grant agreement be signed within 30 calendar days after Commission award of the grant and that failure to do so may result in reallocation of the grant funds to another eligible applicant within that grant cycle.

(An example of the funding agreement can be found on the DOT BIG webpage by the application form.)
 - Deleted requirement at this stage that the LPA will select a PE firm from SDDOT retainer list (note that this is a requirement much earlier in the process and now applications must be submitted through the firms' access to DOT electronic folders).
- Page 21
 - VII.A.1.a. – Changed that LPA will select to they will concur in the hiring of the PE.
 - VII.B.1.a. – Removed that the selection of PE will occur at this stage (done previously).
- Page 23
 - VII.C.1.a. – Removed that the selection of PE will occur at this stage.
- Page 24
 - VIII. – Changed “Reimbursement Process” to “Distribution of Funds”
- Page 25
 - X. – Clarified that **Complete Applications** must be submitted to the SDDOT’s SFTP site and an e-mail must be sent to a specific e-mail address as noted and must clearly identify the number of applications submitted along with the NBI structure numbers for each application.

Appendix A

- ✓ Updated survey/hydraulic scope to match updates since 2024.

Appendix C

- ✓ Updated design scope to match updates since 2024.