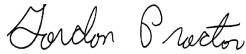


Approved:

Policy No. 25-003(P)
Effective: May 1, 2003
Responsible Division: Local Programs
Supersedes Policy: 320-001(I)
Dated March 17, 1997



Gordon Proctor
Director

MUNICIPAL BRIDGE PROGRAM POLICY

POLICY STATEMENT:

This policy establishes the criteria for project evaluation, statewide prioritization and development of a Municipal Bridge Program for the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT). This program provides federal funds to municipal corporations for bridge replacement or bridge rehabilitation projects.

A funding limit of \$2,500,000 per project has been set. ODOT will provide up to 80 percent of the eligible costs for construction only. The Municipality is responsible for the balance of the construction costs and also for all costs associated with preliminary engineering, environmental studies and documents, final design and right of way.

A criteria-based project selection process has been developed to focus on eliminating deficiencies (both on and off Federal-Aid Highways), while keeping within a financial plan that utilizes existing available resources. Funding of all projects will be linked to defined deficiencies, so each dollar invested results in system improvement.

A scoring system is used to prioritize projects. The scoring criteria includes items currently utilized for traditional funding of bridge projects such as General Appraisal and Sufficiency Rating. Other categories used are Economic Health and Regional Impact.

The allocation for the Municipal Bridge Program will be established by ODOT and be administered by the Division of Local Programs.

AUTHORITY:

*Title 23, U.S.C., CFR-650
TEA-21*

REFERENCES:

This Policy supersedes Policy 320-001(I) dated March 17, 1997.

SCOPE:

This policy is applicable to all ODOT Districts, Divisions and Offices of the Department, along with Municipal Corporations.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE:

The Municipal Bridge Program provides funds for replacement and rehabilitation of bridges (that carry vehicular traffic) within Municipalities. The original program provided funding on a by-request basis.

Currently there are approximately 1,300 bridges that have a Municipal owner and meet the Federal Definition of a bridge (length of at least 20'). These 1,300 bridges are both on and off of Federal-Aid Highways. Forty percent of these bridges are **on** Federal-Aid Highways and sixty percent of them are **off** Federal-Aid Highways.

This policy's intent is to link funding of all projects to defined deficiencies, so each dollar invested results in system improvement. A partnership between the Municipality and ODOT will be established to assure the reliable delivery of projects.

Historically, the funding amount for this program has been approximately \$8,000,000 per year.

DEFINITIONS:

Bridge: A structure including supports erected over a depression or an obstruction, such as water, highway, or railway, and having a passageway for carrying traffic and having an opening measured along the center of the roadway of more than 20 feet between undercopings of abutments or spring lines of arches, or extreme ends of openings for multiple boxes. It may also include multiple pipes, where the clear distance between openings is less than half of the smaller contiguous opening.

Federal-Aid Highways: Highways eligible for assistance under Title 23 U.S.C. except those functionally classified as local or rural minor collectors.

Municipal Corporations: Cities or villages as defined by Title 7 of the Ohio Revised Code.

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TRAINING:

None required.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

Implementation of this policy will have no additional fiscal impact to ODOT.