



County Bridge Match Program

Brief History and Overview

The Transportation Innovation Act (TIA) of 2016 (LB960) established the County Bridge Match Program (CBMP) via the Transportation Infrastructure Bank Fund, empowering counties to access state funds to repair or replace deficient local bridges. Under the program, eligible county bridges can receive up to 55% of construction costs from the state, while the county provides the remaining share. The legislation initially appropriated up to \$40 million to the CBMP in grant funding and set a sunset date of June of 2023.

LB 1030 (2024) renewed the County Bridge Match Program and established a working group with two county highway superintendents and three Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) representatives. This working group was tasked with developing the program's application standards, matching requirements, and selection criteria, thereby ensuring county-level input into bridge-funding decisions. The sunset date for the CBMP was also moved back to June of 2029.

Eligibility Criteria

Eligible bridges must be in poor condition (or with a low rating), greater than 20 feet long, and located on a roadway classified as a local road.

Program Impact

Since 2016, over \$34 million has been awarded to counties, generating \$100 million in bridge-related construction activity (Nebraska Department of Transportation (DOT), 2025). DOT also reports that 385 bridges have been repaired or placed since the program's inception.

Future of the CBMP

The County Bridge Match Program provides important funds which counties use to build and maintain critical transportation infrastructure. State funds should be appropriated to continue and expand the County Bridge Match Program.

LB1218

LB1218 would require that the County Bridge Match Working Group award at least \$4 million each fiscal year. The working group will continue to develop the program, including participation criteria and matching fund requirements for counties, and shall score the applications and award the funds.