

REPORT FROM

OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Date: June 5, 2026

CAO File No. 0130-02174-0000

Council File No.

Council District: 6,14

To: The City Council

From:  for
Matthew W. Szabo, City Administrative Officer

Reference: Request from the Bureau of Engineering received May 19, 2026

Subject: **AUTHORITY TO APPLY FOR U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION BRIDGE INVESTMENT PROGRAM
PLANNING GRANTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council, subject to the approval of the Mayor:

1. Authorize the City Engineer of the Bureau of Engineering (BOE), or designee, to prepare and submit grant applications for the United States Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration Bridge Investment Program as described in Attachment 1; and,
2. Instruct the City Engineer of BOE, or designee, to report if the City is awarded the grants, to request authority to accept the grant awards, and to request approval for any related actions to implement the grant awards.

SUMMARY

On May 14, 2026, the United States Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration amended its notice of funding opportunity to update the Fiscal Year 2026 application deadlines for the Bridge Investment Program (BIP). The goals of the BIP are to: 1) improve the safety, efficiency, and reliability of the movement of people and freight over bridges; 2) improve the condition of bridges in the United States; and 3) provide financial assistance that leverages and encourages non-Federal contributions from sponsors and stakeholders involved in the planning, design, and construction of eligible projects.

This Office received two proposals from the Bureau of Engineering for Planning grants as described in Attachment 1 and listed below:

- First Street Bridge over Figueroa Street Replacement Planning Project, and;
- San Fernando Bridge over Tujunga Wash Replacement Planning Project.

Planning grant funds will be awarded on a competitive basis for planning, feasibility analyses, and revenue forecasting associated with the development of a project that would subsequently be eligible for assistance under the BIP. Other funding opportunities include Bridge Project grants for bridge replacement, rehabilitation, preservation, and protection projects with total eligible costs not greater than \$100 million.

Applications for Planning grants are due by June 15, 2026. In accordance with Los Angeles Administrative Code Section (LAMC) 14.6(b), BOE may submit its applications without prior Mayor and City Council approval in this instance because the notice of funding availability was published fewer than 61 days in advance of the application deadline.

Eligibility and Evaluation Criteria

Eligible projects for Planning grants include planning, feasibility analyses, and revenue forecasting associated with the development of a project that would subsequently be eligible to apply for assistance under the BIP. Environmental review, preliminary engineering, design work, and other preconstruction activities apart from Planning and Environmental Linkage activities are ineligible project activities. Bridges included in a Planning grant application are required to be on the National Bridge Inventory as these projects should subsequently be eligible to apply for assistance under the BIP.

Planning grant applications will be evaluated on meeting eligibility requirements and qualifying marks per the following merit criteria:

1. BIP Program Goals;
2. Project Description;
3. Project Schedule; and,
4. Project Budget.

With the assistance of BOE, this Office assessed whether the grant proposals align with the eligibility and evaluation criteria and determined that the projects satisfy the intended purpose, eligibility requirements, and specified evaluation criteria for Planning grants.

Award Size and Cost Sharing

There is no maximum or minimum award size for Planning grants although only \$20 million is allocated for this category in FY 2026. Non-federal matching funds are required for Planning grants. These could include State funds originating from programs funded by State revenue, local funds originating from State or local revenue-funded programs, private funds, or other funding sources. The federal share of the project costs is set by the United States Code, and the total federal contribution cannot exceed that amount.

The proposed project costs total \$5,405,000, of which \$4,785,047 is requested for grant funding.

The remaining \$619,953 is the proposed matching funds amount, which is set at 11.47 percent of the project costs as authorized by Title 23 of the United States Code, Section 120 for federal share payable. No funding has been allocated to these projects yet. If awarded, the matching funds should be requested through the annual budget process as part of the Capital and Technology Improvement Expenditure Program. Potential eligible special fund sources include the SB 1 Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Fund, Measure M Local Return Fund, and Measure R Local Return Fund.

Required Approval to Accept Award

In accordance with Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 14.6(a), all departments are required to seek Mayor and Council approval before accepting and receiving a grant award. Therefore, this Office recommends that BOE report to the Mayor and Council upon award notification to request authority to accept and receive the grant award and confirm that there is no additional General Fund impact.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Approval of the recommendations in this report will not result in a General Fund impact. If the grant is awarded, the impact on the General Fund should be reassessed to determine if there have been changes to the proposed project costs, availability of matching funds, feasibility of front-funding grant costs on a reimbursement basis, or other relevant issues. The required matching funds should be requested through the annual budget process as part of the Capital and Technology Improvement Expenditure Program. Potential eligible special fund sources include SB 1 Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Fund, Measure M Local Return Fund, and Measure R Local Return Fund.

FINANCIAL POLICIES STATEMENT

The recommendations in this report comply with the City's Financial Policies.

MWS:AMW:06260136C

Attachment 1

ATTACHMENT 1 - PROPOSED PLANNING GRANT PROJECTS

US Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration - FY2026 Bridge Investment Program

NOFO Issued: May 14, 2026

Due Date: June 15, 2026

Performance Period: FY 2026 BIP funds must be obligated by September 30, 2029 and fully expended by September 30, 2034.

Lead Department	Project Name	Project Description	Project Budget	Requested Grant Funds	Requested Matching Funds	Planned Completion Date
Bureau of Engineering	First Street Bridge over Figueroa Street Replacement Planning Project	This project will continue the work started in the 2024 Advanced Planning Study to determine the appropriate solutions to bring the bridge to a state of good repair. This bridge was originally built in 1940 and has exceeded its useful life. The proposed Planning Project will include life-cycle cost and alternatives analysis, seismic vulnerability modeling, traffic/detour analysis, environmental scans and NEPA/CEQA initiation, utility coordination studies, and revenue forecasting for a funding plan.	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 2,655,900	\$ 344,100	September 30, 2034
Bureau of Engineering	San Fernando Bridge over Tujunga Wash Replacement Planning Project	This project will continue the work started in the 2022 Bridge Assessment to complete the planning phase necessary to replace the deteriorating San Fernando Road Bridge over Tujunga Wash in the Sun Valley area. This bridge was originally built in 1935 and has exceeded its useful life. The proposed Planning Project will include fire damage sampling and testing, life-cycle cost and alternatives analysis, seismic vulnerability modeling, traffic/detour analysis, environmental scans and NEPA/CEQA initiation, community outreach and equity planning, utility coordination studies, and revenue forecasting for a funding plan.	\$ 2,405,000	\$ 2,129,147	\$ 275,853	September 30, 2034
Total:			\$ 5,405,000	\$ 4,785,047	\$ 619,953	