

ROUTT COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA COMMUNICATION FORM

ITEM DATE: 10/26/2021	ITEM TIME: 1:30-1:50 PM
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FROM:	Mike Mordi , Assistant Public Works Director and Caroline McClenahan, Grant Administrator
TODAY’S DATE:	10/18/2021
AGENDA TITLE:	Approval of Chair’s signature on Grant Application to Special Highways Committee via Colorado Counties Inc. for the replacement of the Moon Hill Bridge.

CHECK ONE THAT APPLIES TO YOUR ITEM:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACTION ITEM	
<input type="checkbox"/> DIRECTION	
<input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION	

I. DESCRIBE THE REQUEST OR ISSUE:

Requesting approval and signature of the off-system bridge replacement grant application submittal to the Special Highways Committee via Colorado Counties Inc. for the structurally deficient Moon Hill Bridge (# 107005600.00916). The total estimated project cost is \$1,675,000 including \$67,000 for design funded by the County. The Routt County Road and Bridge Department is asking for \$1,675,000 for construction funded 70% via grant (\$1,172,500) and 30% County match (\$502,500). The minimum requirement for match is 20%, however, construction costs have increased significantly since this application was last submitted in 2020 and an overmatch may make our application more competitive given the limited funding available.

II. RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve the Chair’s signature on the Grant Application to the Special Highways Committee via Colorado Counties Inc for replacement of the Moon Hill Bridge requesting funding in a total amount of \$1,675,000 including 70% grant (\$1,172,500) and 30% County match (\$502,500).

III. DESCRIBE FISCAL IMPACTS (VARIATION TO BUDGET):

PROPOSED REVENUE:
Moon Hill Bridge = 70% Match \$1,172,500

PROPOSED EXPENDITURE:
Moon Hill Bridge = 30% County Match \$502,500

FUNDING SOURCE: Special Highway Committee grant fund; general fund

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**IV. IMPACTS OF A REGIONAL NATURE OR ON OTHER JURISDICTIONS
(IDENTIFY ANY COMMUNICATIONS ON THIS ITEM):**

County Road 56 provides access to private property and public lands in Routt County. CR56 is also listed on the Colorado Backcountry Discovery Route.

V. BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Moon Hill Bridge (# 107005600.00916) is located in northern Routt County on CR 56 and spans the Elk River. (See attached map for location.) It serves local land owners and provides public access to adjacent federal lands, as well as seasonal thru traffic. The bridge was built in 1972 and has had some repairs done over the years. The 2014 biennial bridge inspection identified it as a structurally deficient bridge in Routt County. The Moon Hill Bridge is one of the last structurally deficient bridges on the list. It will be included in the County's 2024 budget. The Moon Hill Bridge is rated as poor on the Colorado Off-System Eligibility List, has a sufficiency rating of 50 or less (44.7), and is rated as structurally deficient.

It is likely that maintenance/repair costs would approach the county match for reconstruction thus replacement using grant funding is economically efficient. Replacement would greatly reduce long-term maintenance costs. The bridge is currently signed with load restrictions. Further deterioration may limit plowing, ranch use, or in the worse case close the bridge and eliminate access to those properties and public lands the bridge allows access to.

Repairs have been made to the bridge in 1999 and 2010. This helped extend the life of the bridge, but major repairs are eminent. Design of this bridge is currently nearing completion.

VI. LEGAL ISSUES:

None identified at this time.

VII. CONFLICTS OR ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES:

None currently identified.

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VIII. SUMMARY AND OTHER OPTIONS:

Moon Hill is the last of seven identified structurally deficient bridges to be repaired/replaced. If the grant application is not submitted, alternates are

- 1) County misses the grant opportunity and to replace the bridge will need to fund 100% of construction instead of 30% with the grant, or
- 2) County does not replace the bridge and spends an unidentified amount on maintenance, or
- 3) County does not repair or replace the bridge and access to property and public lands by the bridge may be limited or eliminated if the bridge further deteriorates.