

**Local Assistance  
Highway Bridge Program (HBP) Advisory Committee Meeting  
February 15, 2024 – Action Items and Summary**

**Attendees:**

Dee Lam, DLA	Tim Sobelman, CTC
Sujaya Kalainesan, DLA	Jon Pray, CTC
Matt Randall, Placer County	Andy Chou, DLA
Umer Ahmed, Riverside County	Roberta Jensen, DLA
Michael Chung, San Joaquin County	Linda Newton, DLA
Jesse Gothan, City of Sacramento	Jason Chou, SLA
Rebecca Neves, City of Folsom	Jeremy Wright, SLA
Daniel Hawk, FHWA	Jim Perrault, DLAE D6
Kenneth Kao, MTC	Parminder Singh, DLAE D10
Vanessa Schoenewald, SBCTA	Vassil Simeonov, SM&I
Chris Traina, OEEAR	Thomas Shantz, Caltrans- ITS ARS
Mark Yashinsky, OEEAR	Denis Mulligan, Golden Gate Bridge
Fadel Alamide, OEEAR	Highway and Transportation District
Sharooz Amidi, OEEAR	Steve Wallauch, Advisor to GGBHTD
Anna Sojourner, DES Geotech	

**Decisions**

No decisions were made.

**Action Items**

All completed or closed Action Items will be removed from the list for the next meeting summary.

<b>Item Number</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Date Created</b>	<b>Target Date</b>
A114	Open	All	Discuss possible changes to 6-A scoping document to help estimate project cost more precisely.	4/18/19	2024

**Discussions**

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Dee emphasized the need for agencies to deliver their projects. HBP Managers produce a monthly delivery report that is available on the web site at [Highway Bridge Program | Caltrans](#). In addition, filling the vacancies on the committee is a high priority, and we are still looking for a southern alternate representative for the California League of California Cities (LCC)

**2. Agenda Review**

No revisions to the agenda.

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**3. Review of 12/14/2023 Draft Action and Summary**

A114, Local Assistance Program Guidelines 6-A & 6-D draft changes - This action item is still open. An update on this item – the Caltrans forms unit is working on the 6-A and 6-D changes.

**4. Financial Status**

HBP Managers shared the current FFY 23/24 report as of 02/09/2024 with the following points:

- HBP has \$620 million of apportionment available this FFY between core apportionment and BFP funds.
- De-obligations to date are approximately \$6.5 million, which provides additional capacity.
- \$139 million has already been obligated since the start of the FFY.
- A reminder that OA delivery will appear artificially low because obligations utilize BFP funding will not count towards the tracked OA delivery for the local OA pool.

**5. Local Agency Bridge Seismic Screening**

The Division of Engineering Services (DES) and the Office of Earthquake Engineering and Research (OEEAR) presented on a second non-mandatory screening of the California local National Bridge Inventory (NBI). The screening would be for seismic vulnerabilities that were not screened for in the mandatory program, which would take about 2 years to accomplish and would result in a list of bridges that would need further analysis to determine if they were vulnerable to collapse in a maximum credible earthquake.

OEEAR shared a PowerPoint with a brief history of the seismic program, as well as the proposed tasks involved in accomplishing the second non-mandatory screening of the California local NBI.

OEEAR's presentation followed up on a request from the committee from the previous HBP Advisory Committee meeting on 12/14/2023. The committee was receptive to a second screening of local NBI bridges, and HBP recommended programming the \$3.7 million for work to commence in July 2024.

**6. BPMP Guidelines**

HBP managers shared the latest draft of the BPMP Guidelines and template. The update includes updates on eligibility and process/procedure updates. A comment/review period is being provided to the committee members. Caltrans Districts are also being an opportunity to provide comments. Once comments are received, HBP managers will incorporate the changes and release the update on the HBP website.

**7. Golden Gate Bridge Presentation**

The Golden Gate Bridge Highway Transportation District (GGBHTD) made a presentation to the HBP Advisory Committee on the Golden Gate Bridge Seismic Retrofit Phase 3B Project. The GGBHTD provided background on the project and

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wanted the HBP Advisory Committee to be aware of the cost for construction and their potential paths to get construction funded.

- GGBHTD indicated that the project's total cost is \$870 million.
- GGBHTD was awarded \$400 million from FHWA from the Bridge Investment Program (BIP).
- GGBHTD indicated that \$174 million from bridge tolls is committed to the project, but there is an additional \$250 million funding gap.
- The current HBP funding for Phase 3B is \$51,060,990. This amount is capped per the letter signed by Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty on 12/12/2017.
- GGBHTD is requesting an additional \$250 million (\$50M/year for 5 years) from the HBP.
- Current HBP policy only allows for \$20 million/year of HBP funds be provided to a single high cost phase. The request made by GGB for \$50 million/year would require an exception to the policy that has not been approved.
- The committee had questions regarding other types of funding (capital, tolls, etc.) to fund the gap.
- There were also questions about why the BIP application didn't indicate the funding gap.
- The GGBHTD indicated that the Golden Gate Bridge can safely withstand a large earthquake today without collapsing.
- HBP indicated that the HBP/LBSRP only funds a no-collapse retrofit strategy project scope. Thus, the Golden Gate Bridge Seismic Retrofit Phase 3B Project is not eligible for HBP funds. However, the HBP had previously committed \$51 million to this project based on a prior Director's letter, and Caltrans will honor that commitment.
- HBP Advisory Committee members expressed concerns on the following:
  - The HBP cannot provide money to this project because it simply does not have the money to give. The HBP is already over-constrained.
  - That GGBHTD is asking for funds from the HBP, a program that mostly funds small scale projects for agencies that do not have other methods of funding
  - That GGBHTD is having difficulty achieving a fully-funded project despite being awarded the BIP. Other local agencies had applied for the BIP and were not awarded and therefore have challenges achieving a fully-funded project for themselves.

## **8. Review New Action Items**

None

## **9. Round Table**

Linda Newton announced her retirement. She will retire at the end of March, and this is her last Advisory Committee meeting. The committee thanked her for her service and commitment to the HBP for the last decade.