



# COUNTY BRIDGE MATCH

Your Bridge. Your Way.

The Transportation Innovation Act is a tool to deliver roads projects **faster** through **innovative** methods that are proven in other states and **right-sized** for Nebraska. This initiative honors Nebraska's commitment to **pay-as-we-go** and strengthens state, county, municipal and industry **partnerships**.

Rural transportation provides essential mobility and connectivity for many Nebraskans who rely on safe and efficient roads to deliver agricultural, energy, manufactured and other industry goods to market. The current condition of Nebraska's rural bridges impedes personal and commercial travel that is critical to the safety and prosperity of our citizens.

The Transportation Infrastructure Bank Fund creates the County Bridge Match Program which will devote additional funding to pilot innovative solutions to help repair or replace critical bridges on county road systems.

## ◆ County and State Partnership

There is a serious need to modernize Nebraska's rural transportation system. In doing so, it is important to pilot strategic and innovative approaches. By combining local money with matching state funds, we can explore creative solutions such as bundling bridge contracts by geographic area, incorporating incentives, or sharing best practices across the state.

## County Bridge Match

- ◆ Dedicates up to \$40 million to accelerate the repair and replacement of deficient bridges on county road systems
- ◆ Pilot innovative solutions like bridge bundling
- ◆ NDOR will work closely with bridge partners to develop program criteria
- ◆ County participation is voluntary

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The objective of the program is to create a process that empowers and encourages local partnerships in order to promote innovative solutions and streamline repairs and replacement of deficient bridges in Nebraska's county road system. Program criteria will be developed through a collaborative process involving a working group comprised of county officials, bridge authorities and NDOR personnel. The working group will meet throughout the summer and fall to further define the program in preparation for NDOR's report to the Appropriations Committee and the Transportation Committee on or before December 1, 2016.

- ◆ County participation is voluntary. Participating counties will maintain local control using local consultants and contractors.
- ◆ The Transportation Innovation Act authorizes up to \$40 million to be used for the County Bridge Match Program
- ◆ The program will terminate on June 30, 2023.

## Data

- ◆ Nebraska has 15,065 bridges (over 20 ft.) which is 16th in the nation for total number of bridges.
- ◆ 11,147 bridges are on the county system.
- ◆ On the county system, 814 bridges are functionally obsolete and 2,152 are structurally deficient.
- ◆ 38% of county bridges are more than 50 years old.
- ◆ 185 of Nebraska's county bridges are currently closed.

For more information about the Transportation Innovation Act, please contact NDOR's Communication Office at 402-479-4512 or via email at [vicki.kramer@nebraska.gov](mailto:vicki.kramer@nebraska.gov)