

# 2022 EMERGENCY ROAD & BRIDGE REPAIR FUND PROGRAM



House Bill 1 from the 2018 Legislative Special Session established the Emergency Road & Bridge Repair Fund and provided \$250 million in bonds to the program. Based on the success of the program, the Mississippi Legislature subsequently earmarked an additional \$89 million of Highway Infrastructure Program funds received by MDOT pursuant to the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 and provided \$100 million in 2022 for the Emergency Road & Bridge Repair Program. In accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 65-1-179 and rules and regulations established by the Department, MDOT will administer the Emergency Road and Bridge Repair Fund for emergency repairs to public roads and bridges. This document provides general information and guidance on the **2022 Program**.

## ERBRF Program Goals and Project Criteria

Goal 1 – Fund projects that meet an existing **SAFETY** concern to the traveling public

- Applicants should demonstrate addressing an existing safety issue.

Goal 2 – Fund projects that restore **COMMERCE** and the **ECONOMIC VITALITY** of the community, region, state, or nation

- Applicants should demonstrate how the project will eliminate a problematic issue causing negative economic impacts to an area.

Goal 3 – Fund projects that address existing issues of impeding **MOBILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY** on public roadways

- Applicants should demonstrate how the project will eliminate or alleviate the burden to mobility and accessibility such as lengthy detours or the shifting of traffic volumes to adjacent routes due to the deficiency of the infrastructure.

Goal 4 – Fund projects that can be designed and constructed to **MEET THE INTENT OF § 65-1-179**

- Applicants should demonstrate the ability to meet funding and scheduling demands by submitting a timeline of all necessary phases (i.e., PE, ENV, ROW, and CONST).

## Program Timeline

The following tentative timeline has been established:

**APRIL 2022**– Notify Local Agencies of Solicitation and open Application Period

**MAY 2022** – Close Application Period and Begin Evaluation Process

**JUNE 2022** – MTC Approval of Projects

## Selection Criteria

While all projects, including roadway, that constitute an emergency will be considered, the focus of the 2022 ERBRF Program will be continuing efforts to improve the condition of bridges. The following criteria will be considered in reviewing roadway and bridge project applications:

- Safety
- Emergency Vehicle Access
- Condition of Bridges
- Detour Length
- Economic Impacts
- Project Readiness
- Traffic Volume
- Truck Volume
- Facility Type
- Regional Significance
- Innovative Financing or Design
- Access to Schools

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## Application Requirements:

### Description of Proposed Project:

Provide an overview of the proposed project that gives adequate details concerning the scope of work and the project termini. A KML file (preferred) or coordinates showing the project location should clearly indicate the project limits and be provided in, or as an attachment to, the application. Include photographs of the existing conditions that help demonstrate the existing emergency project for which funding is being requested.

### Project Readiness:

Projects will be scored according to how quickly they can reach letting for construction. However, the applicant should keep in mind that state and/or federal requirements for carrying out each phase shall be met. Milestone dates in the application, as described below, should be submitted showing the current status of each phase or how quickly each phase can begin after notice of award of the grant.

### Right of Way (ROW), Utilities & Easements:

Supporting documentation should clearly display the layout of the proposed project and identify the ROW boundary owned by the local entity. The application should identify all utilities that will conflict with constructing the project. If ROW is required or there are anticipated utility conflicts, the application should include the estimated number of parcels required. A detailed plan of action on how the ROW will be acquired and/or utility conflicts will be addressed should accompany the application. The need for temporary construction easements should also be addressed in the application.

### Budget and Implementation Schedule:

All applications shall include a budget with a detailed cost breakdown. Funds required to complete the project and their source will be requested for:

- Preliminary Engineering
- Right of Way Acquisition
- Utility Relocation
- Construction
- Construction Engineering & Inspection

Milestone dates will also be requested for the following activities:

- Environmental Approval
- Completion of Design
- Completion of ROW Acquisition
- Completion of Utility Relocation
- Completion of PS&E
- Construction Award Date
- Estimated Construction Completion Date

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## Application Requirements *(Continued)*:

### Project Application Data

All applications shall include the following supporting data for the project:

- Current Traffic Volumes
- Current Truck Percentages
- Structure Number (NBI Item #8)
- Length of Detour
- NBI inspection for all non-bridge structures (boxes and bridges less than 20ft.) is to be submitted with application

### Project Application Areas of Emphasis

All projects will be evaluated based on established goals and criteria. Some examples of innovation to further support the applications include:

- Projects that replace a closed or low weight bridge with a reinforced concrete box culvert (must certify that all hydraulic guidelines can be met with a box culvert).
- Projects that allow for repairs to a bridge in lieu of complete replacement and all reused components can achieve a NBI condition rating of 7 or greater and not load restricted (posted) for Mississippi legal loads
- Corridors that have more than one closed or low weight bridge should be grouped together
- Applications that demonstrate creative financing that leverages funding other than ERBRF Program funds. Examples include but are not limited to the following:
  - Projects leveraging private funds
  - Projects including local funding with one or more entity
  - Projects receiving other state funding sources
- Entities submitting more than one application shall prioritize applications

### Benefits of Proposed Project:

Describe the benefits and objectives of the emergency project(s) in terms of mobility and connectivity and how the emergency issue relates to each to the following:

- Citizens
- Commerce and Economic Vitality
- Emergency Response
- School Traffic

### Project Application General Information

- Applicants to the ERBRF program must be in full compliance with all findings from NBI inspections within 30 days of the application deadline.
- Applicants can consider bundling multiple smaller projects into one larger project. Project readiness and location should be considered when bundling.
- Shovel ready projects are considered to be those that can be awarded in calendar year 2022.
- Documents that the applicant will be required to attach to the application are:
  - Board approval, referencing the specific project, to apply for ERBR funds
  - Environmental document (if available)
  - Detailed budget
  - Project schedule