TACKLING THE LOCAL HIGHWAY BRIDGE PROGRAM’S TOUGHEST ISSUES

2020 PUBLIC WORKS OFFICERS INSTITUTE & EXPO
MARCH 19, 2020 - MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA
INTRODUCTION

SESSION OBJECTIVES

1) Raise awareness of California’s aging and deteriorating local bridge inventory

2) Update on local HBP challenges & committee activities

3) Understand the Environmental Challenges Related to Local Bridge Project Delivery

4) Understand the State & Federal Perspectives of Local Bridge Delivery Challenges

5) Brainstorm improvements to the HBP program in response to these challenges

6) Discussion and Feedback
INTRODUCTION

SESSION OUTLINE

Speaker – Matt Randall, Placer County
Moderator / Introduction

Speaker – Namat Hosseinion, Dokken Engineering
Environmental Challenges

Speaker – Paul Schneider, FHWA
Federal Perspectives

Speaker – Rihui (Ray) Zhang, Caltrans
State Perspectives

Speaker – Chris Sneddon, Santa Barbara County
HBP Advisory Committee Update

Brainstorm, Q&A, Discussion
INTRODUCTION

ENGAGEMENT

Submit Your Questions & Brainstorm Ideas 3-Ways:

1. Step-Up to the Mic During Q&A Time
2. Ask-It Basket
3. Text Line:
   Send text to ___________
   Start Text with #HBP

** Panel Will Discuss & Respond to Questions & Brainstorm Ideas During the Q&A Period

** After today’s meeting: mrandall@placer.ca.gov
                           csneddo@cosbpw.net

2020PWOI
THE TOUGHEST ISSUES
NEEDS OUTPACING FUNDING & DELIVERY

PROGRAM ISSUES
- Need $600M minimum
- $300M HBP available
- 17+ Years of Backlog in the federally-funded local HBP
- Local Bridge Inventory Age at Critical State
- Changes to Bridge Inspection Standards & HBP Eligibility

FUNDING ISSUES
- No Increase in HBP Funding since 2009
- Project Cost Increases / Escalation
- Reliance on Federal-Aid to Fund All Local Bridge Needs
THE TOUGHEST ISSUES

NEEDS OUTPACING FUNDING & DELIVERY

DELIVERY

- Average Project Delivery Time 8 Years
- Complex Environmental Regulations & Roadblocks
- Complexity of Technical Bridge Issues & Regulatory Issues

OTHER LOCAL AGENCY CHALLENGES

- Political/Public Perception of Importance
- Competing needs
THE TOUGHEST ISSUES
NEEDS OUTPACING FUNDING & DELIVERY

THE END GAME: POTENTIAL GOALS & SOLUTIONS

- Scale / Index Local HBP Annual Apportionment
- Reform the HBP Program Management Approach
- Reset Local Agency Expectations of the HBP
- Project Delivery Reform
PERCEPTION OF BRIDGE NEEDS
ARE YOUR SURE YOUR BRIDGES ARE SAFE?

Are aging / deteriorating bridges really a safety issue? YES!

1967 Silver Bridge Collapse:
- 31 vehicles / 67 people into the Ohio River / 46 deaths
- National Bridge Inspection Standard (NBIS) in 1968
- Special Bridge Replacement Program in 1970

1983 Mianus River Bridge Collapse
- 3 deaths / 30-year old structure

1989 Cypress Structure Collapse
- 42 deaths / 42-year old structure

2007 I-35W Collapse
- 13 deaths / 40-years old

Numerous Local Bridge Failures
(Overload, Scour, Detioration, Etc)

PERCEPTION OF BRIDGE NEEDS
NEEDS OUTPACING FUNDING & DELIVERY

LOCAL BRIDGE NEEDS

Streets & Roads Needs Assessment (Previous Study):

$4.9 Billion: Present Day Needs
$600 Million: Annual Needs**

** Annual needs could be as high as $1.2B

** HBP contributed to 2020 LSRNA for an enhanced bridge needs assessment.

HBP PROGRAM STATUS

Current Status of Program Backlog / Requests:

$4.1 Billion: Total Project Requests + Commitments
$300 Million Annual HBP Obligations (2009 Amount)

$2.7 Billion: On-System Commitment (16.2 Years)
$1.1 Billion: Off-System Commitment (18.2 Years)
$265 Million: Unfunded HBP Requests

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The HBP program is not intended to fund ALL of your bridge needs
- Your federal HBP construction funding may not be available when you are ready for construction
- Caltrans is taking new steps to mitigate the backlog
- Shut Down the Previous “Open-Style” HBP Participation Policies
- Project cost increases and delays are worsening the financial program status
- Need to prioritize an increase in bridge funding & delivery efficiencies to avoid catastrophes
TACKLING HBP
ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES
NAMAT HOSSENION, DOKKEN ENGINEERING
TACKLING HBP ISSUES
FEDERAL PERSPECTIVE
PAUL SCHNEIDER, FHWA
HBP ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE
CHRIS SNEDDON, SANTA BARBARA COUNTY