



County Engineers Association of Ohio

1103 Schrock Rd., Suite 202 • Columbus, Ohio 43229
(614) 221-0707 • www.ceao.org

MEMORANDUM

TO: OHIO COUNTY ENGINEERS

FROM: Andrew Kelly, CEAO Program Manager

SUBJECT: LBR Applications Fiscal Year 2032

DATE: Sep. 15th, 2026

In accordance with CEAO's LBR Policy, this office wishes to notify you that LBR Applications are now being accepted for funding in FY 2032. **Applications must be submitted by Friday, Oct. 16th, 2026 for funding consideration.**

Enclosed is a copy of the LBR Application Form. If you would like the project to be considered for the Federal/State Exchange Program, please check the appropriate box on the application form and then also complete the enclosed Exchange Request to CEAO form and submit it with your LBR application.

A list of eligible bridges can be found on the Federal Programs page of CEAO's website: <http://www.ceao.org/aws/CEAO/pt/sp/cstpprograms> under the heading CSTP/LBR News. The list of eligible bridges is sorted first by County and then by preliminary score. All NBIS County maintained bridges are eligible for funding regardless of sufficiency rating.

As a reminder, each County is guaranteed one bridge in a four-year programming period provided that sufficient funding is available. Therefore, counties with no LBR projects scheduled from FY 2028 – FY 2031 will be guaranteed their highest ranking eligible bridge submitted for FY 2032 as long as funds are available. As a reminder, for the guaranteed 4-year bridge program is that the bridge selected MUST have a GA Score of (5) or better for a replacement. GA Score's of (6) are only eligible for rehabilitation for the 4-year bridge guarantee.

CEAO is asking for all counties to consider applying for as many bridges as possible as we are currently working with ODOT to verify the need in the state for LBR funding. Andrew will provide ODOT with the list of all bridges applied for to show the total funds needed to see if we can get an increase to the funding provided by the state.

A new change to the LBR program moving forward is regarding the funding eligibility. Any bridge approved for funding in the LBR program will need to have the District scoping document prepared and sent to your district prior to ODOT receiving your funding letter. This process is to assist getting projects scoped earlier to avoid projects slipping out from the funding year approved for. This means CEAO will send the county the funding letter for the approved project and the county will be responsible for completing their district scoping document and send back to Andrew, via email



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(akelly@ceao.org), and he will send the funding letter and scoping document to the corresponding ODOT district and Central Office to get the project programmed.

Last change for the LBR program is regarding the production of a reservoir project list. In an attempt to approve this process, CEAO will begin allowing for counties to apply for projects in a sooner funding year than the application solicitation funding window. If the county can complete a project sooner than the current funding year window, please indicate which funding year the project would like to be considered for a reservoir project. If approved by CEAO, the scoping document would need to be put together based on the timeline for completing it within the reservoir timeline and if CEAO has funding available, we will move the project up to the reservoir funding year. **It is anticipated that counties applying for a reservoir year will consider one fiscal year sooner than the current funding cycle.**

If you have any questions or further explanation is needed regarding any of this information, please feel free to contact this office at (614) 221-0707.

Sincerely,

Andrew M. Kelly

Andrew Kelly
CSTP/LBR Program Manager
cc: Brian Davidson, J. Shaner, ODOT Central Office; file