



Illinois Department of Transportation

2300 South Dirksen Parkway / Springfield, Illinois / 62764

January 18, 2007

CIRCULAR LETTER 2007-01

TOWNSHIP BRIDGE LAPSE POOL PROGRAM

COUNTY ENGINEERS/SUPERINTENDENTS OF HIGHWAYS

The Department is soliciting candidates for the Township Bridge Lapse Pool Program due to the availability of funds for FY2007. The Lapse Pool provides additional monetary assistance to townships which have insufficient financing for bridges that are beyond the normal scope of the Township Bridge Program.

Since the funds available are limited, we ask that each district review their applications and that no more than one application per county be submitted. The Illinois Association of County Engineers reviewed the evaluation criteria which will be used by the Central Bureau of Local Roads for use in selecting projects. Eight ranking criteria will be utilized in project evaluation, with double weighting given to the first three items. These include:

1. **Posting** – Those structures with low postings or closures receive a higher priority than non-posted structures. The lower the posting, the higher the priority.
2. **ADT** – Average Daily Traffic volumes are evaluated with a higher priority given to higher ADT's. Structures that are less than 25 ADT are generally eliminated. ADT prior to closure should be included for closed structures.
3. **Adverse Travel** – The adverse travel is verified for one-way increased travel required by the bridge closure to get from one side of the bridge to the other. Longer adverse travel receives a higher priority.
4. **Cost Relative to TBP Allotment** – The cost to replace the structure is compared to the yearly allotment the county receives for TBP funding. The higher the ratio, the higher the priority.
5. **Safety** – Any information pertaining to accidents or hazardous conditions is also considered. Evidence of fatalities or serious injuries at the existing project site should be included in the application. This should also be included in the narrative describing conditions and how they will be rectified. Projects that will reduce serious crashes are given a higher priority.
6. **Letting Dates** – Preference is given to those structures that can be replaced within a year. The sooner the scheduled letting date, the higher the priority.

January 18, 2007

7. **School and Mail Routes** – Routes used by school buses and mail delivery receive a higher priority.
8. **Growth** – Growth related to residential, agricultural or industrial development, which indicates an increase in traffic, is considered. Areas with expected growth will receive a higher priority.

Please fill out the attached application for each candidate and forward it to your District Local Roads Engineer no later than March 1, 2007. Applications are due to the Central Bureau of Local Roads by March 8, 2007. Any supporting data that may help in the selection process should be included with each application. Key provisions of the proposed TBP Lapse Pool are as follows:

- Lapse Pool funds are for bridge construction on the township system.
- There is a lack of other available funding. A project that would otherwise be in the county's annual program at some future time is not considered eligible.
- The state will provide a maximum of 80% of the construction and construction engineering costs. The maximum lapse pool participation will be established at the time of project selection.
- MFT engineering standards, procedures and local lettings are used (same as the Township Bridge Program).
- A State-Local Agency joint agreement is required on each project
- Structures must meet the criteria for Township Bridge Program funding in order to be eligible under the Lapse Pool Program.

Please contact Jim Allen at (217) 785-5179 if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



Charles J. Ingersoll, P.E.
Engineer of Local Roads and Streets

Attachment

2007 PROJECT APPLICATION
TOWNSHIP BRIDGE LAPSE POOL PROGRAM

County _____ Township/Road District _____

Route _____ Name _____

Location _____ Feature Crossed _____

Structure Number _____ Sufficiency Rating _____

Posting _____ Closed Yes/No _____

ADT _____ Adverse Travel Miles _____

of Fatalities/Class A Injuries within Project Limits in past 5 years _____
(explain countermeasures under 'Other Information')

School Bus Route Yes/No _____ Mail Route Yes/No _____

Project Estimated Cost Including

Right of Way _____

Preliminary Engineering _____

Construction _____

Construction Engineering _____

TOTAL _____

Lapse Funds Requested (80% of Constr and CE) _____

FY 2007 County TBP Allocation _____

County TBP Balance _____

Preliminary Engineering Completed Yes/No _____

Time Needed to Complete Preliminary Engineering _____

Estimated Letting Date If Selected _____/_____/_____

