

Boardman River EA Funding

The opinion of probable cost to construct the proposed project ranges from \$280,000,000 to \$320,000,000. The cost estimate includes construction and design engineering, 30% contingency, and the independent design review for the bridge. The estimate does not include right-of-way cost.

The project team is developing a funding plan concurrently with the Environmental Assessment (EA) to assist the Grand Traverse County Road Commission (GTCRC) in identifying available sources of federal, state, and local revenue that could be used for the design, right-of-way acquisition, construction, and construction engineering of the proposed roadway and bridge project. These sources include federal grant programs, state grant programs, and county, city, and other local sources. GTCRC and the project team anticipate applying for the following grants:

- Safe Streets for All Round 2 April 2023
- Safe Routes to School Fall 2023
- MEGA & INFRA Spring 2023
- Reconnecting Communities Late Spring 2023
- Bridge Summer 2023
- SMART Fall 2023

To date, GTCRC has funded the Boardman River Crossing PEL and is currently funding the Early Preliminary Engineering Design and Environmental Assessment. The potential for creating new revenue opportunities will also be considered, including the question of how much GTCRC might be able to generate, and the political and economic environment which might support the establishment of new funding sources. The funding plan will include funding sources, a timeline for activities leading to project completion, including design, right-of-way acquisition, and construction phasing. The plan will also include construction cost estimates and a Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA).

The goal is to bring together as many resources as possible and tie them together into a series of actions that GTCRC can consider to design and construct the project. The funding plan will provide a clear picture of the funding sources and estimated costs associated with the project. It will also identify any potential risks associated with the availability of funding and timing of resources and propose strategies to address them. The plan will enable GTCRC to develop a comprehensive strategy to pursue and secure the resources needed to make the project a reality.

Currently, the Traverse Transportation Coordinating Initiative (TTCI) is the coordinating body within the census designated Traverse City urbanized area. TTCI is structured similarly to the other Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) in the state consisting of two committees: Policy (or Board of Directors) and Technical. In the fall of 2023, it is anticipated that TTCI will be officially designated as an MPO. TTCI will then create a long-range plan that outlines the transportation needs and both short- and long-term projects for the region - the Boardman River Crossing Project included.