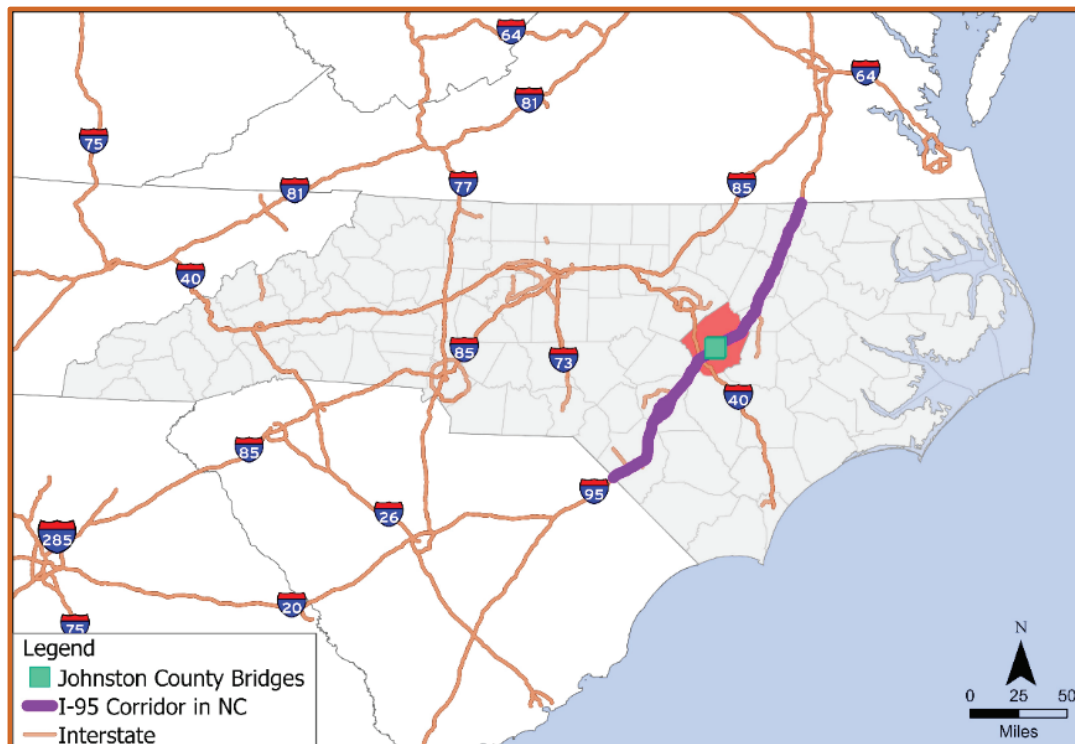


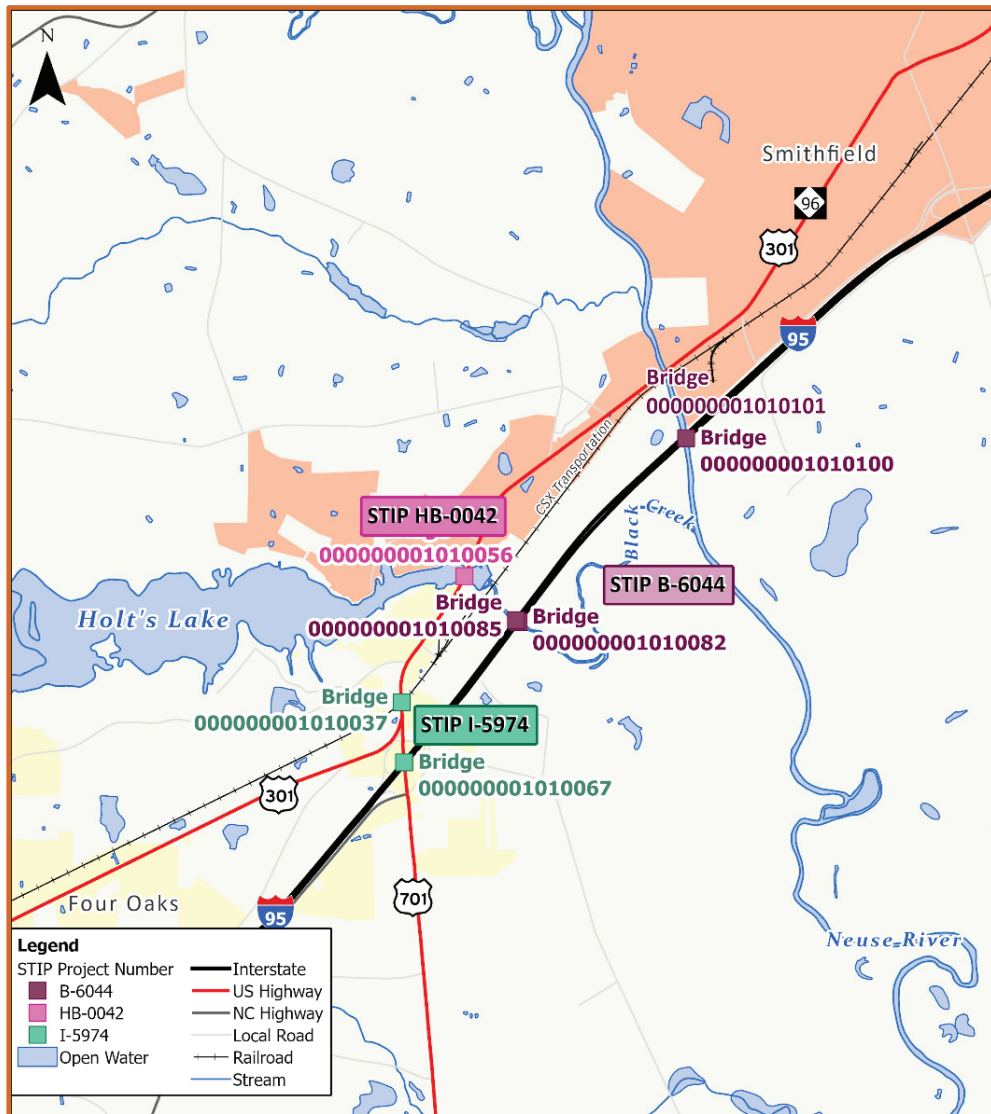
I. Project Description

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) urgently seeks \$73 million in USDOT Bridge Investment Program (BIP) Large Bridge Project Program funding to replace seven aging bridges on the vital I-95 and US 301 travel and freight corridors in Johnston County, North Carolina. I-95 is part of the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA's) National Highway System (NHS), the National Highway Freight Network (NHFN), and the North Carolina Strategic Highway Network (STRAHNET). US 301 is also an important part of FHWA's NHS and serves as a redundant route for I-95 in this area.



Project Context Map

Of the seven bridges, four are located on I-95, two are found on US 301, and one is on US 701/NC 96 crossing I-95. Of the two bridges on US 301, one carries US 301 over Holt's Lake and another over the CSX A-line. The US 701/NC 96 bridge carries US 701/NC 96 over I-95 at an interchange. One of the US 301 bridges (000000001010037) carries US 301 over the CSX A-line. The bridge is load rated, limiting truck travel. The structure width limits the ability of CSX to add additional lines and is too low to allow CSX to run double-stacked trains on multiple lines. The condition of all seven structures is listed in the National Bridge Inventory (NBI) as either fair or poor. The projects have been combined for this grant as the I-95 and US 301 Bridge Replacements Project. Previously incurred costs for preliminary engineering and ROW acquisition for the three projects total \$14,327,622 through July 2024. Any new information on costs will be added to the supplemental materials section. The bridge locations are shown on the map. Supplemental information for the project and all criteria can be found at <https://connect.ncdot.gov/resources/LBIP2026-I95US301/Pages/default.aspx>.



Project Bridges in Johnston County, North Carolina

The seven bridges were constructed between 1926 and 1958 and are at the end of their designed lifespan. Three of the bridges have been reconstructed between 1954 and 2009 in attempts to preserve the structures. Bridge inspection reports for the facilities are included in the Supplemental Materials. The reports document many signs of deterioration, including delamination, cracking, exposed rebar, missing header and joint material, and corrosion. Bridge 000000001010037 over CSX railroad is load posted for trucks over 18 tons. Bridge 000000001010085 (I-95 southbound over Black Creek) has temporary shoring and is in poor condition. The 2022 bridge inspection report notes that the bridge is open but would be posted or closed except for the temporary shoring.



II. Project Budget – Grant Funds, Sources, and Use of All Project Funding

NCDOT seeks \$73.25 million in BIP Large Bridge Project funding for the I-95/US 301 Bridge Replacements Project. The funding will allow NCDOT to move forward with 2024 – 2033 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) projects HB-0042, I-5974, and B-6044. All three projects have completed environmental documentation (categorical exclusions). Right of way (ROW) acquisition for B-6044 is complete. ROW is in progress for the other two projects, so the projects are shovel ready. However, due to funding concerns, I-5974 and B-6044 have been delayed until FY 2029 for construction. BIP funding will allow the projects to be let together, allowing for innovative contracting methods as bundled bridges.

As detailed in the SF-424C form, architectural and engineering fees (previously incurred costs) for the three projects total \$14,327,622. In Addition, \$2,625,153 has been previously expended for ROW acquisition. NCDOT’s latest eligible cost estimates for the three bridge projects totals \$147,850,000. As detailed in the SF-424C form this includes \$117,012,000 for construction, \$250,000 for equipment (DMS installation) and the estimate includes \$22,288,000 in contingency funds. The cost estimates are detailed in the Supplemental Materials and outlined in the table.

	HB-0042	I-5974	B-6044	Item Totals
Construction	\$9,400,000	\$76,000,000	\$53,900,000	\$139,300,000
ROW	\$1,190,000	\$5,300,000	\$110,000	\$6,600,000
Utility	n/a	\$1,700,000	n/a	\$1,700,000
DMS Installation	n/a	n/a	\$250,000	\$250,000
Project Totals	\$10,590,000	\$83,000,000	\$54,260,000	\$147,850,000

North Carolina’s Strategic Transportation Investments Act (STI) of 2013 requires that capital projects compete through a data-driven project prioritization process that considers, but is not limited to, cost and mobility improvements for each proposed project.

The process has three major competition categories, Statewide Mobility, Regional Impact, and Division Needs. These categories are based on the proposed project’s type of transportation asset class. STIP Project B-6044 is funded through the Statewide Mobility category and STIP Project I-5974 is funded through Regional Impact funds in the current (2024-2033) STIP. Due to the limited nature of funds, construction is scheduled for FY 2029. HB-0042 is currently funded for preliminary engineering (PE) only. If BIP Funding is provided, a combination of Statewide Mobility and Regional Impact funds are available to provide the NCDOT Match (\$29,750,000).

Source of Funds

I-95/US 301 Bridge Replacements | NCDOT BIP Large Bridge Application



	HB-0042	I-5974	B-6044 (includes DMS)	Item Totals
State Funds	\$2,118,000	\$16,600,000	\$10,852,000	\$29,570,000
BIP Funds	\$5,250,051	\$41,100,255	\$26,899,694	\$73,250,000
Other Federal Funds	\$3,221,949	\$25,299,745	\$16,508,306	\$45,030,000
Project Totals	\$10,590,000	\$83,000,000	\$54,260,000	\$147,850,000

As noted previously, NCDOT has already had substantial coordination with resource agencies, minimizing permitting risk. To account for risks related to construction, NCDOT includes contingency fees in all construction cost estimates. For the three subject bridge projects, the overall construction contingency is 16 percent (\$22,288,000).