

Update on the Gulling Street Bridge Project

Current Status

We have received zero (0) alarm notifications from the continuous monitoring system that was installed on the bridge in January of 2025.

The purpose of the continuous monitoring equipment is to continuously monitor the bridge for settlement and deflections. The instruments on the bridge can measure settlement and deflections in the bridge structure to one-thousandths of an inch. The instrumentation continuously monitors the structure for any movement and threshold alarms will alert the City so that actions can be taken as deemed necessary.

Activities Completed

August 2025: Structural Rehabilitation Funding- Highway Bridge Program

We submitted application for funding structural rehabilitation to Caltrans.

October 2025: Scour Countermeasure

We completed the scour countermeasure project (riprap installation) on the Gulling Street Bridge at pier 3. See previous updates on the City's website for full details.

This project is an engineered FEMA approved countermeasure to protect the area from further erosion while simultaneously reinforcing the area overall.

February 2026: Structural Rehabilitation Funding- Highway Bridge Program (Caltrans)

Caltrans released the 2026 Prioritization List for the funding which showed the Gulling Street Bridge as a Priority 1 for "Off System" at number 4 on the list to receive funding. Simultaneously, Caltrans informed us that the funding for this program is not likely to be released this year due to challenges at the Federal level.

Upon receiving this information, we contacted our Federal Representatives to seek assistance at the Federal level to receive this funding. We have also reached out to our partners at the League of California Cities to further advocate on behalf of the City.

We are continually following up with Caltrans on the potential availability of this funding.

February 2026: Structural Rehabilitation Funding- USDOT

We submitted a grant application for preliminary engineering costs under the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) program.

Applicants should be notified of status in June of 2026.

Activities In Process

Caltrans Inspection(s)

The City has made the request to Caltrans to perform any prudent inspections to examine the condition of the bridge post the installation of the riprap.

The bridge was inspected by Caltrans in 2026, but the report(s) has not yet been released to the City.

Caltrans is currently performing a 3D finite element analysis on the existing footing conditions. We have no timeline from Caltrans on when this analysis will be completed.

We are continuing to follow up with Caltrans for updates on this process.

Next Steps

We will continue to monitor the potential release of funding under the Caltrans Highway Bridge Program for structural rehabilitation.

In addition, we are hopeful that the USDOT funding for preliminary engineering will be approved in June of 2026, which will allow us to begin this phase of the project.

If you have any questions about this project, please reach out to City Manager Ryan Bonk directly at citymanager@cityofportola.com or 530-832-6800.