



# Community Advisory Group Equity Advisory Group Joint Meeting

April 21, 2025



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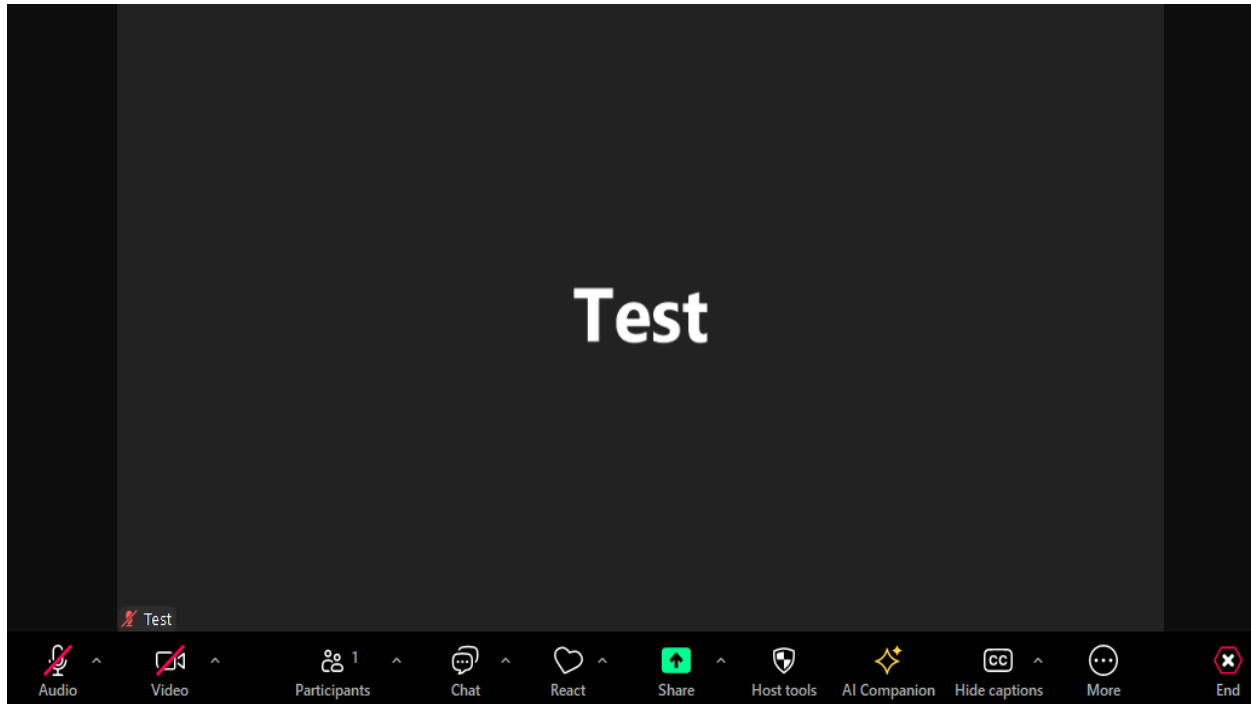
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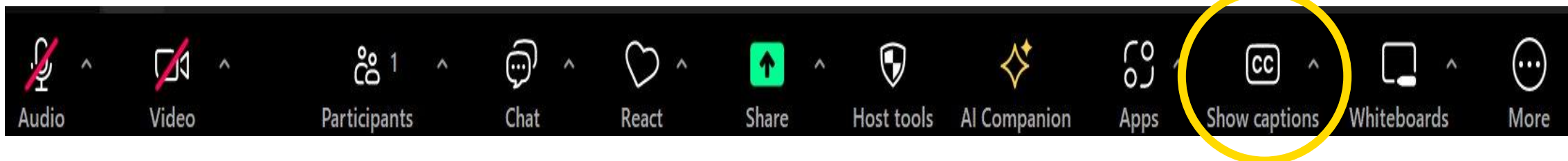
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# How to access closed captions



1. At the bottom middle of your screen, you should see a menu of options. If you can't see the menu, hover your mouse over the bottom middle of the screen.
2. Click the square “CC” icon towards the right side of the menu to toggle captions on.
3. Click the submenu ^ arrow to access more settings including language, font color and font size.



# ASL Interpretation

- ▶ In the effort to continue to center equity there is an ASL interpreter in addition to closed captioning.
- ▶ To make sure the interpreter is always visible please right click their video and select spotlight video.
- ▶ For those watching on YouTube, when we screenshare, you will be able to see the slideshow, closed captioning and the ASL interpreter. You will still be able to hear different people speaking but may not see them.

# Public Input Instructions

- ▶ There will be an opportunity to provide brief public input later in the meeting today (around 7:15PM).
- ▶ Verbal public comment will be welcome in the Zoom Webinar during the designated time, with the option to turn on your web camera.
  - Please use the link located in the meeting description on the YouTube meeting page or on the IBR CAG+EAG meeting webpage.
  - Commenters will not be allowed to share their screens and will be removed from the room once the public comment period concludes.
- ▶ **To comment by phone:**
  - Dial: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 408 638 0968
  - Enter meeting ID: 897 7533 8358, passcode: 701942
  - Dial \*9 to raise your hand
  - After you are invited to speak, dial \*6 to unmute yourself



# Meeting Participation Tips

- ▶ Thank you for joining us today!
- ▶ Please join audio by either phone or computer, not both. We encourage panelists to turn on your video.
- ▶ Please keep your audio on mute when not speaking.
- ▶ If you experience technical difficulties, please contact program staff at: (360) 329-6744

# Our Advisory Group Meeting Space

- ▶ Put relationships first
- ▶ Keep focused on our common goal
- ▶ Notice power dynamics in the room
- ▶ Create a space for multiple truths & norms
- ▶ Be kind and brave
- ▶ Practice examining racially biased systems and processes
- ▶ Look for learning



# Meeting Agenda

Time	Topic
5:30 p.m.	Welcome & Orientation <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Icebreaker</li><li>○ Roles</li><li>○ CAG &amp; EAG Foundation</li><li>○ Looking Ahead</li></ul>
6:00 p.m.	Program Update
6:15 p.m.	Section 106
6:25 p.m.	Health Analysis
7:10 p.m.	Public Comment
7:20 p.m.	Next Steps
7:25 p.m.	Closing





# Welcome CAG and EAG Members

Ed Washington & Lynn Valenter, CAG Co-Chairs

# Why joint CAG & EAG meetings

- ▶ Covering shared program topics
- ▶ Resource sharing and efficient collaboration
- ▶ Leverage our collective impact
- ▶ Opportunity for shared learning

# Advisory Group Sharing

- ▶ **Welcome**
  - Dr. Hunte, EAG Facilitator
- ▶ **Open Discussion – CAG & EAG Members**
  - Please share your name, organizational affiliation or at-large status, and pronouns.
- ▶ **Icebreaker**
  - Name one thing that you couldn't go a week without.

# Understanding our advisory roles

## ► How we support the program

- Ask critical questions, request information and offer input
- Promote the effective use of the equity framework

## ► Our shared focus

- The Equity Advisory Group (EAG) makes recommendations to center the program on equity and address impacts on historically underserved communities
- The Community Advisory Group (CAG) represents community voices from Portland and Vancouver and ensures outcomes reflect public needs

# CAG Foundation

## ► As identified by CAG:

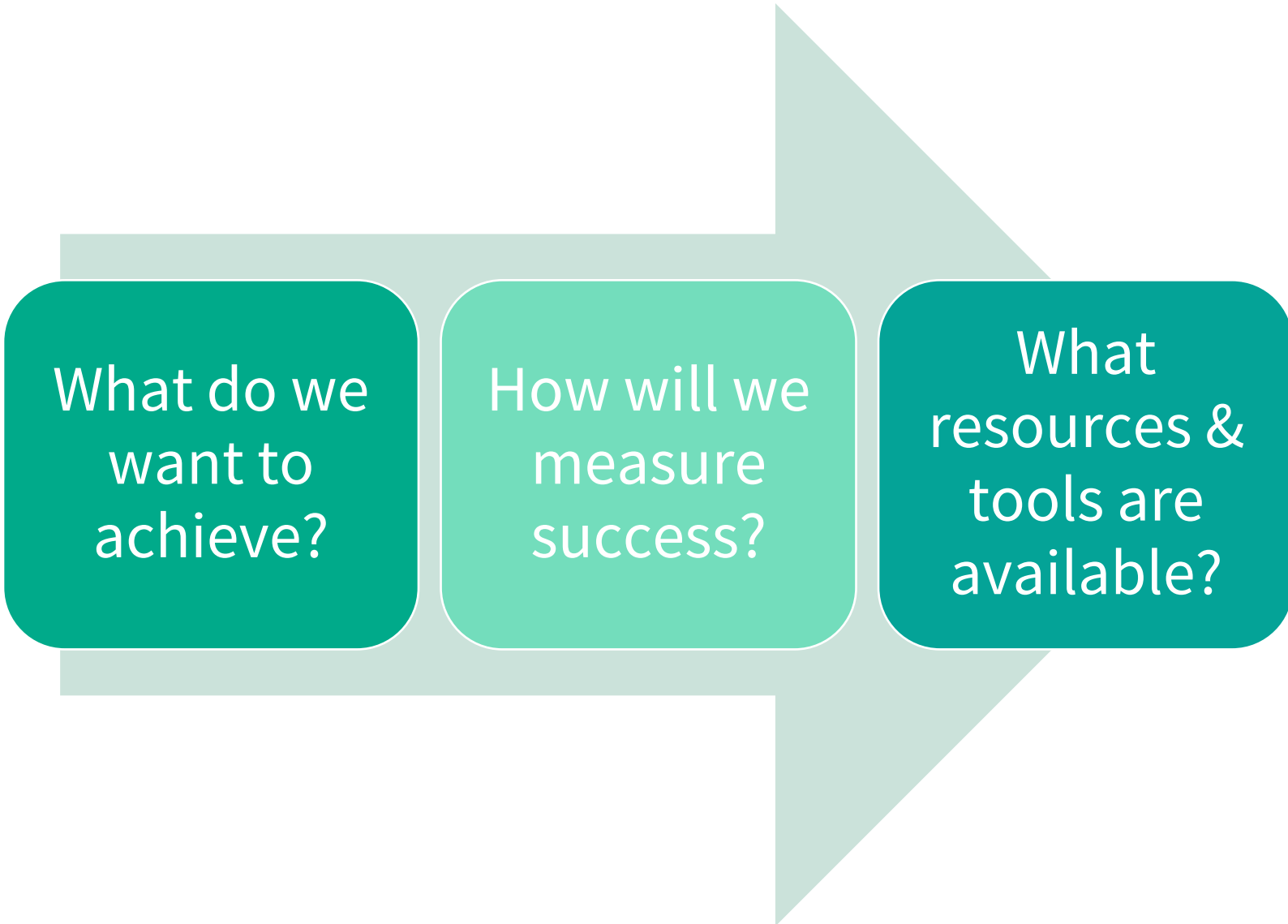
- Increasing the capacity of river crossings by providing all modes of transportation is essential to effectively and safely move more people, goods, and services
- Consider who is benefitting & who is being impacted by decisions
- Improve resiliency to global climate change
- Informed, data-driven decision-making
- Cost effectiveness (affordability & future planning)
- Economic empowerment
- Congestion relief

# CAG Foundation

## ► Community Values & Priorities as identified by CAG:

- Transportation facilities must reflect the needs of all ages & abilities, and remove barriers, including language, to access and ensure availability to transportation choices
- Protect natural resources
- Honor and protect historical heritage & cultural resources
- Bi-State cooperation
- Seek opportunities for meaningful engagement with all impacted communities

# Results Based Accountability Framework



The diagram illustrates the Results Based Accountability Framework. It features a large, light green arrow pointing to the right, which serves as a background for three rounded rectangular boxes. The first box on the left is dark teal and contains the text 'What do we want to achieve?'. The middle box is a lighter shade of teal and contains the text 'How will we measure success?'. The third box on the right is dark teal and contains the text 'What resources & tools are available?'. The boxes are arranged horizontally and are slightly overlapping.

What do we  
want to  
achieve?

How will we  
measure  
success?

What  
resources &  
tools are  
available?

# Upcoming Topics

- ▶ Spring: TBD
- ▶ Summer:
  - July: Workshop/Meeting on Architectural elements
  - August: Workshop/Meeting on Architectural elements
- ▶ Fall: TBD



# Mentimeter Poll

# Mentimeter Poll – Check your email for the code

- ▶ We'd like your input to help shape future meeting times and days.
- ▶ Please check your email for the Mentimeter code, then visit [menti.com](https://menti.com) and enter the code to join the poll.
- ▶ Your responses are anonymous and will inform scheduling and planning moving forward.



# Program Update

Greg Johnson, Program Administrator

# Recent Activities

## ► Recent events & presentations

- Visit and tour with middle school students
- APEX Bridge Building Blocks 2025 Series
- Oregon Business & Industry
- Northwest Native Chamber APEX
- Meet the Agencies with CREDC and APEX Accelerator
- Construction Management Association of America, Oregon Chapter
- BESThq Business Expo West STEAM Pathways Summit
- City of Portland Committee on Labor and Workforce Development



# Program Schedule



*Schedule will be updated as needed to reflect program changes and timeline.*



# Section 106 Update

Hayli Reff, IBR Cultural Resources Manager



# Section 106 & Historic Properties

- ▶ A requirement of the National Historic Preservation Act.
  - A separate law from NEPA that IBR must comply with.
  - Like NEPA, it establishes a process for evaluating effects within the Area of Potential Effects (APE).
  - Relates specifically to historic properties and cultural resources.
    - *Includes any "precontact" or historic district, site, building, structure, or object such as artifacts, records and remains.*
- ▶ Section 106 Process
  - Step 1: Initiating Section 106
  - Step 2: Identifying Historic Properties
  - Step 3: Assessing Effects
  - Step 4: Achieving a Resolution



# Upcoming Programmatic Agreement Milestones

- ▶ Consulting parties review and comment on Draft Programmatic Agreement (PA) completed late February 2025
- ▶ Section 106 online open house and public comment period on Draft PA
  - 30-Day public comment period is anticipated to begin in early May 2025
- ▶ Prepare Final PA and distribute for signature
- ▶ Execute PA and file with Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
  - The PA will be executed prior to the issuance of the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) and will be included as an appendix to the Final SEIS
- ▶ Regular coordination and consultation with PA signatories and consulting parties, including status of implementing commitments within the PA





# Health Analysis

Chris Regan, IBR Environmental Manager

Washington State Department of Health:

Alyssa Shaw, MSW, Environmental Health Assessment Team Lead

Anna Caudill, MPH, Environmental Health Evaluations Specialist

# Health Analysis and the IBR Program

- ▶ Responds to conditions identified by several program partners when they endorsed the Modified Locally Preferred Alternative in 2022
- ▶ In response, the Program requested an independent review by Health Agencies
- ▶ The resulting analysis report was submitted as a public comment on the Draft SEIS in November 2024
- ▶ The Final SEIS will include written responses to the report in late 2025

# CAG Questions and Comments from 2024

- ▶ A desire to understand what health concerns have been conveyed by the community about the project.
- ▶ Whether the analysis considers the impact on commuters and freight transporters dealing with traffic during bridge construction.
- ▶ Concerns about air quality, water quality, and noise pollution during the construction phase.
- ▶ Concerns about the limited availability of detailed air quality data.
- ▶ Recommendations that greenspace prioritization and air quality monitoring be considered critical components of the IBR program's health impact considerations.

# Health Analysis

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## FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS



# REFRESHER

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## Health Analysis

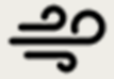
Assessed potential health, health equity, and environmental justice impacts of the Program (topic areas on next slide).

Submitted as public comment by working group agencies: Washington DOH, Oregon Health Authority, Clark County Public Health, Multnomah County Health Department, Cowlitz Indian Tribe Health and Human Services.

We presented to the Community Advisory Group, Community Benefits Advisory Group, and Equity Advisory Group in the summer of 2024.

# HEALTH ANALYSIS TOPIC AREAS

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Air Quality



Transportation & Active Transportation



Noise



Climate & Health



Social Determinants of Health



Water Quality

## RECOMMENDATIONS

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### Health at the table- health in all policies

We encourage keeping public health partners, community, and Tribal representation at the table in decision-making for the Program.

This includes all program participants

We recommend decision-makers **design, construct, and maintain** a program that prioritizes human health and safety, ecological health, and environmental justice.

Decisions made through design and construction could further impact health positively or negatively.

Transparency and collaboration with decisions is key.



# RECOMMENDATIONS

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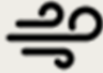


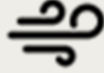


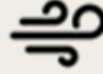



Prioritize sustainability, transparency, communication and health for the lifetime of the project

1. Institute accessible systems for real-time two-way communication about project design and construction impacts to keep community members informed of project impacts, and the program informed of community impacts. 🌱
2. Prioritize health in program policies and decision-making throughout the lifetime of the program by incorporating regular engagement with community members, health department staff, and Tribal governments. 🌱

# RECOMMENDATIONS

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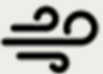




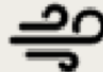



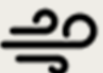



Provide additional information and modeling to better understand potential health impacts

1. Compile and release to the public more information about demolition plans for the current bridge infrastructure, including potential air quality, noise, and water quality impacts.   
2. Expand information about potential air quality, safety, and connectivity impacts of design and construction.   
3. Compile and release to the public additional information about potential air quality, safety, and connectivity impacts of tolling-related traffic diversion through neighborhoods.   
4. Develop and release to the public a detailed sampling and analysis plan of riverbed sediment including potential contaminants, hazardous sediments, and toxics. 

# RECOMMENDATIONS

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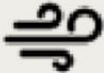








## Design with health and equity in mind

- 1.Design active transportation (bike lanes, sidewalks, and multi-use trails) and public transportation that is accessible to all to improve air quality and physical activity.   
- 2.Design safety features to reduce injury for active transportation users and vehicle users.  
- 3.Improve greenspace and tree canopy cover to improve air and water quality, provide shade, and increase natural spaces.    
- 4.Design with sustainable materials and standards to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.  
- 5.Prioritize resilience to extreme weather events, climate change, and seismic events to improve safety.  

# RECOMMENDATIONS

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## Design with health and equity in mind

1. Maintain and improve good air and water quality in the project area to protect physical and mental health.    
2. Minimize noise in the project area to protect nearby neighbors and populations disproportionately affected by noise. 
3. Improve connectivity and community cohesion to promote access to community and essential services.  
4. Center equity and focus on local businesses in contracting to improve economic opportunities for underrepresented groups. 
5. Minimize home and business loss, and proactively support displaced residents, businesses, and employees. 

# RECOMMENDATIONS

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## Construct with health and equity in mind

1. Meet and exceed, where possible, state and local requirements for noise, air quality, and water quality to protect the health of workers, community members, and the ecosystem. 🚫 🌬️ 💧
2. Design and mark routes during construction to protect pedestrians and active transportation users from injury and environmental exposures. 🌬️ 🚲 🚫
3. Maintain community connectivity through reliable access to transit, neighborhood services, and regular transportation routes. 🚲 🌿
4. Protect workers and community members on high-risk days for high heat and poor air quality events. 🌡️ 🌬️ 🚲
5. Establish systems for continuous monitoring for noise and air quality during and after program construction, ensuring that pre-construction conditions are measured as a baseline. 🌬️ 🚫
6. Implement workforce development and support programs to develop and retain a diverse workforce. 🌿



# FINDINGS - *POTENTIAL* POSITIVE HEALTH IMPACTS

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- Transportation and active transportation
  - Extension of light rail, transit, and active transportation (bike and pedestrian)
- Physical access
  - Americans with Disability Act and universal design
- Heat
  - Shade and cooling for bridge and active transportation users
- Employment
  - Employment through jobs, access to jobs, Disadvantaged Business Enterprises, Minority Business Enterprises, Women Business Enterprises, and Small Business Enterprises
- Access to greenspace
  - Expand connections between active transportation networks to trails and parks
- Water quality
  - Stormwater infrastructure
- Safety
  - Seismic resilience

# FINDINGS - *POTENTIAL* NEGATIVE HEALTH IMPACTS

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- Air quality
  - 33% increase in vehicle miles traveled
- Transportation and active transportation
  - Disparity in transit access for BIPOC residents, immigrants and refugees, and people under 25
- Tolling
  - Disproportionate impact on low-income community members
- Tribal access
  - Decreased access to ancestral lands, culturally specific healthcare, and traditional cultural activities
- Access during construction
  - Construction delays to roads, transportation, and active transportation
- Noise
  - 65 locations in Portland and 135 locations in Vancouver, including Discovery Middle School exceed noise abatement criteria
- Displacement
  - 43 homes, 32-35 businesses and 600-742 employees impacted

# MORE INFORMATION NEEDED

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- Climate change and health
  - Construction will produce greenhouse gas emissions
  - More information is needed for mitigation of climate impacts to Equity Priority Communities through construction and design
- Air quality
  - Air dispersion modeling would give a better understanding of localized air quality impacts
- Road safety
  - More information is needed about how the design will prevent crashes, with special consideration to how to protect active transportation users from vehicles
- Fugitive dust
  - Fugitive dust during construction could negatively impact air and water quality, and no plan was found in the DSEIS for mitigation
- Water quality
  - A plan is needed to assess and mitigate hazardous sediment and toxic contamination prior to in water work



# Thank you!

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# IBR Next steps

- ▶ **Final SEIS includes written responses to the Health Analysis**
- ▶ **Final SEIS identifies mitigation commitments for impacts**
  - Includes environmental topics that relate to health outcomes
- ▶ **Program implementation planning is underway**
  - Framework for considering Health recommendations along with scheduling, funding, final design, construction, operations plans for the Program
  - Ongoing partner coordination and public and Tribal nation engagement
  - Compliance with state and local permits



# Public Comment

# Comment Instructions

## To make a verbal comment:

- ▶ To make a live comment via phone, dial: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 408 638 0968
  - Meeting ID: 897 7533 8358
  - Passcode: 701942
- ▶ Dial \*9 to raise your hand
- ▶ The facilitator will call on participants to provide comment
- ▶ Dial \*6 to unmute yourself
- ▶ Please provide your name and affiliation
- ▶ 10-minute timeframe will be divided among the number of requested speakers

**If we run out of time and you have not had a chance to speak, you can still provide comments after the meeting.**



# Comment Instructions

To submit comments after the meeting:



- ▶ Fill out the comment form on the program website or email your comments to **info@interstatebridge.org** with “CAG+EAG Public Comment” in the subject line.



- ▶ Call **360-859-0494** (Washington), **503-897-9218** (Oregon), **888-503-6735** (toll-free) and state "CAG Public Comment" in your message.
- ▶ Written comments need to explicitly say “**CAG+EAG Public Comment**” in the subject line or in the body of the message for them to be identified and distributed to CAG and EAG members.
- ▶ All written comments must be received prior to 48 hours in advance of each upcoming meeting in order to be distributed to advisory group members. Comments received after that point will be distributed to members in advance of their next meeting.

# Next Program Meetings

- ▶ **Community Benefits Advisory Group (CBAG)**
  - May 22, 2025 – 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

# Closing

- ▶ Closing

- Ed Washington & Lynn Valenter, Co-Chairs



For more information contact:

info@interstatebridge.org

360-859-0494 or 503-897-9218

888-503-6735

<https://www.interstatebridge.org>

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# Thank you!

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