

# Interstate Bridge Replacement Program

Portland, Oregon, and Vancouver, Washington

## DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

### **Submitted Pursuant to:**

The National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4322(2)(c))  
and the Washington State Environmental Policy Act (Ch. 43.21C RCW)

### **Submitted by:**

Federal Highway Administration

Federal Transit Administration

*and*

Oregon Department of Transportation

Washington State Department of Transportation

Oregon Metro

Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council

Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District

Clark County Public Transportation Benefit Area

*in cooperation with*

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service

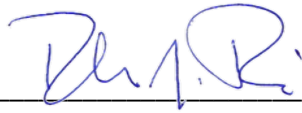
National Park Service

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

U.S. Coast Guard

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation



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**Ralph J. Rizzo**

FHWA, Washington Division Administrator

August 23, 2024

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Date of Approval

**KEITH LYNCH** Digitally signed by KEITH LYNCH  
Date: 2024.08.23 18:17:04 -07'00'

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**Keith Lynch**

FHWA, Oregon Division Administrator

August 23, 2024

Date of Approval

SUSAN KAY  
FLETCHER

Digitally signed by SUSAN KAY  
FLETCHER  
Date: 2024.08.23 17:22:30 -07'00'

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**Susan Fletcher**

FTA, Regional Administrator, Region 10

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Date of Approval

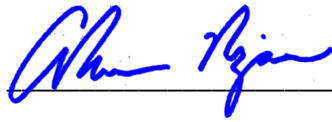


**Raymond Mabey**

ODOT, IBR Assistant Program Administrator



Date of Approval



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**Ahmer Nizam**

WSDOT, Environmental Services Office Director

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August 22, 2024

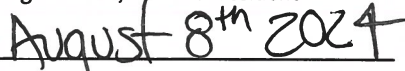
Date of Approval



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**Lynn Peterson**

Oregon Metro, Council President



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Date of Approval

**Matt  
Ransom,  
AICP** Digitally signed  
by Matt  
Ransom, AICP  
Date: 2024.08.22  
14:24:12 -07'00'

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**Matt Ransom**

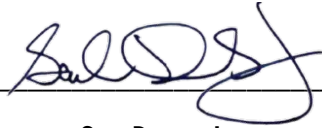
Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council, Executive Director

08-22-2024

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Date of Approval





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**Sam Desue, Jr.**

TriMet, General Manager

**8/22/2024**

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Date of Approval

Leann M. Caver

Leann Caver

C-TRAN, Chief Executive Officer

August 22, 2024

Date of Approval

## **Oregon**

For ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) or Civil Rights Title VI accommodations, translation/interpretation services, or more information call 503-731-4128, TTY 800-735-2900 or Oregon Relay Service 7-1-1.

## **Washington**

Accommodation requests for people with disabilities in Washington can be made by contacting the WSDOT Diversity/ADA Affairs team at [wsdotada@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:wsdotada@wsdot.wa.gov) or by calling toll-free, 855-362-4ADA (4232). Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing may make a request by calling the Washington State Relay at 711. Any person who believes his/her Title VI protection has been violated, may file a complaint with WSDOT's Office of Equity and Civil Rights (OECR) Title VI Coordinator by contacting (360) 705-7090.

# ABSTRACT

The Interstate Bridge Replacement (IBR) Program is a bridge, transit, and highway improvement project to address safety and mobility in the Interstate 5 (I-5) corridor between Portland, Oregon, and Vancouver, Washington. I-5 is the main interstate corridor on the West Coast of the United States (U.S.) from Canada to Mexico and one of only two roadway crossings of the Columbia River in the Portland-Vancouver metropolitan area. The IBR Program focuses on a 5-mile segment of the I-5 corridor that extends from approximately Victory Boulevard in Portland to State Route (SR) 500 in Vancouver.

The IBR Program is proposed by the Oregon and Washington State Departments of Transportation (ODOT and WSDOT), Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council (RTC), Oregon Metro (Metro), Clark County Public Transportation Benefit Area (C-TRAN), and Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District (TriMet). The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) are the joint federal lead agencies for the IBR Program and are responsible for preparing the environmental documentation and overseeing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process.

The IBR Program is the renewal of the previously suspended I-5 Columbia River Crossing (CRC) project. The CRC project's NEPA process previously concluded with a 2011 Record of Decision and NEPA re-evaluations prepared in 2012 and 2013; however, the CRC project was suspended in 2014. In 2019, a bi-state legislative committee requested that ODOT and WSDOT reinstate the CRC project, renaming it the IBR Program. In 2021 after the IBR Program was initiated, a third NEPA re-evaluation was prepared to evaluate the effect of changes in conditions and regulations since 2013, as well as potential design changes. FHWA and FTA determined that a supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS) would be necessary to identify and disclose potentially new adverse impacts and mitigation associated with the IBR Program. Per 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1506.13, this SEIS follows Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations that were in effect when the original Notice of Intent was published for the CRC project on September 27, 2005 (40 CFR Part 1506 as of 2005).

This Draft SEIS analyzes the transportation performance and potential impacts to the community and environment resulting from an updated No-Build Alternative and the proposed Modified Locally Preferred Alternative (Modified LPA). The IBR Program's Modified LPA is a modification of the CRC LPA and is the result of a multi-tiered screening process that included input from Program partners, tribes, and community members. The Modified LPA comprises a set of transportation components including a new pair of Columbia River bridges, a 1.9-mile light-rail transit (LRT) extension and associated LRT improvements from the Expo Center station in Portland to a new Evergreen Station in Vancouver, wider shoulders on I-5 from Victory/Interstate Boulevard in Portland to SR 500/39th Street in Vancouver, improvements to seven I-5 interchanges and I-5 mainline improvements, six new adjacent bridges across North Portland Harbor, active transportation improvements, integration of local bus transit service, and variable-rate tolling. There are several design options under evaluation for the Modified LPA, including three bridge configurations (double-deck fixed-span, single-level fixed-span, and single-level movable-span), site options for park and rides, one or two auxiliary lanes, alignment of the I-5 mainline in Vancouver, and the removal or inclusion of C Street ramps in Vancouver. The components of the Modified LPA are responsive to local agency policies and community priorities to support the mobility for people who walk, bike, roll, and drive throughout the study area. Based on a 2022 IBR Program cost estimate, the various components of the Modified LPA are expected to cost between \$5 billion to \$7.5 billion in year-of-expenditure dollars (YOE\$).

Following publication of a Final SEIS, the federal lead agencies will issue an Amended Record of Decision, which would amend the 2011 Record of Decision.

The following persons can be contacted for additional information regarding this document:

**Interstate Bridge Replacement Program**

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500 Broadway Street, Suite 200  
Vancouver, WA 98660  
(360) 859-0494 (Washington) or (503) 897-9218 (Oregon)

**Federal Highway Administration**

Thomas Goldstein, IBR Program Oversight Manager  
FHWA Oregon Division Office  
530 Center Street NE, Suite 420  
Salem, OR 97301  
(503) 316-2545

**Federal Transit Administration**

Jeffrey L. Horton, PE, FTA Regional Engineer  
FTA Region 10 Office  
915 Second Avenue, Suite 3192  
Seattle, WA 98174  
(206) 220-4463

# FACT SHEET

## Project Title

Interstate Bridge Replacement Program

## Description

The Interstate Bridge Replacement (IBR) Program is a bridge, transit, and highway improvement project proposed by the Oregon and Washington State Departments of Transportation (ODOT and WSDOT), the Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council (RTC), Oregon Metro (Metro), Clark County Public Transportation Benefit Area (C-TRAN), and Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District (TriMet). The Program’s purpose is to improve mobility in the Interstate (I-5) corridor by addressing present and future travel demand and mobility needs in the Program area. The Program area extends from approximately Victory Boulevard in Portland, Oregon, to State Route 500 in Vancouver, Washington, and includes the Interstate Bridge across the Columbia River. The Program is intended to address specific needs in the region through improvements to the following: travel safety and traffic operations on the Interstate Bridge and associated interchanges; highway freight mobility, interstate travel, and commerce; transit connectivity, reliability, and travel times; the availability of public transportation options in the study area; and the Interstate Bridge’s structural integrity (seismic stability).

## Date of Issue

September 20, 2024

## Notice of Document Availability

An electronic copy of the Draft SEIS is available at no charge. Download an electronic copy here:

[www.interstatebridge.org](http://www.interstatebridge.org)

A printed copy and electronic copy of the Draft SEIS are available for viewing at the IBR Program office by appointment. To schedule an appointment:

Visit: [SignUpGenius](#)

Email: [info@interstatebridge.org](mailto:info@interstatebridge.org), or

Call: (360) 859-0494

Computers and internet access are available at various public libraries and meeting places throughout the Program area, as follows:

### Washington Locations

- Fort Vancouver Regional Libraries  
Multiple locations - Please call to find a location near you. (360) 906-5000
- Clark College – Cannell Library  
1933 Fort Vancouver Way #112, Vancouver, WA 98663 (360) 992-2151
- Washington State University Vancouver Library  
14204 NE Salmon Creek Avenue, Vancouver, WA 98686 (360) 546-9680

- Camas Public Library  
625 NE 4th Ave, Camas, WA 98607 (360) 834-4692

### **Oregon Locations**

- Multnomah County Library  
Multiple locations - Please call to find a location near you. (503) 988-5123
- Portland State University – Branford P. Millar Library  
1875 SW Park Avenue, Portland, OR 97201 (503) 725-5874
- Portland Community College Library  
Multiple locations - Please call to find a location near you. (971) 722-5322
- University of Portland Library – Wilson W. Clark Memorial Library  
5000 N. Willamette Boulevard, Portland, OR 97203 (503) 943-7111
- Clackamas Community College Library  
19600 Molalla Avenue, Oregon City, Oregon 97045 (503) 594-6042
- Mt. Hood Community College Library  
26000 SE Stark Street, Gresham, OR 97030 (503) 491-7161
- Oregon Health & Science University Library  
3181 SW Sam Jackson Park Road, Portland, OR 97239 (503) 494-3460
- Oregon State University – Portland Center  
555 SW Morrison Street, 2nd Floor, Portland, OR 97204 (503) 273-4301
- University of Oregon – Portland Library & Learning Center  
2800 NE Liberty St, 2nd Floor, Portland, OR 97211 (503) 412-3671

## **Comment Period**

September 20, 2024 – November 18, 2024

## **How to Submit Comments**

Comments on the Draft SEIS will be responded to in the Final SEIS.

Written comments should not include any hyperlinks to outside materials or information. Any materials or information the commenter wishes to have considered should be included within the comment. Written comments on the Draft SEIS can be submitted through the online comment form at [www.interstatebridge.org/DraftSEIS](http://www.interstatebridge.org/DraftSEIS), by email to [DraftSEIS@interstatebridge.org](mailto:DraftSEIS@interstatebridge.org) or by regular mail to the address below.

IBR Program Draft SEIS  
c/o Chris Regan, IBR Program Environmental Manager  
500 Broadway Street, Suite 200  
Vancouver, WA 98660

Comments may also be submitted by leaving a voice message on the IBR Program’s comment line at (866) IBR-SEIS (866-427-7347) (toll-free). Voice messages need to explicitly say “Draft SEIS” or “Draft Supplemental EIS” for them to be identified and addressed as comments on the Draft SEIS.

Comments can be submitted orally and in writing at a public hearing for the Draft SEIS. The dates and locations of the public hearings are detailed below.

## Public Hearings

Public hearings will be held in Portland and Vancouver and virtually on the following dates and locations:

Tuesday, October 15, 2024  
Clark College, Gaiser Hall 150  
1933 Fort Vancouver Way  
Vancouver, WA 98663  
5:30-8:30 PM

Thursday, October 17, 2024  
Portland Expo Center, Exhibit Hall E2  
2060 N. Marine Drive  
Portland, OR 97217  
5:30-8:30 PM

Saturday, October 26, 2024  
See [www.interstatebridge.org](http://www.interstatebridge.org) for link  
12:00-1:30 PM

Wednesday, October 30, 2024  
See [www.interstatebridge.org](http://www.interstatebridge.org) for link  
6:00-7:30 PM

## Subsequent Environmental Review

Following the Draft SEIS comment period and public hearings, the joint lead agencies will identify potential changes and refinements to the Modified LPA and proposed mitigation measures. Following refinements, the Program team will advance the engineering design and environmental analysis that will inform the Final SEIS and Amended Record of Decision.



# ANTICIPATED PERMITS AND APPROVALS

## Anticipated Federal, State, and Local Permits and Approvals

Permit or Approval	Issuing Agency
7460 permits for permanent and construction obstructions	Federal Aviation Administration
23 USC 129(a)(1)(E), Federal Tolling Authority	FHWA
Access revision report approval	FHWA
Design analysis approval	FHWA
Design approval	FHWA
Real estate acquisition review	FHWA
Right of way (interstate) approval	FHWA
Right of way (railroad) approval	BNSF Railway
Air quality conformity determination	FTA
Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultation	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation Management Act	NOAA Protected Resources Division
Marine Mammal Protection Act	NOAA Fisheries
National Historic Preservation Act Section 106	FHWA, FTA, National Park Service (NPS), Oregon State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), and Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP)
Archaeological Resources Protection Act permit	NPS
Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966 evaluation	FHWA, FTA
Section 6(f) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act documentation	FHWA, FTA, NPS
Bridge permit in accordance with the General Bridge Act of 1946	U.S. Coast Guard
Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA)	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Appropriation Act of 1899, as amended and codified in 33 USC 408 (Section 408)	USACE
Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Appropriation Act of 1899, as amended and codified in 33 USC 401 et seq.	USACE
Sole Source Aquifer Protection Act approval	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Migratory Bird Treaty Act	USFWS
Federal Lands to Parks program	U.S. General Services Administration, NPS
Approval of rail crossing, intersection, signals, and right of way encroachment permit	ODOT, WSDOT
Voluntary Cleanup Pathway approval	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
CWA National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System construction stormwater permits	DEQ, Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology)

Permit or Approval	Issuing Agency
CWA Section 401 water quality certifications	DEQ, Ecology
Air quality permits	DEQ, Ecology
Removal-Fill Permit	Oregon Department of State Lands (DSL)
Aquatic land use (aquatic lands lease) authorization	DSL
Oregon Fish Passage Act approval	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Archaeological Excavation Permit	Oregon SHPO, Washington State DAHP
Aquatic use authorization	Washington Department of Natural Resources
Hydraulic Project Approval	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
City of Portland local permits and approvals (design review/land use review, historic resources review, noise variance, improvements in right of way, building permit – site development, sign permit, trade permits, non-park use permit)	City of Portland
City of Vancouver local permits and approvals (public facilities master plan [hybrid approach], transportation development review, traffic impact analysis, shoreline substantial development permit, critical areas permit, noise permit, waiver of certificate of appropriateness, building permit, trade permits, temporary use permit, access closure, sign permit [temporary])	City of Vancouver
Right-of-way permit for any encroaching in public right of way or City easements, tree permit, design review	City of Gresham