



Community Advisory Group Meeting



Closed Captions in English and Spanish

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<https://ibr.news/captions>

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Los subtítulos en Inglés están disponibles en Zoom y YouTube.

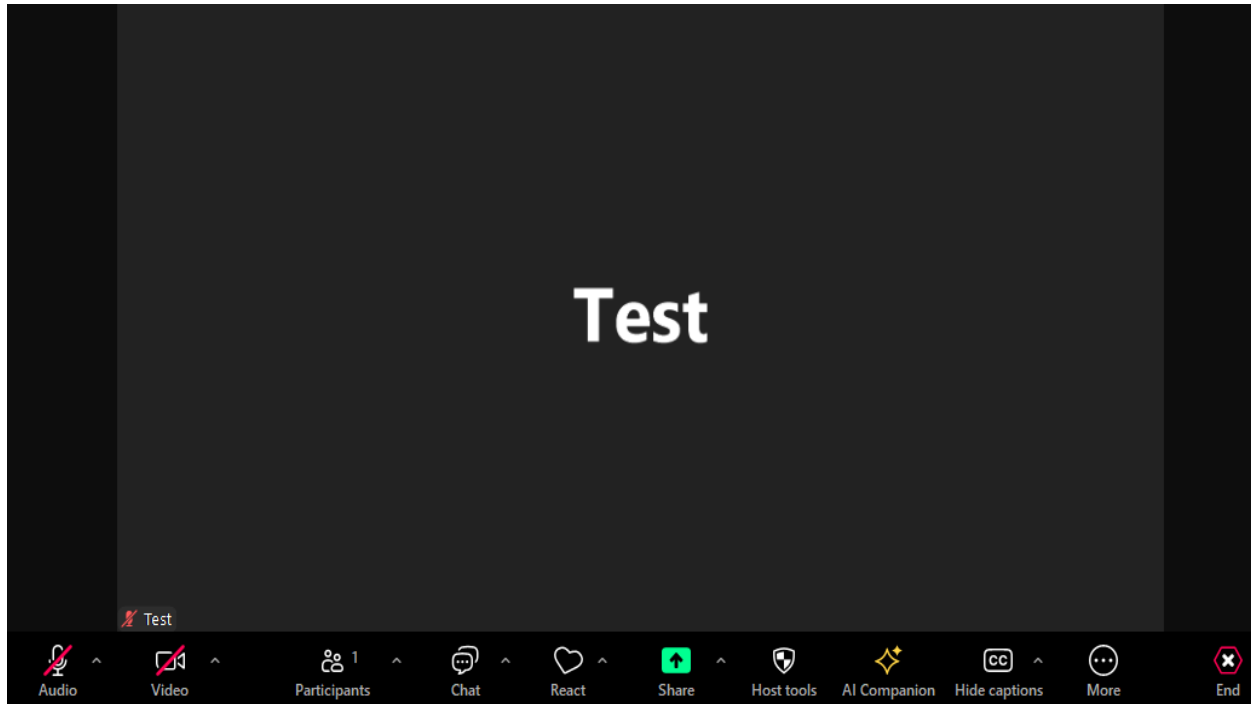
Usuarios pueden seguir este enlace para ver los subtítulos en Inglés y Español en una ventana separada del navegador:

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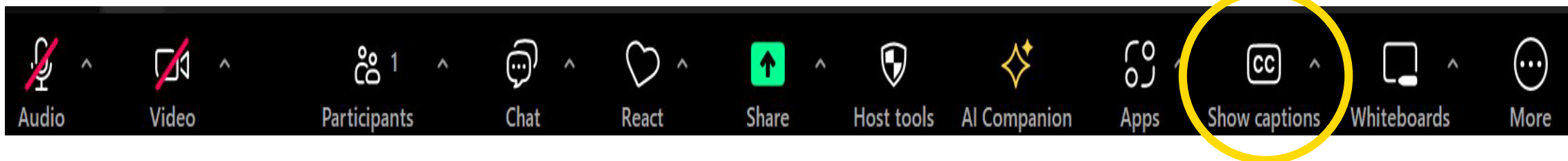
Meeting Participation Tips

- ▶ 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

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 5:45PM).
- ▶ 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 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: 993 5459 6043, passcode: 674942
 - Dial *9 to raise your hand
 - After you are invited to speak, dial *6 to unmute yourself



Meeting Agenda

Time	Topic
4:00 p.m.	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Meeting Overview○ Introductions and Check In○ Program Update
4:30 p.m.	Health Analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Discussion○ Questions & Answers
5:00 p.m.	Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) Engagement Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Overview○ Feedback Received○ CAG's Call to Action○ August briefing preview
5:45 p.m.	Public Comment
5:55 p.m.	Closing

Our CAG 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





Welcome CAG Members

Ed Washington & Lynn Valenter, CAG Co-Chairs

CAG Sharing

- ▶ **Welcome**

- Ed Washington & Lynn Valenter, Co-Chairs

- ▶ **Open Discussion – CAG Members**

- Please share your name, organizational affiliation or at-large status, and pronouns

Program Update

Greg Johnson, Program Administrator

Recent Activities

- ▶ **\$1.499B FHWA Bridge Investment Program grant announced**
- ▶ **Presentations to Oregon and Washington Transportation Commissions**
- ▶ **I-5 Bridge Bi-State Tolling Subcommittee**
 - Feedback from advisory groups shared in their June meeting
- ▶ **Recent presentations**
 - Business Leaders Transportation Summit
 - ASCE Conference on Transportation and Dev.
 - Esther Short, Hough Neighborhood Associations
 - City of Vancouver: Culture, Arts & Heritage Commission, Urban Forestry Commission, Downtown Redevelopment Authority, Planning Commission



Recent Activities

► Tours

- Walking tour with Oregon Walks, The Street Trust and Cycle Vancouver
- Bridge tours with IBR advisory group members
- Walking tour for Association of WA Cities

► Summer tabling

- Juneteenth, NE Cully Sunday Parkways, Mississippi Street Fair, Vancouver Farmers Market, Picante

► Industry outreach

- Association of Women & Minority Businesses



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

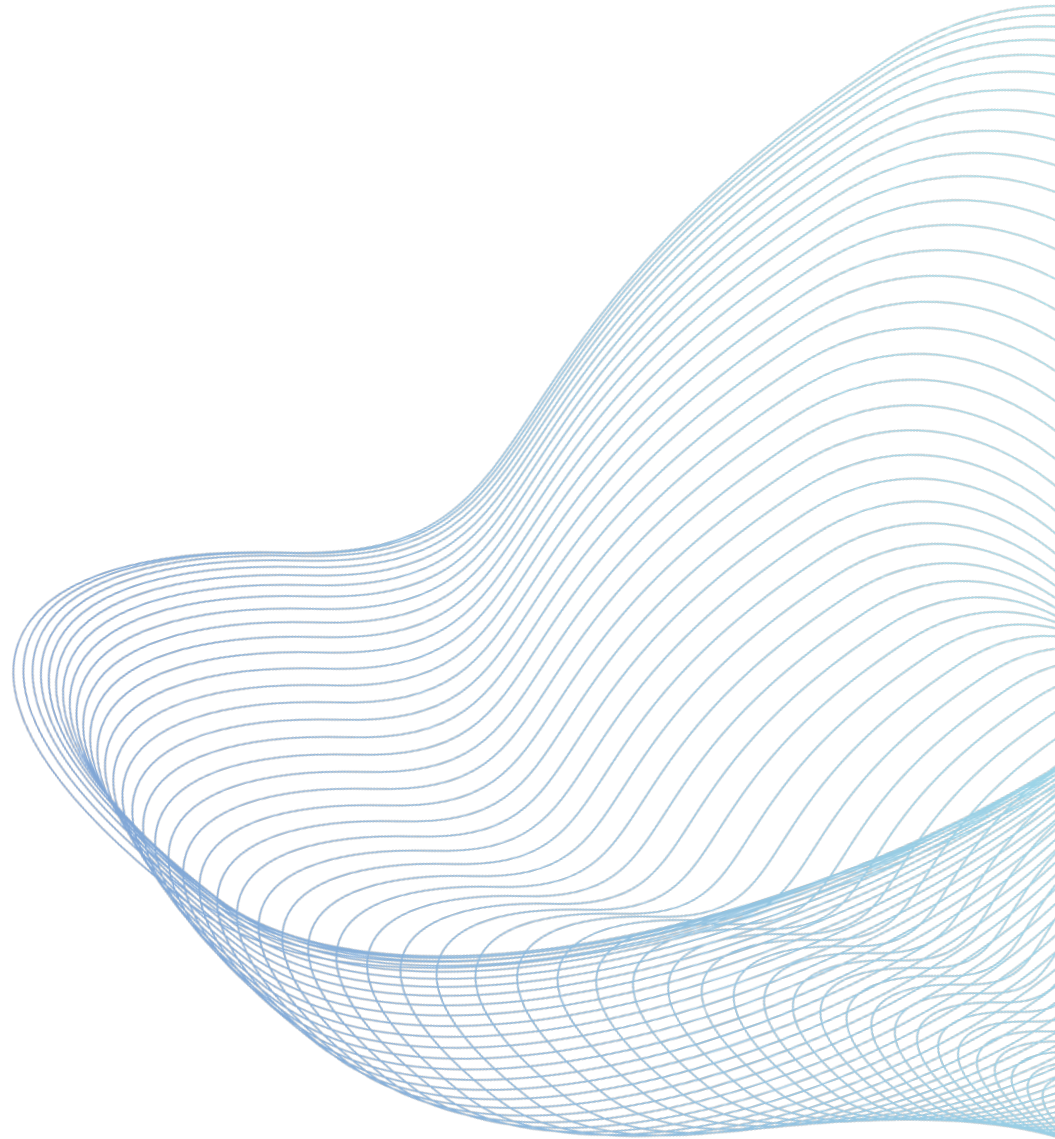
Considering Potential Health Impacts

- ▶ **The program is committed to analyzing impacts to human health as a result of the IBR program.**
 - As a program, we seek first to avoid harm to the environment and human health and avoid disproportionate impacts to equity priority communities living adjacent to the program corridor.
- ▶ **The program is considering community health through several areas including:**
 - Safety considerations in design and usability
 - Climate
 - Workforce planning
- ▶ **In the Draft SEIS, we are evaluating impacts of air quality pollutants, GHG emissions, noise and vibration impacts on the community.**
 - Other health-related topics under analysis include exposure to contaminated materials/sites, safety considerations for the transportation facilities/operations including highway, transit, active, navigation and air travel, etc.

Health Analysis and the Draft SEIS

- ▶ Jurisdictional partners and community groups expressed interest in a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) for the IBR program to better understand potential health impacts on local communities.
- ▶ In late 2023, the Washington Department of Health agreed to lead a third-party Health Analysis of the Modified LPA in cooperation with the Oregon Health Authority, Clark County and Multnomah County.
- ▶ The final Health Analysis will be submitted as a public comment when the Draft SEIS is published later this year.

HEALTH ANALYSIS



OUR TEAM

Collaboration between state-level and county-level public health

About 10 individuals dedicating time

This is an independent group conducting an independent analysis



Consultation was offered to all federally recognized tribes in Washington and Oregon

HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

They look at a proposed project or issue in a comprehensive manner.

They provide health and equity information to decision makers to inform a health-focused decision making process.

They are evidence based.

1	Screening	Identifying if an HIA would be useful for a proposed plan, project, or policy decision
2	Scoping	Planning the HIA (resources, timeline, etc.)and identifying what health risks and benefits to consider
3	Assessment	Identifying baseline conditions, potential health risks and benefits of the decision, and affected populations
4	Recommendations	Suggesting practical actions to promote positive health effects and minimizing negative health effects
5	Reporting	Presenting results and recommendations to decision makers, affected communities, and other stakeholders
6	Monitoring and Evaluation	Determining the HIA's impact on the decision and health status

HIA --> HEALTH ANALYSIS

For the Interstate Bridge Replacement Program, we are conducting a modified “health analysis” keeping to the structure of health impact assessments (HIA).

A full HIA would take 2 years to complete.

We will be submitting our report as a public comment to the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS).

1	Screening	Identifying if an HIA would be useful for a proposed plan, project, or policy decision
2	Scoping	Planning the HIA (resources, timeline, etc.)and identifying what health risks and benefits to consider
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METHODS

Literature review

Analyzing local health data to understand present health conditions

Reviewing potential health impacts in project design, construction, and long-term life of project

Considering environmental justice and health equity concerns

Qualitative data collection through community engagement with advisory groups

TOPIC AREAS

- **Air quality**
- **Transportation and active transportation**
- **Climate and heat**
- **Noise**
- **Social determinants of health**
- **Water quality**

Each section assesses equity and environmental justice related to the topic area.

QUESTIONS FOR ADVISORY GROUP

What health concerns have you heard from the community in regard to this project?

QUESTIONS FOR ADVISORY GROUP

Based on your experience and lived experience, what health concerns do you have related to this project?

QUESTIONS FOR ADVISORY GROUP

Are there any recommendations for the IBR program you would like to see based on community health concerns?

QUESTIONS FOR ADVISORY GROUP

Is there anything missing from our list of topic areas that you would expect to be covered in a health analysis?

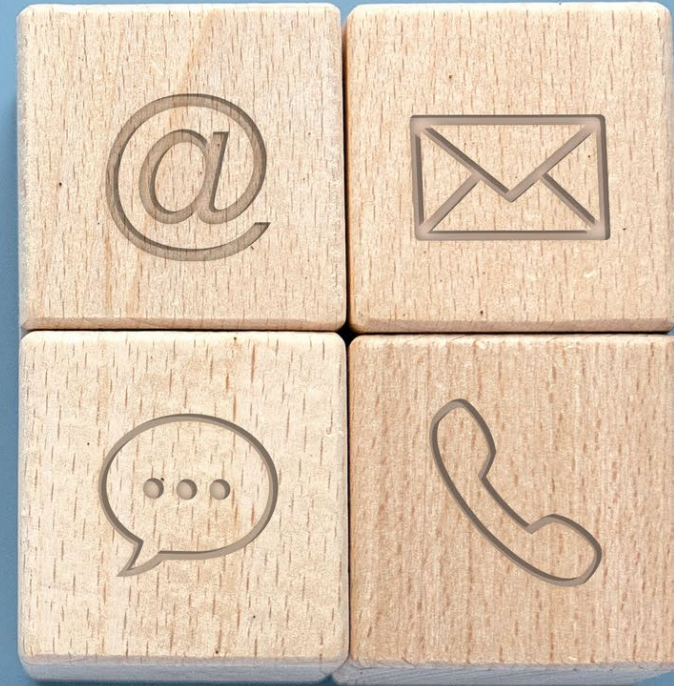
- Air quality
- Transportation and active transportation
- Climate and heat
- Noise
- Social determinants of health
- Water quality

Each section assesses equity and environmental justice related to the topic area.

QUESTIONS?

Contact us

EHAassessment@doh.wa.gov



Please don't hesitate to follow up with additional thoughts.



**Interstate
BRIDGE**
Replacement Program



Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) Community Engagement Plan Overview

Community Advisory Group

August 8, 2024



**Interstate
BRIDGE**
Replacement Program

Purpose of engagement

- ▶ Provide program update and raise general awareness
- ▶ Inform about the NEPA process for IBR, how and where to provide effective comments
- ▶ Improve trust and two-way dialogue with community members
- ▶ Center equity priority communities, which include environmental justice populations
- ▶ Mitigate barriers and challenges so community members can participate effectively

Audiences

- ▶ Equity priority communities
- ▶ Community leaders
- ▶ Advisory Groups
- ▶ Neighborhood Associations (NAs)
- ▶ Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)
- ▶ Residents, commuters, and travelers within the program area
- ▶ Regular users of the regional transportation system that includes the Interstate Bridge
- ▶ Current and future active transportation users, transit users, freight community, and commuters
- ▶ Property and business owners within or surrounding the program area
- ▶ Neighborhoods in and adjacent to the program area
- ▶ Community members with past and/or current ties to program area



Engagement Tools and Tactics

Tools and Tactics

Task	Description	Timing	Call to Action
<p>Virtual Community Briefings <i>One evening, one weekend event</i></p> <p><i>Recording to be posted to program website</i></p>	<p>Content to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What the NEPA process is • What a Draft SEIS is • What’s studied in the Draft SEIS (preview; not findings) • How to make an effective comment • Provide opportunity for questions. 	<p>Late August</p>	<p>Share information with networks</p>
<p>Equity roundtable</p>	<p>Virtual roundtable format livestreamed online</p> <p>Content priority: Preview of Draft SEIS, including how comments have shaped environmental documents</p>	<p>Early fall</p>	<p>Share information with networks</p>
<p>Community/Partner toolkit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program partners • Advisory Groups • CBOs • Neighborhood associations • Mini-grant recipients 	<p>Share content with program partners to be distributed to individual networks. Content to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email content • Social content • Informational materials • Links to online content • Information about engagement opportunities 	<p><i>Initial launch:</i> Early fall</p>	<p>Share information with networks</p>

Tools and Tactics

Task	Description	Timing	Call to Action
<p>Virtual Community Briefings <i>One evening, one weekend event</i></p> <p><i>No comments accepted at these briefings</i></p>	<p>Content to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Findings of the Draft SEIS • Opportunity to ask questions • Overview of engagement opportunities 	<p>Early fall</p>	<p>Share information with networks</p>
<p>In-person public hearings/open house <i>One in Portland, one in Vancouver</i></p>	<p>Provide two in-person public hearings/open houses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Display boards with Draft SEIS findings • Roll plots • Comment space with court reporter(s) • Comment stations for electronic comments 	<p>Early fall</p>	<p>Share information with networks</p>
<p>Virtual public hearing <i>Two events</i></p> <p><i>No questions answered at hearings</i></p>	<p>Online opportunity for participants to provide comments to a court reporter</p>	<p>Early fall</p>	<p>Share information with networks</p>

Tools and Tactics

Task	Description	Timing
Summer/fall tabling events	14 tabling events scheduled through end of summer in Portland and Vancouver	Ongoing through November
Ongoing office hours <i>Four office hour dates per month</i>	Regular cadence	Ongoing through November
Community Engagement Liaison coordination <i>Tentative</i>	Coordinate with multilingual engagement experts to share in-language content and in-person briefing opportunity with their communities	Fall
Neighborhood Association and Community-Based Organization (CBO) presentations	Proactively reach out to neighborhoods and CBOs, offering program updates.	Ongoing
Briefings upon request	Respond to briefing requests to schedule presentations and share program information in a timely manner	Ongoing
Evaluation	Provide surveys/evaluation tool following engagement activities	Ongoing



Notifications

- ▶ Email distribution
- ▶ Mailer
- ▶ Website update
- ▶ Press release and media event
- ▶ Community events
- ▶ Social media
- ▶ Partner toolkit
- ▶ Advertising: social and media
- ▶ Legal notice



Notifications Reach

- ▶ Email distribution: 6,800+
- ▶ Mailer: 12,000+
- ▶ Social media: 4,000+ across Facebook, LinkedIn, X, Instagram, TikTok and YouTube
- ▶ Media: 20+ outlets
- ▶ Community Partner list: 300+ community-based organizations and neighborhood associations



Comment Methods

- ▶ Options to provide comments:
 - Online comment form
 - Public hearing
 - Email
 - Voicemail
 - Physical mail

Feedback

Comment	Next steps
<p>Suggest that if office hours will be available during the Draft SEIS comment period, that the availability be pushed out to interested parties rather than posted.</p>	<p>We will include office hours in the following notifications supporting comment period engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Email distribution<input type="checkbox"/> Mailer<input type="checkbox"/> Website update<input type="checkbox"/> Press release and media event<input type="checkbox"/> Awareness at IBR community events<input type="checkbox"/> Social media<input type="checkbox"/> Partner toolkit

Feedback

Comment	Next steps
Clarify engagement tactics focused on sharing findings	<p>We are doing the following to support engagement specific to the findings during the comment period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Virtual community briefings (2)<input type="checkbox"/> Virtual public hearings (2)<input type="checkbox"/> In person open house and public hearing (2)<input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing briefings by request<input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing office hours<input type="checkbox"/> Grassroots/multilingual outreach with community engagement liaisons<input type="checkbox"/> Sharing findings and ways to comment via our partners<input type="checkbox"/> Advisory Group members sharing notifications with their networks

Feedback

Comment	Next steps
No role noted for CAG during the comment period. Should there be?	<p><i>Added CAG Call to Action:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Share information about August webinars with networks<input type="checkbox"/> Share information about Draft SEIS availability, engagement opportunities with networks<input type="checkbox"/> Share information about engagement/public hearing opportunities with networks<input type="checkbox"/> Share final reminder about Draft SEIS comment deadline with networks
What happens after that with the information that was gathered and how to show people that their input was heard and how it was used to make any meaningful changes.	<p><i>Added comment feedback loop slide</i></p>

Next Steps: closing the comment loop

Feedback Timeline

2024	Early Fall	60 days later	Early 2025
NEPA Milestone	<i>Draft SEIS comment period opens</i>	<i>Draft SEIS comment period ends</i>	<i>Interim summary of comments published</i>
Comment process	Open comment form	Close comment form	Provide update on engagement evaluation and interim summary of comments
Share information through website, email, newsletter, social media, partners			

Feedback Timeline

2025	July/August	Summer/Fall
NEPA Milestone	<i>Final record of comment and responses development complete</i>	<i>End 2025: Record of Decision</i>
Comment process	Report on responses to comments and close feedback loop on what we heard and what we did with it	Provide ongoing updates
Share information through website, email, newsletter, social media, partners		

What happens when the comment period closes

- ▶ Public comments will be used to update technical analysis, refine design options, and inform future design
- ▶ All comments are reviewed and responded to
- ▶ IBR program team coordinates with federal partners on responses
- ▶ In early 2025, we will publish an early comment summary that shares general number of comment submittals received and general themes
- ▶ All complete responses will be published in the Final SEIS
- ▶ The Final SEIS will identify the Preferred Alternative, anticipated program footprint, and mitigations



August Public Briefing Presentation Preview

Kimberly Webb, IBR Communications Team



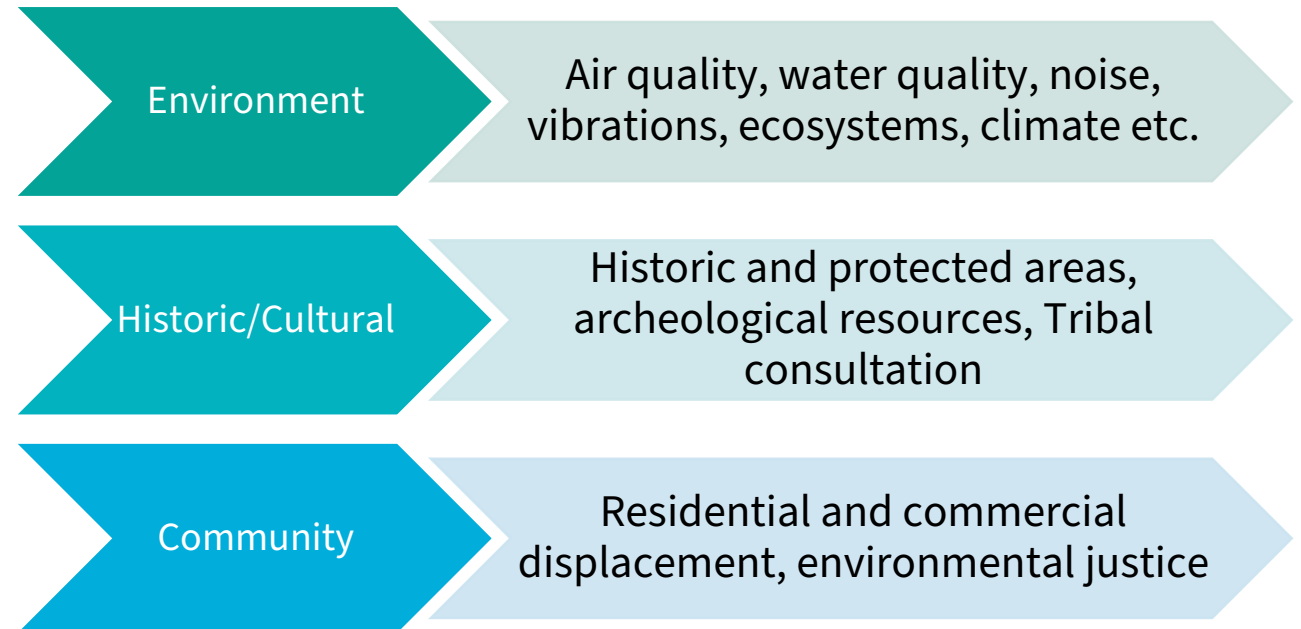
Objectives for this Public Briefing

- ▶ Gain a clear handle on what the Draft SEIS and what it is not.
- ▶ Understand what will be seen in the Draft SEIS when the document is published.
- ▶ Identify all the ways in which formal public comments will be accepted and the various opportunities to engage.
- ▶ Answer any lingering questions you might have.

What is NEPA?

National Environmental Policy Act of 1970

- ▶ Requires federal agencies to **assess and disclose environmental effects of proposed actions** prior to making decisions.
- ▶ Ensures agencies consider public comments as part of their decision making.



What is the Draft SEIS?

- ▶ Documents the potential benefits and impacts of the proposed investments on the local environment.
- ▶ Analyzes impacts to the built and natural world that the program will fit into.
- ▶ Required by the National Environmental Policy Act for federally funded or permitted infrastructure projects.
- ▶ Provides the public with an opportunity to comment on the findings and suggest ways in which they can be improved.

Draft SEIS – What is Evaluated?

► Impacts and benefits

- Mix of quantitative and qualitative analysis
- Long-term direct effects
- Short-term construction effects
- Indirect effects (occur farther in distance or further in time)
- Cumulative effects (program effects in combination with past, present and future effects from other actions)

► Mitigation

- Proposed measures to address unavoidable adverse impacts where possible
 - *Regulatory and Best Management Practices*
 - *Project-specific mitigation*

IBR Purpose and Need



Safety: Narrow lanes, no shoulders, poor sight distances, bridge lifts, and short ramp distances for merging contribute to crashes.



Earthquake vulnerability:

In a major earthquake, the bridge would likely be significantly damaged, potentially beyond repair.



Impaired freight movement:

Congestion and bridge lifts slow down freight carrying goods along I-5, a critical economic trade route on the West Coast.



Inadequate bike & pedestrian paths:

Narrow shared use paths, low railing heights, and lack of dedicated pathways impede safe travel.



Congestion: Over 143,000 vehicles crossed the Interstate Bridge each weekday in 2019 with more than 10 hours of daily congestion.



Limited public transportation:

Limited transit options and existing bus service can be unreliable due to traffic congestion and bridge lifts.

Technical Areas Evaluated in



Transportation

- Transportation
- Air Quality
- Aviation
- Energy
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Navigation
- Noise and Vibration



Community

- Cultural Resources
- Economics
- Electric and Magnetic Fields
- Environmental Justice
- Equity
- Hazardous Materials
- Land Use
- Neighborhoods
- Parks and Recreation
- Property Acquisitions
- Public Services
- Utilities



Environment

- Climate Change
- Ecosystems
- Geology and Groundwater
- Visual Quality
- Water Quality and Hydrology
- Wetlands and Waters

Transportation Analysis Output

Highway & Local Roadway Traffic

Traffic Volumes

Levels of Congestion

Travel Speeds

Crash Rates

Public Transit

Transit Ridership

Service Frequency

Travel Time

Safety

Active Transportation

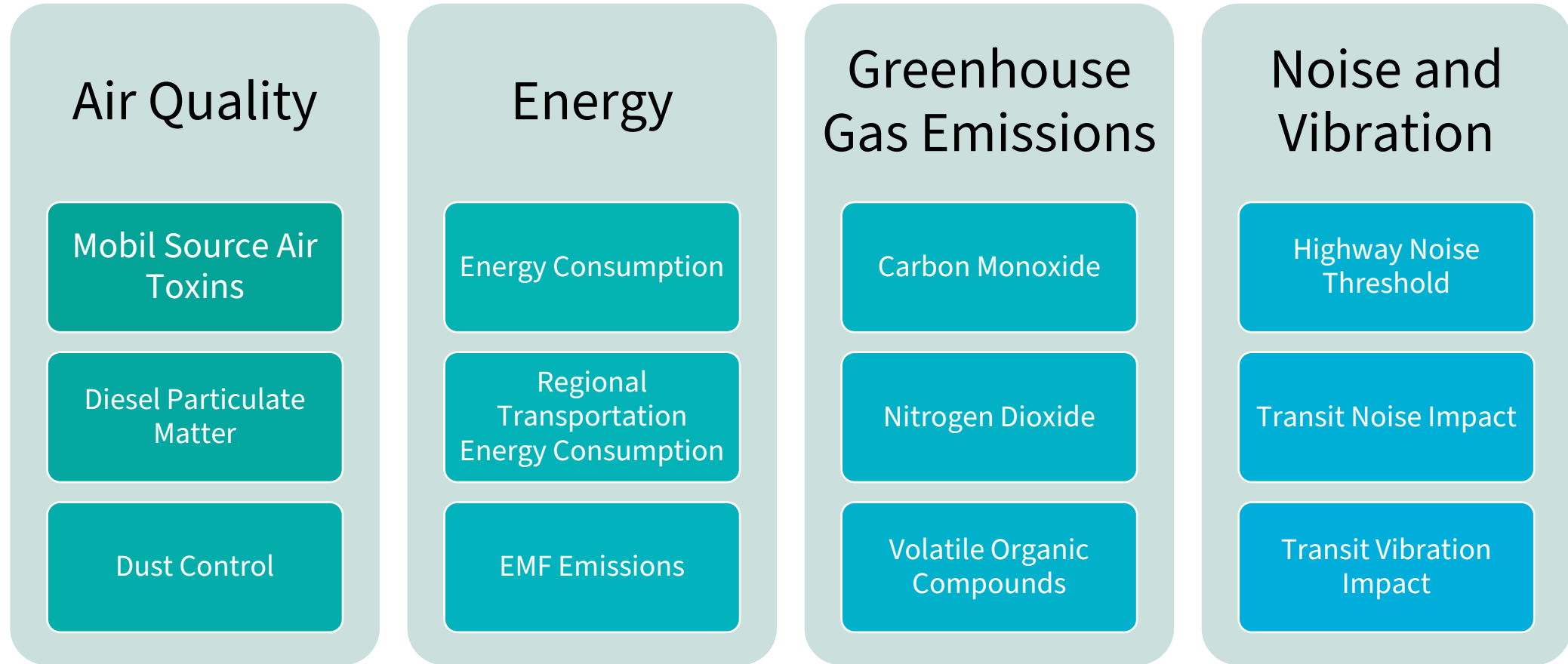
Person Trips

Access

Capacity

User Experience

Other Technical Areas Informed by Transportation Analysis Output



Navigation Analysis Output

Aviation

Protected Airspace

Operation Procedures

Bird Nesting/Roosting

Navigation

Navigation Channels

Vertical and Horizontal
Navigation Clearances

Navigation Safety

What's Next?

Upcoming Meetings

- ▶ Community Benefits Advisory Group (CBAG)
 - August 22, 2024 – 9:30 - 11:30 AM
- ▶ Equity Advisory Group (EAG)
 - September 16, 2024 – 5:30 - 7:30 PM

Public Comment

Comment Instructions

To make a verbal comment:

- ▶ To make a live comment via phone, dial: +1 646 931 3860 or +1 408 638 0968
 - Meeting ID: 986 0940 5983
 - Passcode: 701376
- ▶ 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 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 Public Comment**” in the subject line or in the body of the message for them to be identified and distributed to CAG 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.



For more information contact:

info@interstatebridge.org

360-859-0494 or 503-897-9218

888-503-6735

<https://www.interstatebridge.org>

Follow us on social: @IBRprogram



Thank you!

www.interstatebridge.org