

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-075

Approving the staff recommendation for the east-span bridge type for the Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge Project.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

- a) Multnomah County owns and maintains the Burnside Bridge, a 98-year-old structure that is nearing the end of its service life and was not designed to withstand a major earthquake.
- b) In March 1996, Metro designated Burnside Street a primary “East-West emergency transportation route” thereby establishing the Burnside corridor as a regional “lifeline” route.
- c) In April 2015, Multnomah County adopted the Willamette River Bridges Capital Improvement Plan, whereby making the existing Burnside Bridge seismically resilient, either through a retrofit or full replacement, was listed as the highest priority project in the 2015-2034 timeframe.
- d) A seismically resilient Burnside Bridge will support the region’s ability to provide rapid and reliable emergency response, rescue, and evacuation after a major earthquake, as well as enable post-earthquake economic recovery.
- e) From 2016 to 2018, Multnomah County conducted a feasibility study for an Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge Project (“Project”), which developed and screened over 100 river crossing alternatives.
- f) From 2019 to 2024, Multnomah County conducted an Environmental Review Phase in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), in which the Replacement Long Span was identified as the Locally Preferred Alternative, culminating in the publication of a Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision in February 2024.
- g) In September 2023, a Community Design Advisory Group (CDAG) was convened, consisting of approximately 22 volunteers representing various interests of the community, to help provide feedback and input to the Project on the aesthetic components of the Project.

- h) Multnomah County initiated the Design Phase in Fall 2023 and evaluated a range of tied arch and cable stayed options for the Replacement Long Span Alternative. Six options were advanced to the CDAG and the public for consideration.
- i) From September 2023 to August 2024, the CDAG considered a wide variety of information and input from the public and the Project team and formed its own recommendation for the east approach bridge type. On August 15th, 2024, the CDAG recommended moving forward with the “Inverted Y” cable stayed option.
- j) The work of the Community Design Advisory Group is appreciated. The Board thanks them for their many hours of service to provide for a seismically resilient Burnside Bridge on behalf of the public.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Resolves:

- 1. To accept the “Inverted Y” cable stayed option as the east approach bridge type based on a staff recommendation that concurs with the attached recommendation of the Community Design Advisory Group.

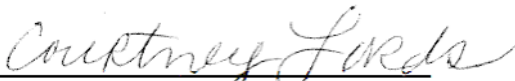
ADOPTED this 12th day of September 2024.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

Jessica Vega Pederson, Chair

REVIEWED:
JENNY M. MADKOUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By 
Courtney Lords, Senior Assistant County Attorney

SUBMITTED BY: Margi Bradway, Director, Department of Community Services