

Multnomah County is working to create an earthquake-safe Willamette River crossing







Portland's aging downtown bridges are not expected to withstand a major earthquake. That is why Multnomah County is taking the lead on making at least one earthquake ready. Located in the heart of downtown, the Burnside Bridge is a regionally established lifeline route across the Willamette River. Lifeline routes are important because they:

- Help firetrucks, ambulances, and police cars respond in an emergency
- Reunite families and loved ones
- Help our economy recover

### WHAT IS THE PLAN?

Since 1926, the Burnside Bridge has served us well. To take us across the river for another 100 years, it needs an upgrade. Over the next several years, Multnomah County will evaluate options for creating a resilient Burnside crossing that will withstand a major earthquake.

The first step is to narrow a long list of over 100 options through a screening process to arrive at a short list of recommended options to be evaluated in more detail in a later phase.

# **BURNSIDEBRIDGE.ORG**

FOLLOW THE PROJECT ON TWITTER: @MultCoBridges, #ReadyBurnside

## VISIT THE PROJECT WEBSITE TO:

- Sign up for updates.
- Request a presentation for your community or business group.
- Learn about upcoming meetings, events and other ways to provide input.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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# EARTHQUAKE READY

# **BURNSIDE BRIDGE**

# **HOW ARE THE OPTIONS BEING NARROWED?**

Multhomah County has considered more than 100 river crossing options on the Burnside lifeline route. These options are undergoing an extensive screening process to make sure they meet requirements for a reliable river crossing after a major earthquake.

# SCREENING **STEPS**

**OPTION GROUPS** 

**No Build** 

support emergency response.

# 100+ Options

Each option was screened against the core requirements of seismic resiliency, emergency response, and compatibility with major infrastructure.

Each remaining option was evaluated on how well it functioned immediately after an earthquake in

addition to everyday use.

80 Options

26 Options

Each remaining option was further evaluated for its performance in six key categories:

### SEISMIC RESILIENCY

Support reliable and rapid emergency response after an earthquake.

### **NON-MOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION**

Support access and safety for bicyclists, pedestrians and people with disabilities.

### **CONNECTIVITY**

Support street system integration and function for all modes.

### EOUITY

Minimize adverse impacts to historically marginalized communities and promote transportation equity.

## **BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Promote land use compatibility and minimize impacts to parks and historic resources.

### **FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP** Ensure public funds are invested wisely.

# Maintain existing bridge as-is. These options are not seismically resilient or cannot



**Seismic Retrofit** Upgrade the existing bridge. A full seismic retrofit of the bridge is not feasible due to significant impacts to I-5 during construction. **Enhanced Seismic Retrofit** 

Retrofit most of the existing bridge, but replace the spans over I-5 and the railroad.

## Replacement

Build a new crossing such as a high fixed bridge, low movable bridge, twin bridges or a tunnel.

**Enhance Another Bridge** Retrofit or replace a different bridge across the

Willamette River. Other bridges do not provide a rapid and reliable connection to the Burnside lifeline route after an earthquake.



### **PROJECT TIMELINE**

We are in the Feasibility Study phase of the project. It will take years to get an earthquake-safe crossing in place, so we must work thoughtfully and make steady progress toward that goal.



The schedule shows the current maintenance project that is repairing and improving the bridge to keep it safe and working for another 15–20 years.



# WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Multnomah County is working with regional partners and the community to narrow crossing options with this planning process. Tell us what we should consider as we plan for an earthquake-resilient crossing.



Weigh in at community events and via online surveys.



Request a project briefing for your organization.



Attend an upcoming committee meeting.

Find out more about these opportunities at **BurnsideBridge.org**