



The Burnside Bridge needs to be earthquake-safe

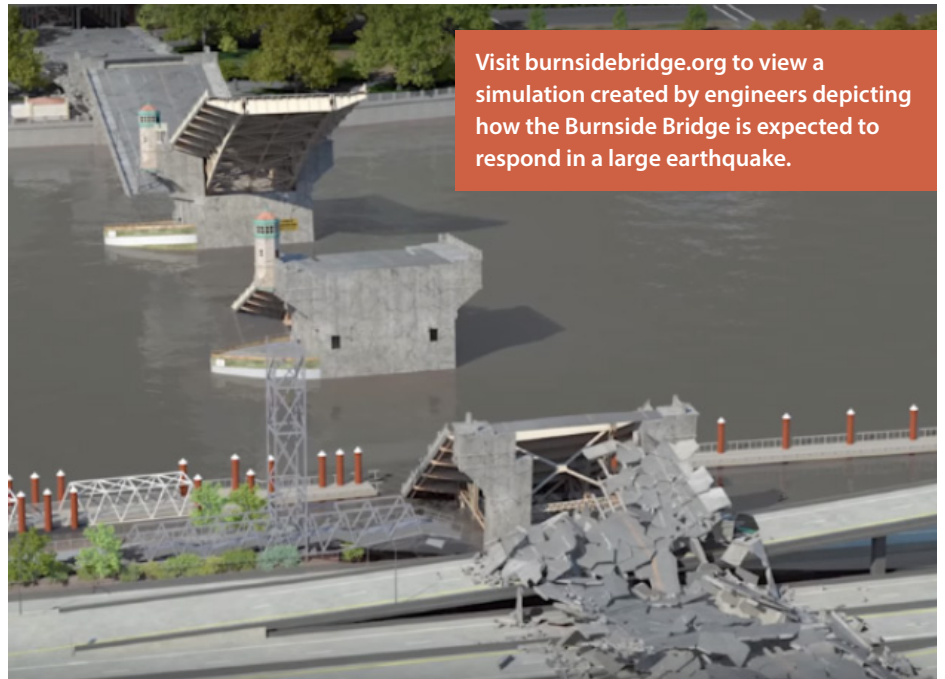
We depend on the Burnside Bridge as the main emergency route across the Willamette River. Connecting Washington County to Gresham, Metro designated Burnside Street and the bridge as an emergency lifeline route in 1996.

The Burnside Bridge has the least risk of an overpass collapsing on or falling beneath it during an earthquake. In the event of a major disaster, we all will rely on this east-west connection to aid emergency vehicles and disaster recovery efforts, including reuniting our families and spurring the regional economic recovery.

There is a problem with this scenario, however – the Burnside Bridge itself. Constructed almost a century ago before earthquake-resilient design was well understood, the Burnside Bridge will not survive a large earthquake. This makes the bridge the weak link in the regional lifeline route. The Northwest experiences large earthquakes at regular intervals and experts say we are overdue for a big one. If an earthquake strikes there will be no way to cross the river in downtown Portland. An earthquake-safe Burnside Bridge is our region's best option for a seismically resilient Willamette River crossing.

AN EARTHQUAKE-SAFE RIVER CROSSING

This is why Multnomah County is taking the lead on making the Burnside Bridge earthquake ready. The draft Feasibility Study has extensively screened over 100 bridge replacement and rehabilitation options. Four options remain as the most promising to study in the upcoming environmental review.



Visit burnsidebridge.org to view a simulation created by engineers depicting how the Burnside Bridge is expected to respond in a large earthquake.

MAINTAINING THE BURNSIDE BRIDGE TODAY



Multnomah County is conducting maintenance through 2019 to keep the Burnside Bridge operating and safe until a long term seismic solution is identified. This maintenance includes surface, structural, mechanical and electrical work that will occasionally affect bridge and river traffic. More information can be found at burnsidebridge.org.

How are the options being narrowed?

Over 100 Willamette River crossing options were considered in an extensive screening process.

A short list consisting of Enhanced Seismic Retrofit and full Bridge Replacement options is recommended for additional study. We want to hear your feedback on:

- Project purpose and need
- Scope of the environmental study
- Screening process results
- Draft Feasibility Study

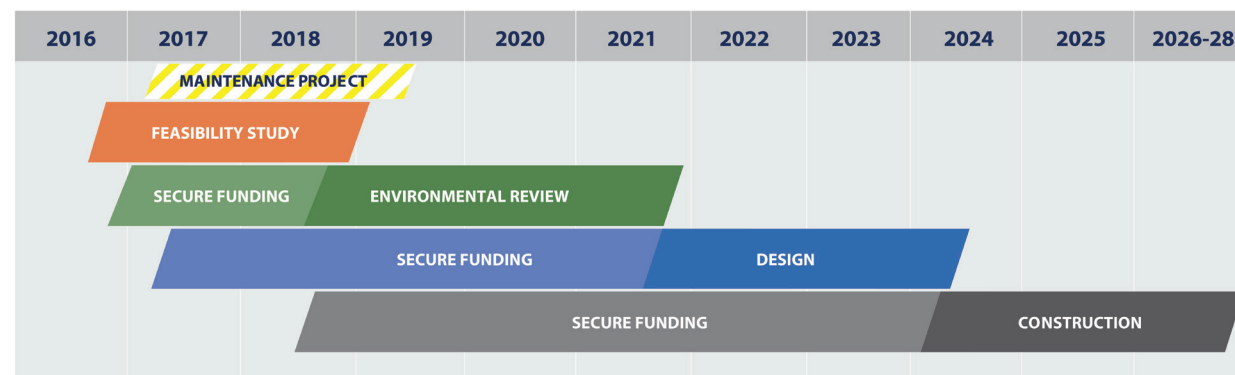
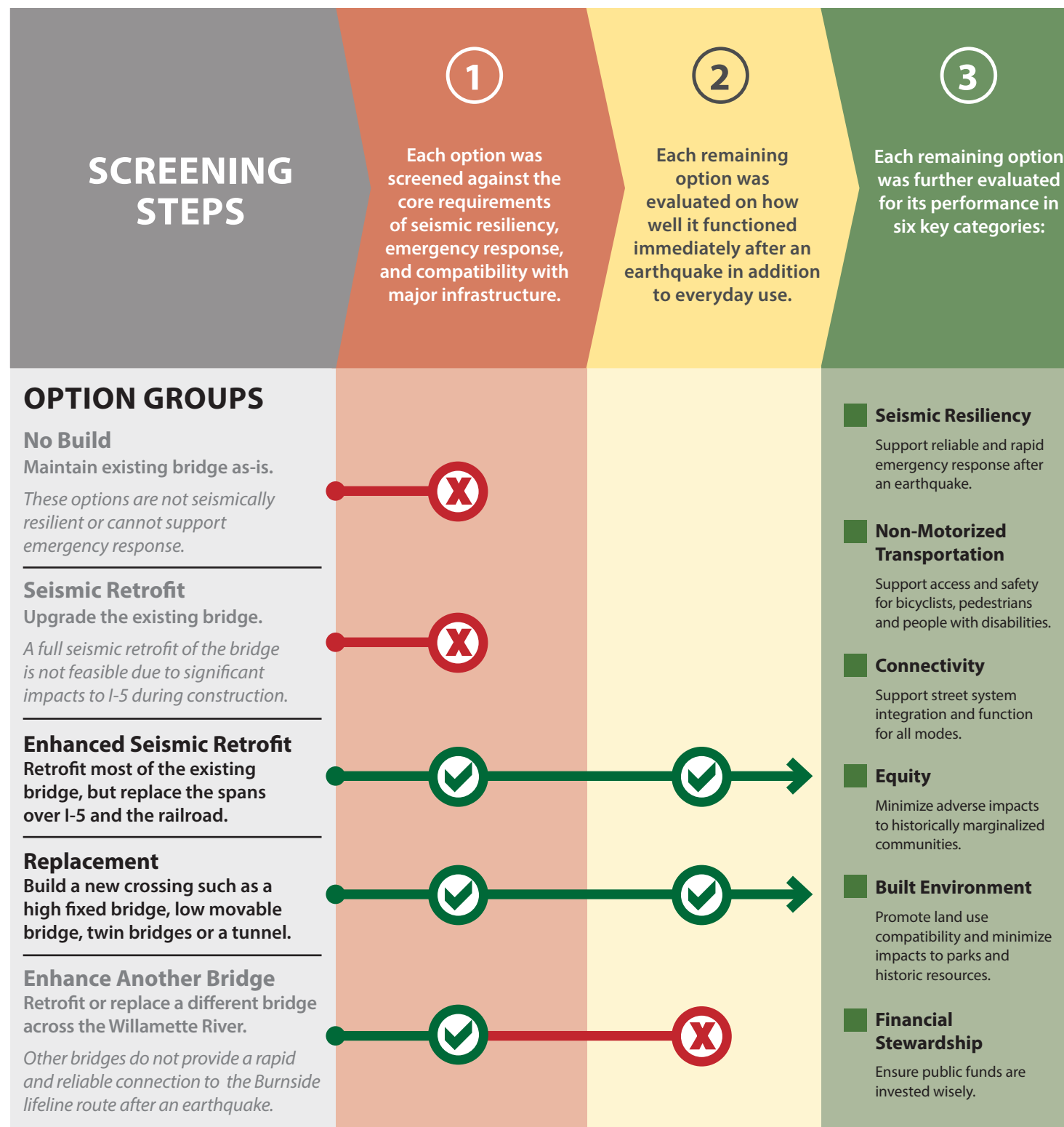
Provide your thoughts to help shape the next phase of the Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge project.

KEY:

- Not recommended. Did not pass evaluation screening.
- Recommended for further study. Passed evaluation screening.

PROJECT TIMELINE

The project is moving from the Feasibility Study phase to the Environmental Review phase which will include preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Your input at this time is vital in helping determine which options, topics and types of impacts will be studied in the EIS. Later in this phase we will ask for input on selecting a preferred option to advance into Design and then into Construction.



4 REMAINING OPTIONS

Four options have risen to the top through the screening process. We will be asking for your feedback before choosing the final range of options for further study in the environmental phase.



ENHANCED SEISMIC RETROFIT



An upgrade of the existing bridge to meet current seismic standards. To reduce the construction impacts on the I-5 corridor and railroad, part of the bridge will be replaced.



REPLACEMENT: Fixed Bridge



A new fixed bridge with a maximum clearance of 97 feet, at about the same location as the current bridge. It doesn't open, but is tall enough to allow ships to pass without halting traffic. The west landing touches down about 3 blocks further west than the current bridge, near NW 5th Avenue.



REPLACEMENT: Movable Bridge



A new movable bridge at about the same height and location as the current bridge.



REPLACEMENT: Movable Bridge – NE Couch Connection



A new movable bridge at about the same height as the current bridge. The east landing splits to connect to NE Couch Street. Westbound traffic uses NE Couch Street. Eastbound traffic uses E Burnside Street.



Multnomah County
 Communications Office - M539
 501 SE Hawthorne Blvd., 6th Floor
 Portland, OR 97214

Multnomah County is creating an earthquake-safe downtown river crossing.

Share your thoughts

Online survey Aug. 31 - Sept. 30.

BurnsideBridge.org

For information about this project in other languages, please call 503-209-4111 or email burnsidebridge@multco.us.

Para obtener información sobre este proyecto en español, ruso u otros idiomas, llame al 503-209-4111 o envíe un correo electrónico a burnsidebridge@multco.us

Для получения информации об этом проекте на испанском, русском или других языках, свяжитесь с нами по телефону 503-209-4111 или по электронной почте: burnsidebridge@multco.us.



BETTER – SAFER – CONNECTED

Portland's aging downtown bridges are not expected to withstand a major earthquake.

Located in the heart of Portland, the Burnside Bridge is a regionally established emergency route across the Willamette River. Multnomah County is taking the lead on making the Burnside Bridge earthquake ready.



Make your voice heard!

During the September public comment period, you can attend one of two open houses and visit an online open house. Your feedback is needed on the work that has taken place to date. Share your thoughts about the importance of a resilient Burnside Bridge.



Open Houses

WEST

Thur. Sept. 13, 5-7 p.m.

Mercy Corps
 43 SW Naito Parkway

EAST

Tue. Sept. 25, 5-7 p.m.

Fair-haired Dumbbell
 11 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.



Online Open House

Can't join us in person? **Go to BurnsideBridge.org from Aug. 31 to Sept. 30.**



Sign up for updates

Sign up for email updates at BurnsideBridge.org.

Your participation and input are important to this process.

BurnsideBridge.org

[f](#) [@](#) [t](#) @MultCoBridges, #ReadyBurnside