

Program #90015 - Bridge Services
FY 2025 Proposed
Department: Community Services

Program Contact: Jon Henrichsen

Program Offer Type: Operating

Program Offer Stage: Proposed

Related Programs: 90013, 90018

Program Characteristics:
Executive Summary

The Bridge Services program operates and preserves the County's long-term investment in its six Willamette River bridges. The Willamette River crossings consist of four movable bridges (Hawthorne, Morrison, Burnside and Broadway) and two fixed structures (Sellwood and Wapato). Bridge Services includes Planning, Engineering, Maintenance and Operations.

Program Description

Bridge Services is responsible for planning, funding, designing, constructing, maintaining, operating, and preserving the County's six Willamette River Bridges. The program contributes to the goals and strategies of the Department of Community Services in providing reliable infrastructure for diverse communities traveling in and through Multnomah County. This program supports four areas (Bridge Planning, Engineering, Maintenance, and Operations) to deliver services that comply with local, state, and federal transportation requirements while striving to achieve the transportation priorities that Multnomah County residents communicate through our public outreach efforts.

Each of the four areas work in tandem to preserve the long-term functionality of the County's Willamette River Bridges: Bridge Planning provides long range planning and regional coordination for the Willamette River Bridges, advocates for sustainable funding for the long-term health of the program, and facilitates advisory committees that provide critical input on Bridge Services program priorities and impacts to the community. Bridge Engineering provides engineering solutions and project management in support of Bridge Maintenance and Operations activities and identifies existing and future system repair needs. Bridge Maintenance performs preventative maintenance and minor upgrades/enhancements on the bridges. Maintenance ensures the operational reliability of mechanical, electrical, structural, and corrosion protection (paint) systems. Maintenance places priority on response to emergencies, performance of specialized preventative maintenance tasks, and making repairs/enhancements as needed. Bridge Operations operates bridge draw spans to allow passage of river traffic, assists with preventative maintenance tasks, and acts as an early detection to bridge operation problems. To support members of the community who may be in crisis, Bridge operations, engineering, and maintenance staff have received training in suicide awareness and prevention, focusing on how to intervene in apparent or imminent attempted suicides on the bridges in a safe and appropriate manner.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Performance Measure	FY23 Actual	FY24 Budgeted	FY24 Estimate	FY25 Target
Output	Number of preventative maintenance tasks completed	817	835	835	835
Outcome	Percent of bridge openings with minimal delay to river traffic	99%	99%	99%	99%
Output	Number of Bridge Operator maintenance tasks completed	767	767	765	765

Performance Measures Descriptions

Preventative maintenance tasks help keep the bridges working properly and avert the need for expensive capital rehabilitation projects.

The percent of successful drawbridge openings measures the ability of this group to provide reliable access for river traffic.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

Multnomah County is required to maintain and operate its drawbridges in accordance with the River and Harbor Act of 1894, federal regulations (USC 117.750), U.S. Coast Guard regulations (CFR Title 33), State Law (ORS 382.305), and a 1984 intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with the City of Portland as amended in 1989.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2024	2024	2025	2025
Personnel	\$0	\$4,428,868	\$0	\$5,193,985
Contractual Services	\$0	\$5,655,906	\$0	\$988,800
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$580,167	\$0	\$615,794
Internal Services	\$0	\$2,393,769	\$0	\$2,333,072
Unappropriated & Contingency	\$0	\$29,608,330	\$0	\$48,878,381
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$42,667,040	\$0	\$58,010,032
Program Total:	\$42,667,040		\$58,010,032	
Program FTE	0.00	28.58	0.00	30.97

Program Revenues				
Fees, Permits & Charges	\$0	\$2,561,959	\$0	\$14,375,682
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$3,387,697	\$0	\$5,647,853
Other / Miscellaneous	\$0	\$785,320	\$0	\$734,311
Beginning Working Capital	\$0	\$35,927,064	\$0	\$37,252,186
Service Charges	\$0	\$5,000	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue	\$0	\$42,667,040	\$0	\$58,010,032

Explanation of Revenues

This program generates \$746,375 in indirect revenues.

Multnomah County's share of the State Highway Funds, disbursed from the State of Oregon and allotted statewide based on the number of registered vehicles in each jurisdiction, is a longtime source of revenue for the Bridge program. Multnomah County also uses Vehicle Registration Fee (VRF) revenue to support the program. The VRF is a revenue source dedicated to the Willamette River Bridges, collected from Multnomah County residents. The fee, previously \$38 biannually, was raised to \$112 biannually on 1/1/21. Other small revenue sources include reimbursement for work done for other jurisdictions (Metro, City of Portland, etc.), and reimbursement from insurance companies for damage done by drivers to our roads and bridges.

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2024: 90015 Bridge Services

In FY 2025 a new Engineering Services Manager will be hired to assist with the growing needs of the bridge services program. Due to several bridge capital projects moving to construction, more transportation employees will direct their time to bridge services to assist with the additional needs.

The FY 2025 budget has increased by \$15,342,992 from FY24 due vehicle registration fee revenue. This revenue is shared with the Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge project, program offer 90019, and less of the revenue is needed in that program offer in FY25. As a result, the unused vehicle registration fees stayed in this program and they are reflected in contingency.