

Program #90015 - Bridge Services

FY 2026 Department Requested

Department: Community Services Program Contact: Jon Henrichsen

Program Offer Type: Operating Program Offer Stage: Department Requested

Related Programs: 90013, 90018

Program Characteristics:

Program Description

The Multnomah County Bridge Services program oversees all six Willamette River bridges. This includes every stage of their existence, from the initial planning and securing funds to design, construction, and ongoing maintenance. The program prioritizes safe and reliable access for all community members. It ensures these essential bridges remain functional for everyone. This commitment includes promoting equity by considering the needs of all users, such as those with disabilities. Additionally, the program respects tribal sovereignty by working with tribal governments on projects that potentially impact the tribes and natural resources.

Multnomah County Bridge Services ensures safe and reliable river crossings for everyone while planning for the future of transportation across our bridges. This includes keeping bridges in top shape and listening to public input. Bridge Services uses sustainable practices to design, build, and maintain bridges. This means using less energy and materials, and making sure bridges can handle climate change. With a focus on safety, the future, and the environment, Bridge Services is committed to providing safe and accessible bridges for everyone.

To achieve these goals, Bridge Services engages in a wide range of activities. This includes long-range planning, securing sustainable funding, and conducting regular maintenance and preventative repairs, prioritizing asset stewardship to maximize the lifespan of the bridges. The program provides opportunities for meaningful public input, promoting equity, and incorporating diverse perspectives through advisory committees. The program also manages engineering projects, operates the bridge draw spans for river traffic, and actively monitors the bridges for any operational issues. Additionally, bridge service staff are trained in suicide awareness and intervention, demonstrating a commitment to community health and safety by supporting individuals in crisis.

Performance Measures								
Measure Type	Performance Measure	FY24 Actual	FY25 Budgeted	FY25 Estimate	FY26 Target			
Output	Number of bridge openings with minimal delay to river traffice	484	877	877	961			
Output	Number of Bridge Operator Maintenance tasks completed	835	765	800	796			

Performance Measures Descriptions

The number of bridge openings with minimal delay to river traffic measures our ability to keep our bridges operational and meet our legal obligations to the river traffic.

The number of maintenance tasks measures how well we are maintaining the functionality of the spaces the bridge operators use.

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	Department Requested General Fund	Department Requested Other Funds
Program Expenses	2025	2025	2026	2026
Personnel	\$0	\$5,193,985	\$0	\$5,298,504
Contractual Services	\$0	\$988,800	\$0	\$1,144,700
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$624,293	\$0	\$775,145
Internal Services	\$0	\$2,324,573	\$0	\$2,682,844
Cash Transfers	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$28,584,065
Unappropriated & Contingency	\$0	\$48,878,381	\$0	\$36,892,729
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$58,010,032	\$0	\$75,377,987
Program Total:	ogram Total: \$58,010,032		\$75,377,987	
Program FTE	0.00	30.97	0.00	30.63

Program Revenues								
Fees, Permits & Charges	\$0	\$14,375,682	\$0	\$30,124,448				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$5,647,853	\$0	\$3,036,895				
Other / Miscellaneous	\$0	\$734,311	\$0	\$869,055				
Beginning Working Capital	\$0	\$37,252,186	\$0	\$41,347,589				
Total Revenue	\$0	\$58,010,032	\$0	\$75,377,987				

Explanation of Revenues

This program generates \$964,858 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

The Bridge program continued to be impacted in FY25 by the loss of the portion of the Bridge Shop due to destructive fire. The Bridge Shop houses the engineering, administration, and operations manager groups in Transportation.. We appreciate the partnership with the County Risk team to cover as much as the expense by insurance as possible. However, the expense to repair the shop and replace furniture and equipment not covered by insurance will impact the Bridge Fund in FY 25 and FY 26, straining an already fiscally constrained program.