

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

None of the Willamette River bridges in central Portland are expected to withstand a major earthquake. That's why Multnomah County is taking the lead on making at least one crossing earthquake ready. The Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge will aid in disaster recovery efforts, reunite families and support regional economic recovery and resiliency. Experts estimate that every \$1 spent before a disaster equates to \$6 spent after<sup>1</sup>. It is important that we proactively plan for our future now to minimize the impacts of a major earthquake on our community.

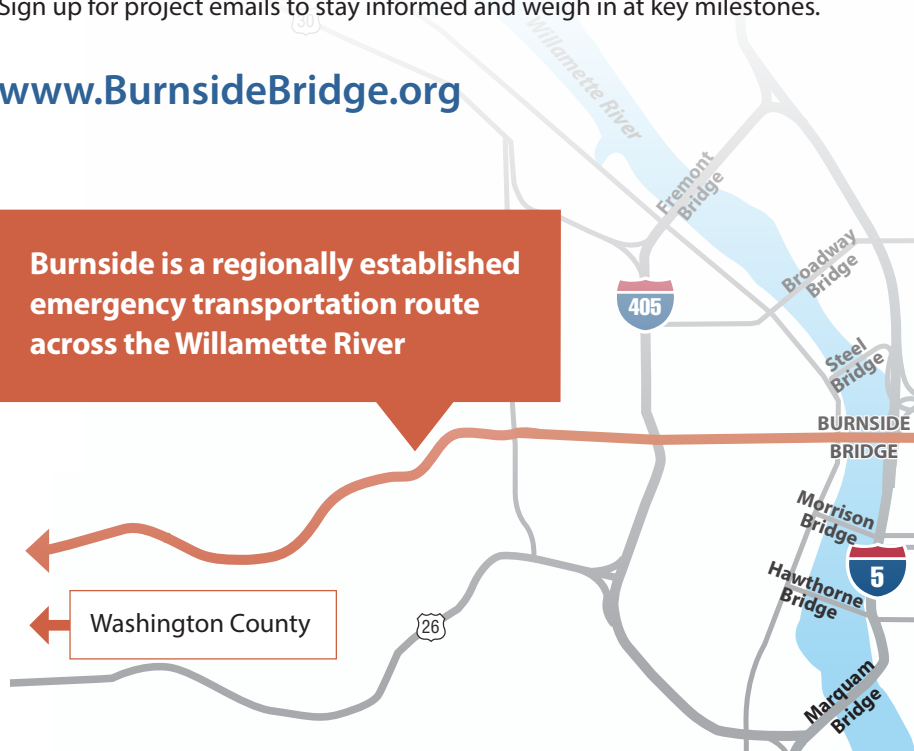
**In summer 2020, the Community Task Force recommended a Preferred Alternative. After gathering community feedback, and hearing broad support, the Policy Group and Board of County Commissioners approved the recommendation:**

- ★ Replacement Long Span with a Full Bridge Closure during construction

Now the Community Task Force is working with the project team through the Bridge Type Selection phase. In summer 2021, they will recommend a Bridge Type. The community is encouraged to stay involved and share input throughout this process. Sign up for project emails to stay informed and weigh in at key milestones.

[www.BurnsideBridge.org](http://www.BurnsideBridge.org)

**Burnside is a regionally established emergency transportation route across the Willamette River**



# An earthquake ready Burnside Bridge

## PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE - REPLACEMENT LONG SPAN

The Replacement Long Span Bridge was recommended as the preferred bridge alternative to move forward into design. The alternative would replace the existing Burnside Bridge with a new movable bridge in the same location and length as the existing bridge with support structure above the roadway surface resulting in fewer columns below. This means there are longer spans, or distances, between columns. It was recommended because it is the most seismically resilient with the lowest cost and fewest impacts to natural resources.

## BRIDGE TYPE SELECTION

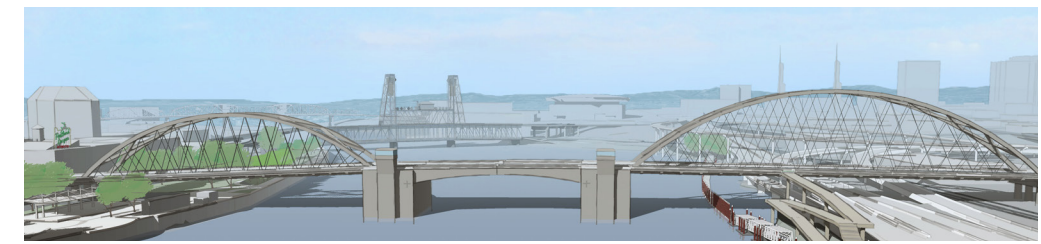
An important next step in the process is to select the type of long span bridge to build, this also includes the type of movable span. During this phase, we will evaluate a range of different long span and movable span types. At the end of this phase, we will select a single bridge type to move forward for final design. This phase is happening concurrently with the Environmental Review phase. Some of the bridge type options include:



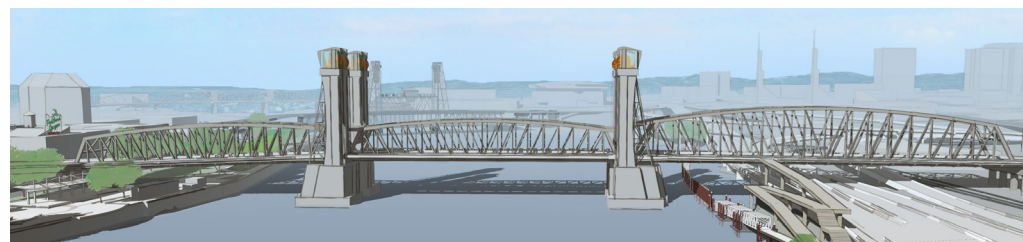
The Replacement Long Span has the fewest number of columns in unstable soil, making it the best option for seismic resiliency. (Image above is conceptual and does not reflect final design.)



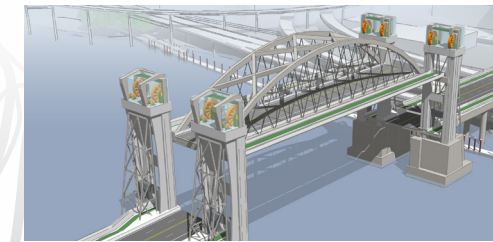
Replacement Long Span – Cable Stayed Concept



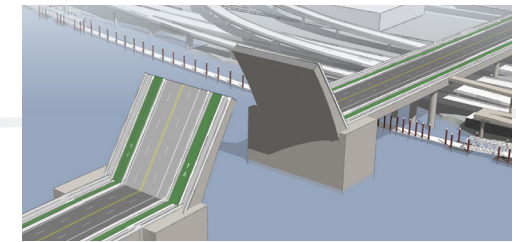
Replacement Long Span – Arch Bascule Concept



Replacement Long Span – Through Truss Concept



Movable Span Option – Vertical Lift



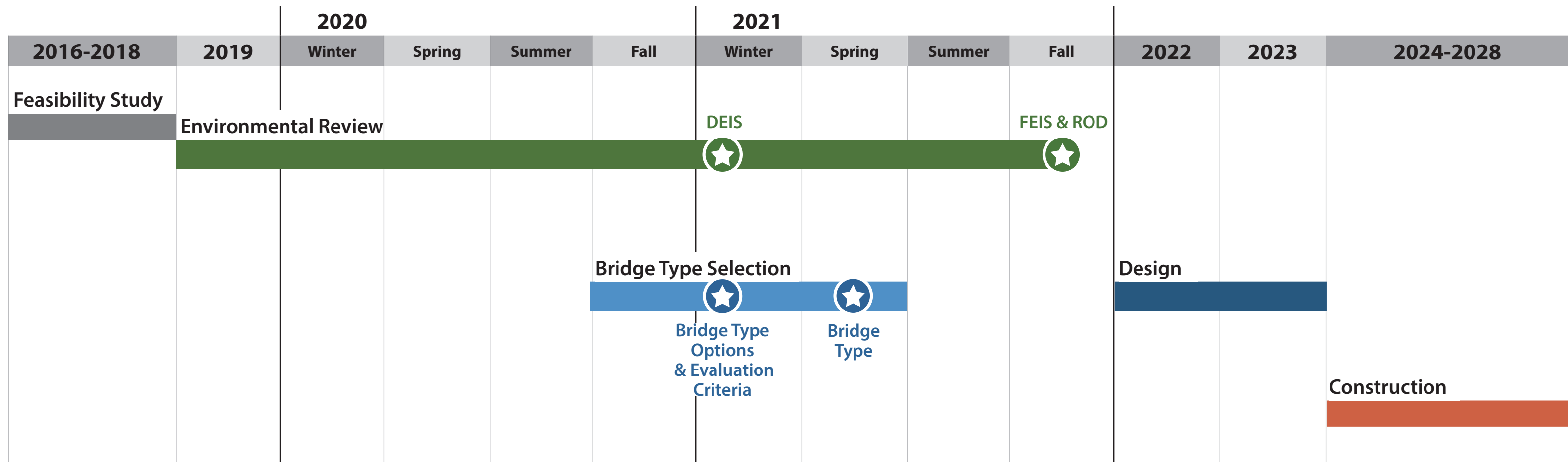
Movable Span Option – Bascule

East Multnomah County

Oregon is located in the Cascadia Subduction Zone. Experts say there is a **1 in 3 chance** of a magnitude 8+ earthquake occurring within 50 years in our region.

<sup>1</sup> Natural Hazard Mitigation Saves: 2017 Interim Report, National Institute of Building Sciences, 2017.

## Project Timeline



## Environmental Review Key milestones

The project is now in the Environmental Review phase which includes preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The draft EIS will be published in early 2021 followed by a formal 45-day comment period.

-  January/February 2021 - Input on draft EIS
  Fall 2021 - Final EIS and Record of Decision

## Bridge Type Selection Key milestones

The Bridge Type Selection phase is happening concurrently with the Environmental Review Phase and will include two rounds of public outreach followed by approval of a selected Bridge Type in 2021.

-  January/February 2021 - Input on range of bridge options and evaluation criteria
  May 2021 - Input on recommended bridge type

For information about this project in other languages, please call 503-209-4111 or email [burnsidebridge@multco.us](mailto: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](mailto:burnsidebridge@multco.us).  
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