



Community Task Force Meeting #10

Department of Community Services
Transportation Division

October 21, 2019

Agenda

1. Welcome, Introductions & Housekeeping
2. Public Comment
3. Project Update
4. Summer/Fall Outreach Feedback
5. Criteria and Measures Updates
6. Policy Group Recommendations
7. Next Steps





Project Update

Since we last met...

- **Working/Focus Groups**
 - Constructability/Estimating
 - Multi-Modal/Transportation
 - Seismic Design Criteria
- **Cross Sections**
- **Stakeholder Briefings**



Project Update

Funding Plan

- **Potential Funding Sources**

- County Vehicle Registration Fee (fund Planning, Design, Construction Phases)
- Regional Metro T2020 bond measure (Construction Phase)
- State/Federal (Construction Phase)

- **Multnomah County VRF**

- Currently \$19/year (lowest of 3 Metro counties)
- Proposed: raise to \$56/year
 - County Board vote 11/14/2019
 - Effective 1/1/2021
- Dedicated to County's Willamette River bridges
- New \$ targeted for Burnside Bridge



Summer/Fall Outreach

Key Engagement Activities

Briefings

- 20 directly impacted stakeholders
- 31 community/agency organizations

Multi-Lingual Outreach

- 6 focus groups (*Chinese, Vietnamese, Arabic, Spanish and Japanese*)
- 182 participants

Tabling

- 4 events

Online Open House and Survey

- > 2,300 unique visits
- > 800 survey responses

Social Media

- 31 posts and 2 sponsored posts

E-newsletters and News Release

- 2 e-newsletters
- 2 news releases



Bridge Alternatives

> 80% agree the High Fixed Bridge alternative should not move forward

- **Retrofit** – utilize existing bridge; lower cost
- **In-kind replacement** – more street space for all users (emphasis on cyclists and pedestrians); smaller footprint compared to Couch Connection
- **Couch Connection** – improves the current, tight S-curve
- **High Fixed** – too long, tall and expensive; massive construction disruption and impact on local community, access and livability
- Provide for current and future **active and public transportation**
- **Safety** for all travelers
- **Cost** and impact to local economy
- **Traffic** and accommodating future growth
- Consider the **natural and built environment** by using existing bridge



Early Results – Key Themes

Street Space

- Protected facilities for cyclists and pedestrians was one of the most frequent themes
- Some said to limit space for private vehicles, provide bus only lanes in both directions
- Add width for bicycle and pedestrian facilities
- Cost – some said motorists shouldn't pay for bike and pedestrian facilities
- Replacement alternatives provide opportunity for more space and physical protection

“The motorized traffic lanes should set aside dedicated lanes for transit which carries far more people.”

“Replacement alternatives looks best. I like the division of cars and people.”

“More width requested to accommodate grade-separated bike lanes. This will encourage biking and walking, especially for the 2035 Plan.”



Summer/Fall Outreach

Early Results – Key Themes

Traffic management

- Impacts to pedestrians, cyclists and transit
- Consider transit-only bridge
- Save time and money, detour to other bridges
- Temporary bridge seems necessary
- Concern for traffic impacts

“I know it's a pain when past Bridges were shut down, thinking back to the Hawthorne, but I still think that's a better alternative to adding \$100 mil to the project cost.”

“A temporary bridge is probably necessary. A temporary bridge must accommodate cyclists and pedestrians.”



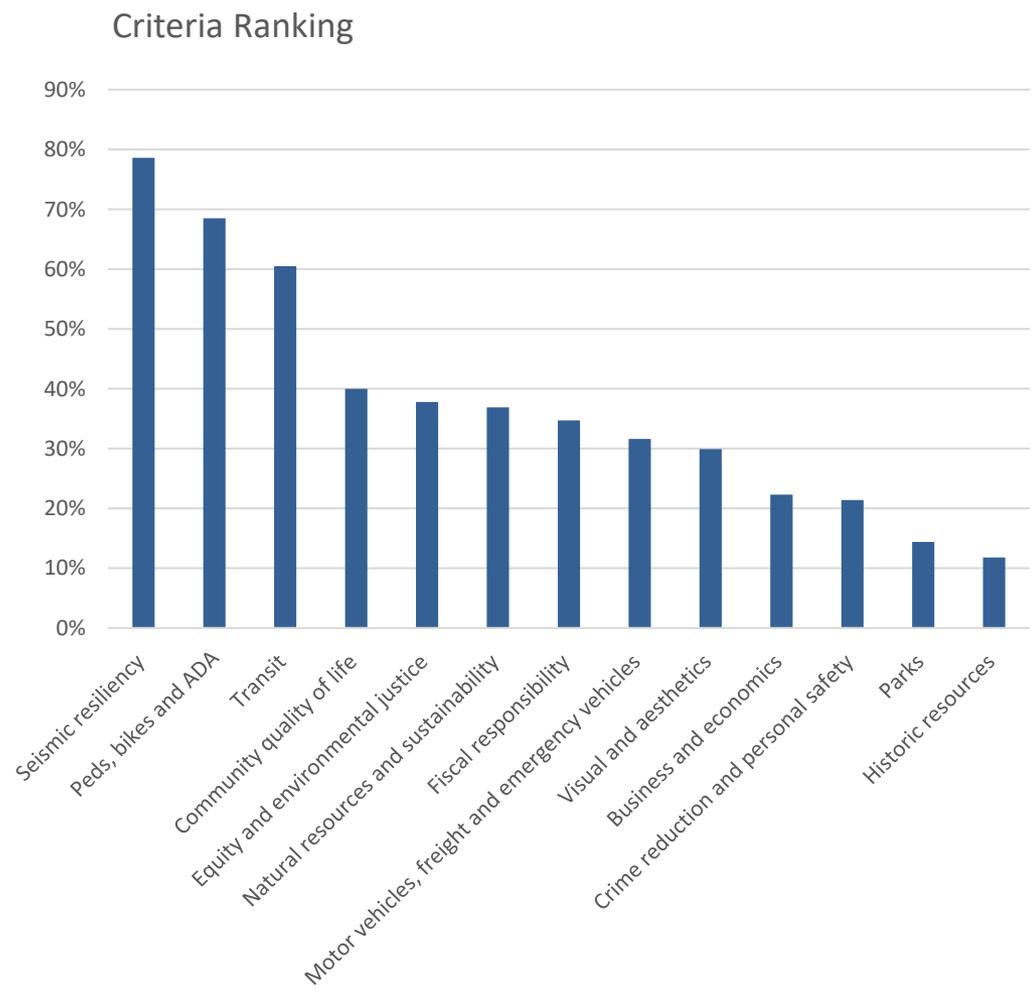
Summer/Fall Outreach

Early Results – Key Themes

Draft Criteria

Which criteria topics are of most importance to you (chose top five)?

- **Seismic Resiliency**
- **Peds, Bikes, and ADA**
- **Transit**
- **Community Quality of life**
- **Equity and Environmental Justice**



Summer/Fall Outreach

Early Results – Key Themes

Draft Criteria

> 80% agree with the draft evaluation criteria

Topics that came up the most:

1. Bike/Ped/ADA
2. Motor vehicles
3. Transit
4. Natural resources and sustainability
5. Process
6. Visuals and aesthetics
7. Parks
8. Fiscal responsibility
9. Equity/EJ
10. Crime reduction and personal safety
11. Seismic resiliency
12. Historic resources

Transit: “The criterion regarding transit does not seem to reflect the need to enhance transit services. The term “access,” is very weak. Words like “efficiency” and “convenient” convey a stronger value toward transit.”

Process: “Seems like a lot, are they all priorities and how are they weighted?”

Seismic: “How long has Portland had bridges? How many times during their existence have Portland bridges been damaged by earthquakes of any size? How can we be even relatively sure that a new “seismically safe” bridge wouldn't also fail during a major earthquake?”

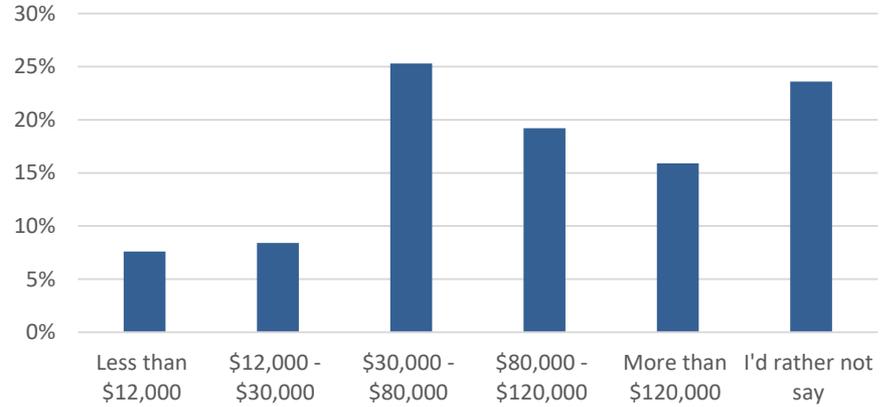


Demographics

Travel mode of survey participants

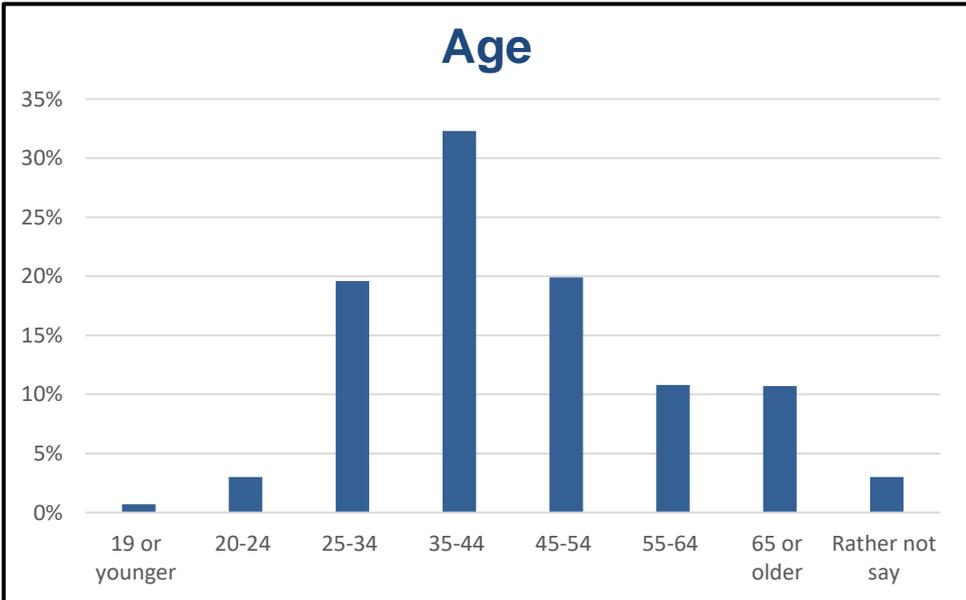
- Driving **46%**
- Biking **22%**
- Transit **15%**
- Walking **10%**

Household Income



Demographics

- ### Race/ethnicity of survey participants
- White/Caucasian **63%**
 - Asian or Pacific Islander **15%**
 - Hispanic or Latino **9%**
 - Multi-ethnic **4%**
 - Black or African American **3%**
 - American Indian or Alaska Native **1%**





CTF Discussion

- *How can we use the feedback and data to inform the study?*



Criteria and Measures Updates

Recommendations from Agency Input



Criteria and Measures Updates

Recommendations from Agency Input

Criteria Topics	
Seismic Resiliency	Historic Resources
Community Quality of Life	Visual and Aesthetics
Equity and Environmental Justice	Natural Resources, Climate Change and Sustainability
Crime Reduction and Personal Safety	Pedestrians, Bicyclists and People with Disabilities
Business and Economics	Motor Vehicles, Freight and Emergency Vehicles
Park and Recreation Resources	Transit
Fiscal Responsibility	



Policy Group Recommendations



Do you agree with the range of alternatives moving forward?

RANGE OF ALTERNATIVES

1) Enhanced Seismic Retrofit



2) Replacement: Movable Bridge



3) Replacement: Movable Bridge with Couch Connection



Includes Traffic Management Options for study with each Alternative

Full Bridge Closure



Temporary Movable Bridge



Policy Group Recommendations



Do you agree with the evaluation criteria?

Evaluation Criteria	
Seismic Resiliency	Historic Resources
Community Quality of Life	Visual and Aesthetics
Equity and Environmental Justice	Natural Resources, Climate Change and Sustainability
Crime Reduction and Personal Safety	Pedestrians, Bicyclists and People with Disabilities
Business and Economics	Motor Vehicles, Freight and Emergency Vehicles
Park and Recreation Resources	Transit
Fiscal Responsibility	



Next Steps and Closing Remarks

- 10/28: Policy Group meeting ambassador
- 11/14: County Board vote on Notice of Intent and VRF
- November 2019: Issuing the Notice of Intent and Formal Scoping
- Next CTF meeting:
 - December – *if needed*
 - February 2020
- Winter outreach planning



Thank you!

