



# Community Task Force Meeting #27

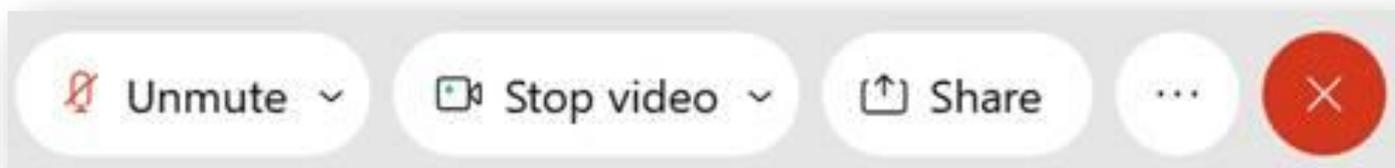
*Members join meeting via  
WebEx link in calendar invite*

*NOTE: Meeting is live to the  
public and recorded*

Multnomah County  
Department of Community Services  
Transportation Division  
October 11, 2021

# Meeting Protocols

## Using WebEx participation features



*For WebEx tech support call or email Bri Dunn:*

*503.727.3972*

*Brianna.Dunn@hdrinc.com*



# Agenda

1. Welcome, Introductions, and Housekeeping
2. Public Comment
3. Workplan Update
4. Review Preferred Alternative Refinements
5. Open Discussion
6. Next Steps



# Introductions and Roll Call

## Community Task Force

- **Amy Rathfelder**, Portland Business Alliance
- **Art Graves**, Multnomah County Bike and Pedestrian Citizen Advisory Committee
- **Dennis Corwin**, Portland Spirit
- **Ed Wortman**, Community Member
- **Frederick Cooper**, Laurelhurst Neighborhood Emergency Team and Laurelhurst Neighborhood Association
- **Gabe Rahe**, Burnside Skate Park
- **Howie Bierbaum**, Portland Saturday Market
- **Jackie Tate**, Community Member
- **Jane Gordon**, University of Oregon
- **Jennifer Stein**, Central City Concern
- **Marie Dodds**, AAA of Oregon
- **Neil Jensen**, Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce
- **Paul Leitman**, Oregon Walks
- **TBD**, Old Town Community Association
- **Peter Finley Fry**, Central Eastside Industrial Council
- **Sharon Wood Wortman**, Community Member
- **Stella Funk Butler**, Coalition of Gresham Neighborhood Associations
- **Susan Lindsay**, Buckman Community Association
- **Tesia Eisenberg**, Mercy Corps
- **William Burgel**, Portland Freight Advisory Committee

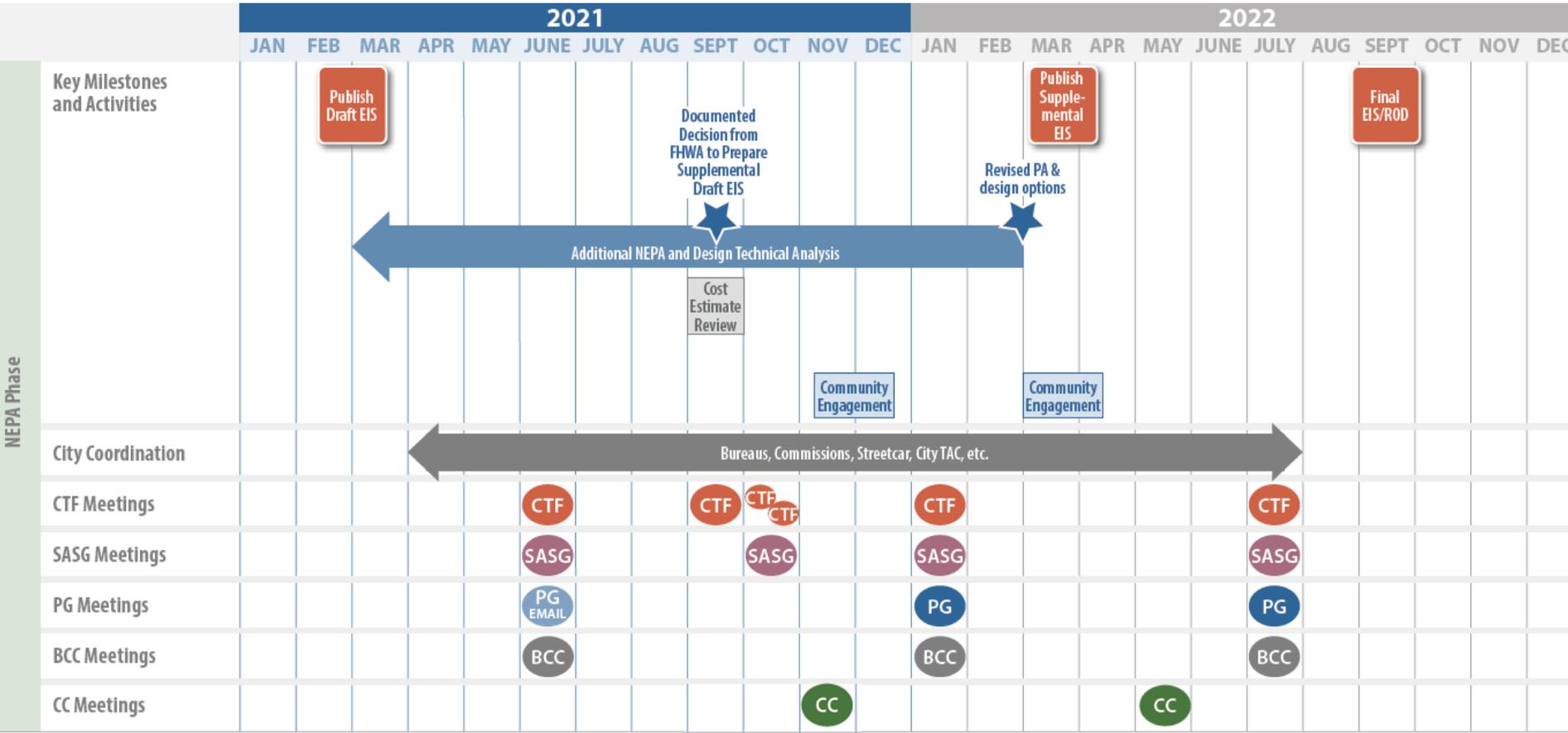






# Workplan Update

# Updated Schedule & Workplan



**Legend:** BCC - Board of County Commissioners    CC - City Council    CTF - Community Task Force    EIS - Environmental Impact Statement    PA - Preferred Alternative  
 PG - Policy Group    RTP - Regional Transportation Plan    SASG - Senior Agency Staff Group    TAC - Technical Advisory Committee



# Decision Process



Meetings	CTF	Policy Group	Board of County Comm.	City Council	Key Question
Oct 11, '21 (TODAY)	✓				What additional information do you need to make a preliminary recommendation on the package of Preferred Alternative refinements at the next CTF meeting?
Oct 25, '21	✓				Do you recommend the package of Preferred Alt refinements to be referenced as part of the Online Open House?
January '22	✓				Do you recommend advancing the Revised PA to the Policy Group for approval?
January '22 Policy Group		✓			Do you approve the Revised PA?
February '22 County Commissioners			✓		Do you adopt the Revised PA?
April '22 City Council				✓	Do you adopt including the Revised PA in the Metro Regional Transportation Plan amendment?





# Preferred Alternative Refinements



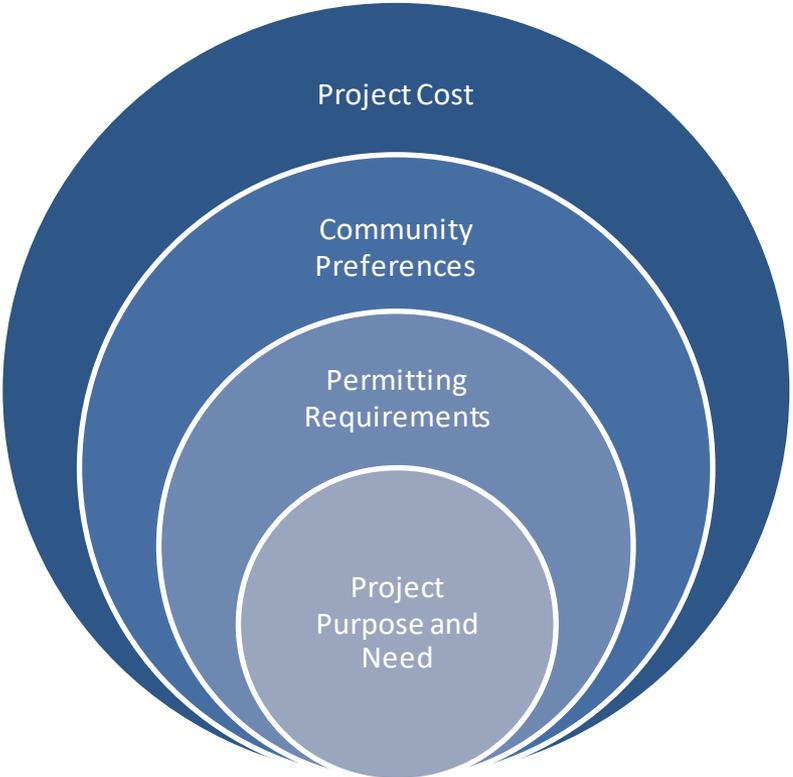
# Why are we revising the Preferred Alternative?

## Key Drivers

The Preferred Alternative is being revised to define a different scenario than was assumed in the DEIS

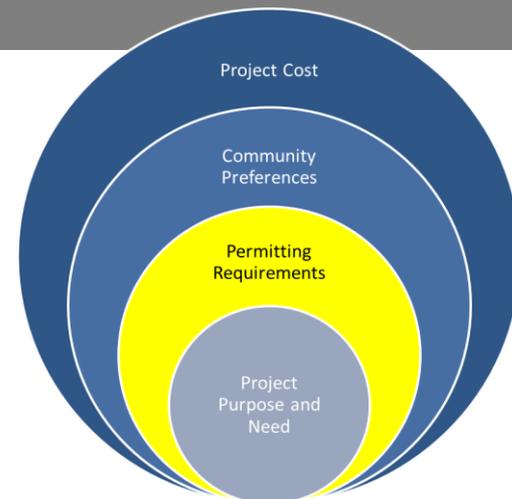
### Why?

- To reduce the overall Project costs
- To respond to new input from regulatory agencies
- To study a different set of environmental impacts
- To capitalize on the opportunity to make Type Selection decisions within the NEPA documents



# Permitting Requirements

## Why do the NEPA findings and future permitting influence Project decisions?



- NEPA requires that EISs demonstrate that the preferred alternative complies with federal environmental regulations
  - **National Historic Preservation Act** – mitigation for adverse effects
  - **Federal Transportation Act Section 4(f) (parks and historic resources)** – must select the least harm alternative
  - **Endangered Species Act** – avoid jeopardy
  - **Clean Water Act** (river and navigation channel impacts) – Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative
  - **Rivers and Harbors Act** (bridges and navigation) – USCG approval



# Preferred Alternative Refinements

Revised Preferred Alternative Refinements	Why?	CTF Recommendation on 10/25?
<b>1. Bridge width:</b> Reduced by approx. 26 feet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost savings</li> </ul>	✓
<b>2. Vehicle Lanes:</b> Reduced from 5 to 4 vehicular lanes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost savings</li> </ul>	✓
<b>Lane Configurations:</b> 4 Options under consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimize traffic impact</li> </ul>	City decision
<b>3. Bike / Ped Space:</b> Reduced from 20' to 15.5' (or 17')	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost savings</li> </ul>	✓
<b>4. West Approach bridge type:</b> Reduced to only the Girder type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regulatory permitting</li> <li>• Cost savings</li> </ul>	✓
<b>5. Movable span bridge type:</b> Select either Lift or Bascule type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regulatory permitting</li> <li>• Community preference</li> <li>• Cost savings</li> </ul>	✓
<b>6. East Span Bridge Type:</b> Dismiss Truss (Tied Arch and Cable Stayed types advanced to Design Phase)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community preference</li> </ul>	✓
<b>Eastside column location for Tied Arch:</b> Advancing option west of NE 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regulatory permitting</li> <li>• Cost savings</li> </ul>	County decision
<b>ADA Connections to Bridge:</b> Advance stairs and elevators (dismiss Ramps)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimize cost</li> </ul>	County decision



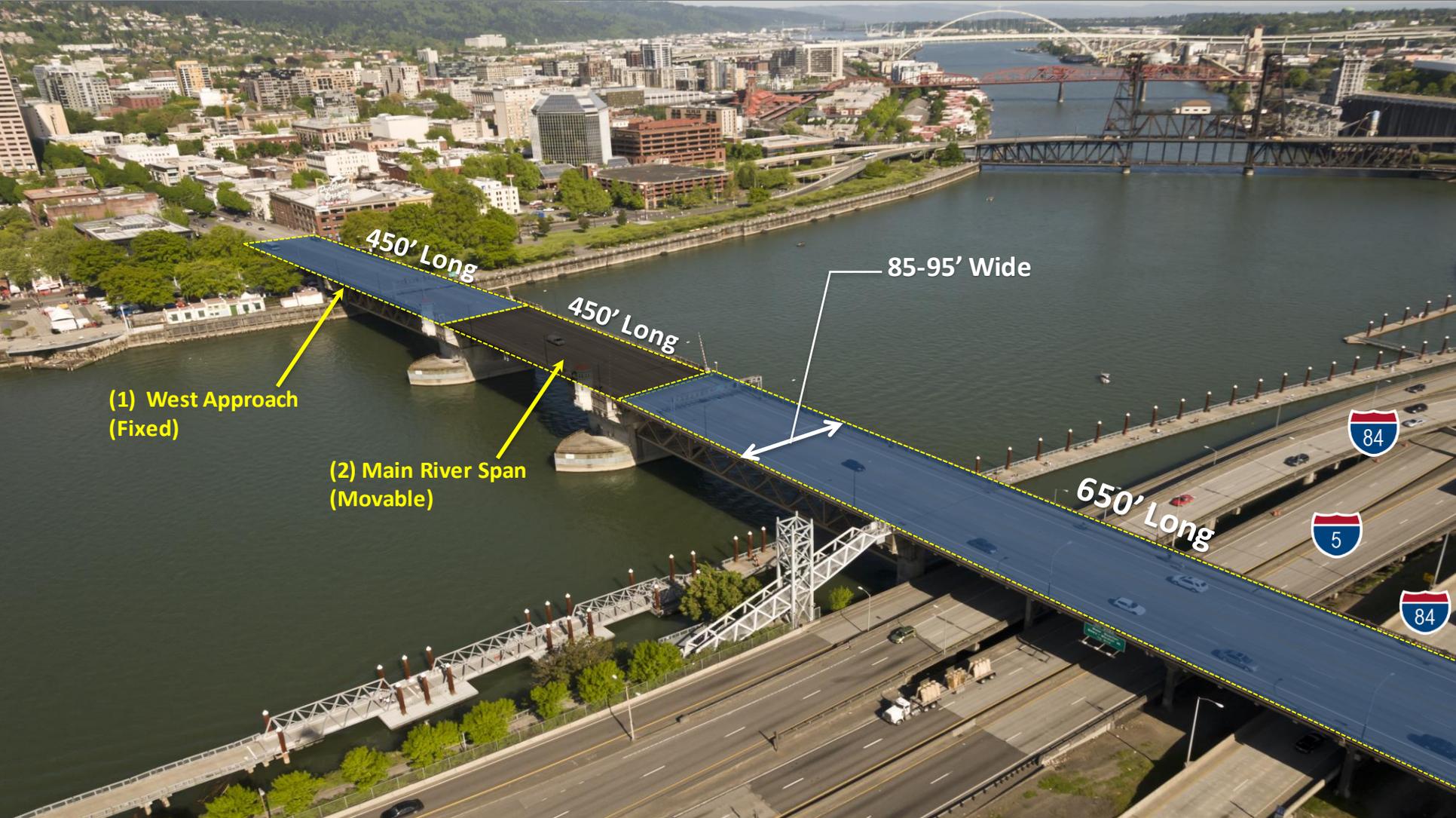


# West Approach Bridge Type



# Long-span Alternative

“Three bridges in one”



(1) West Approach  
(Fixed)

(2) Main River Span  
(Movable)

450' Long

450' Long

85-95' Wide

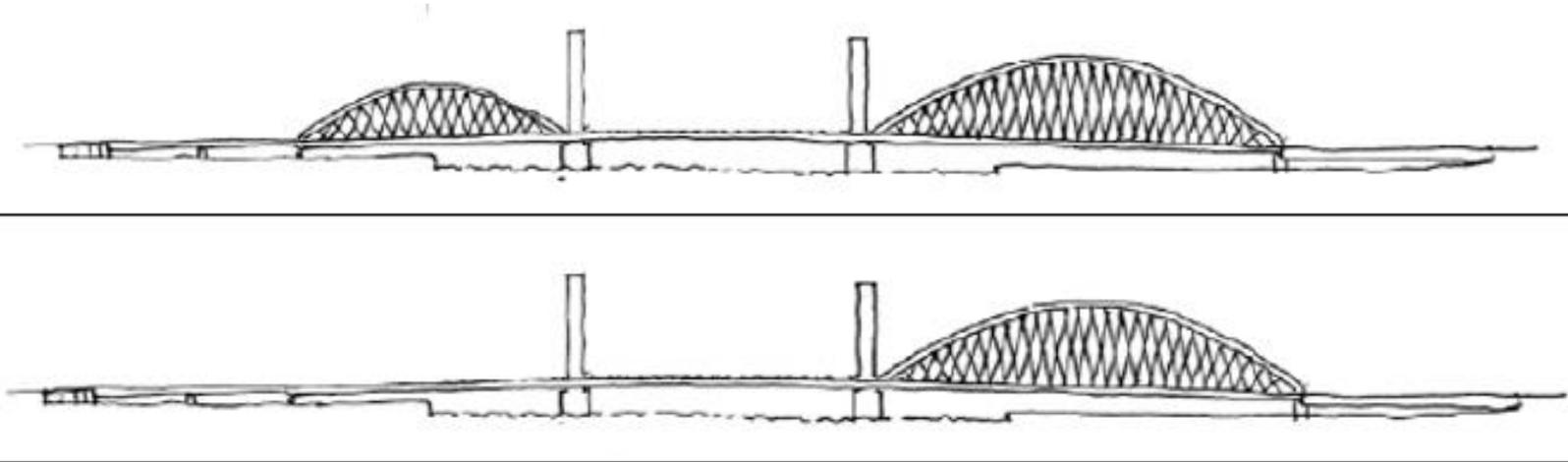
650' Long



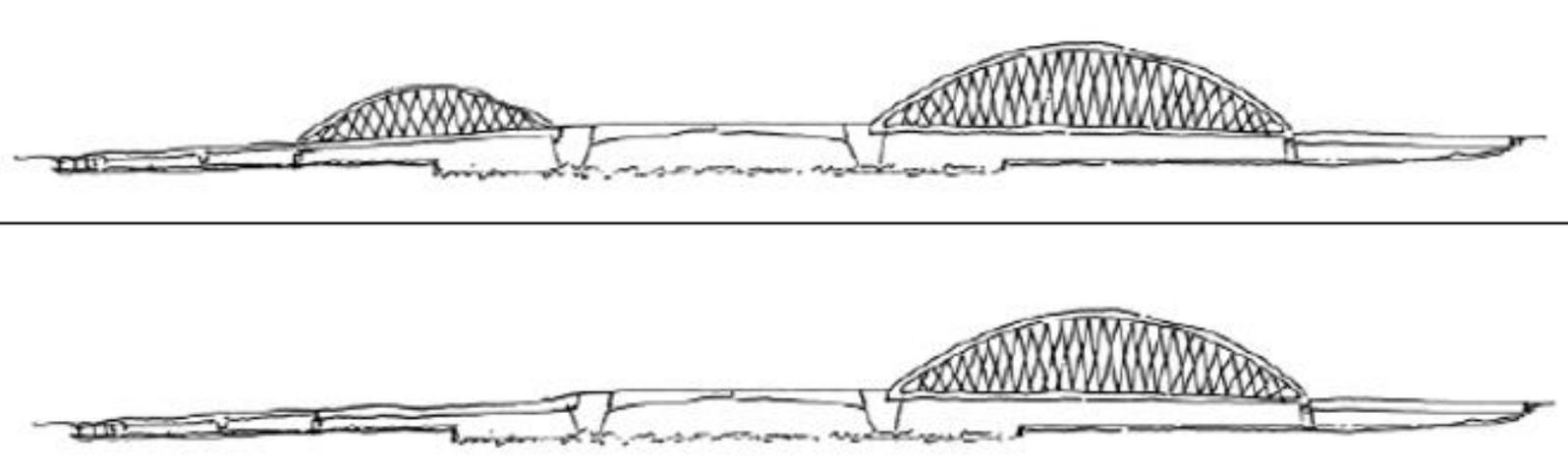
# Range of Long Span Bridge Types

## Tied Arch: West Approach Variations

Lift  
Options



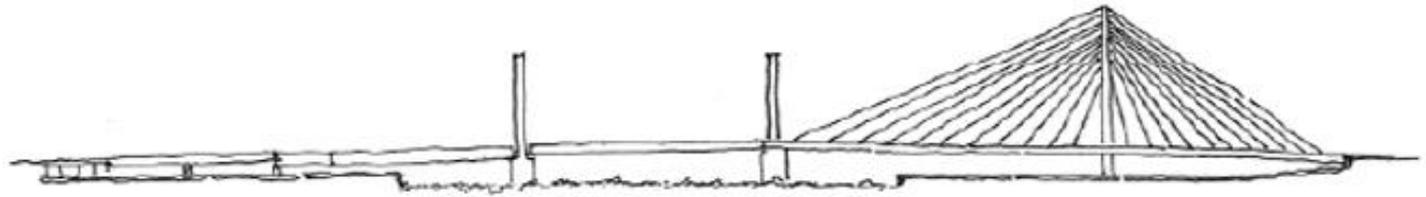
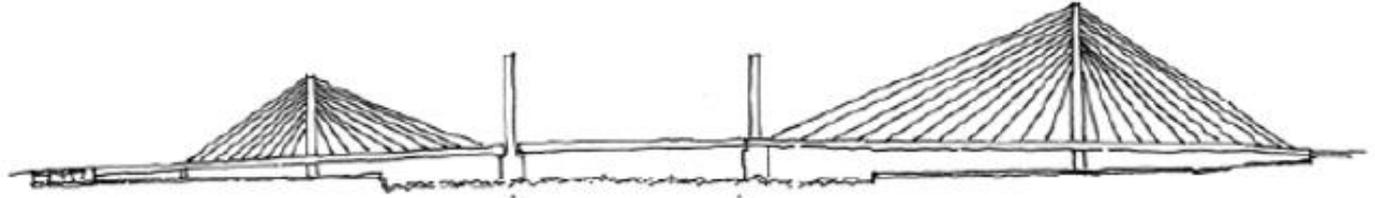
Bascule  
Options



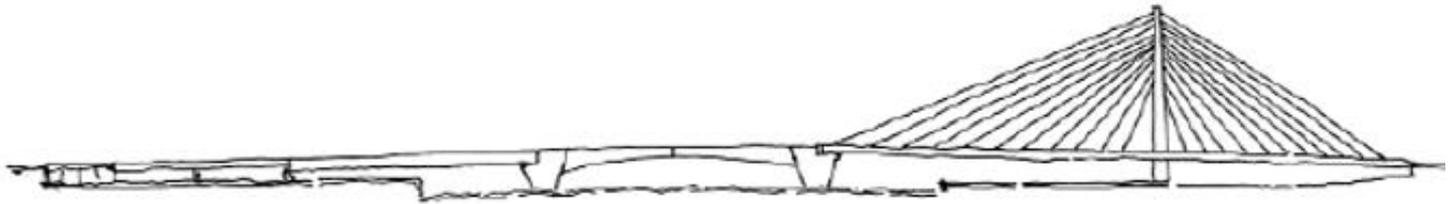
# Range of Long Span Bridge Types

## Cable Supported: West Approach Variations

Lift  
Options

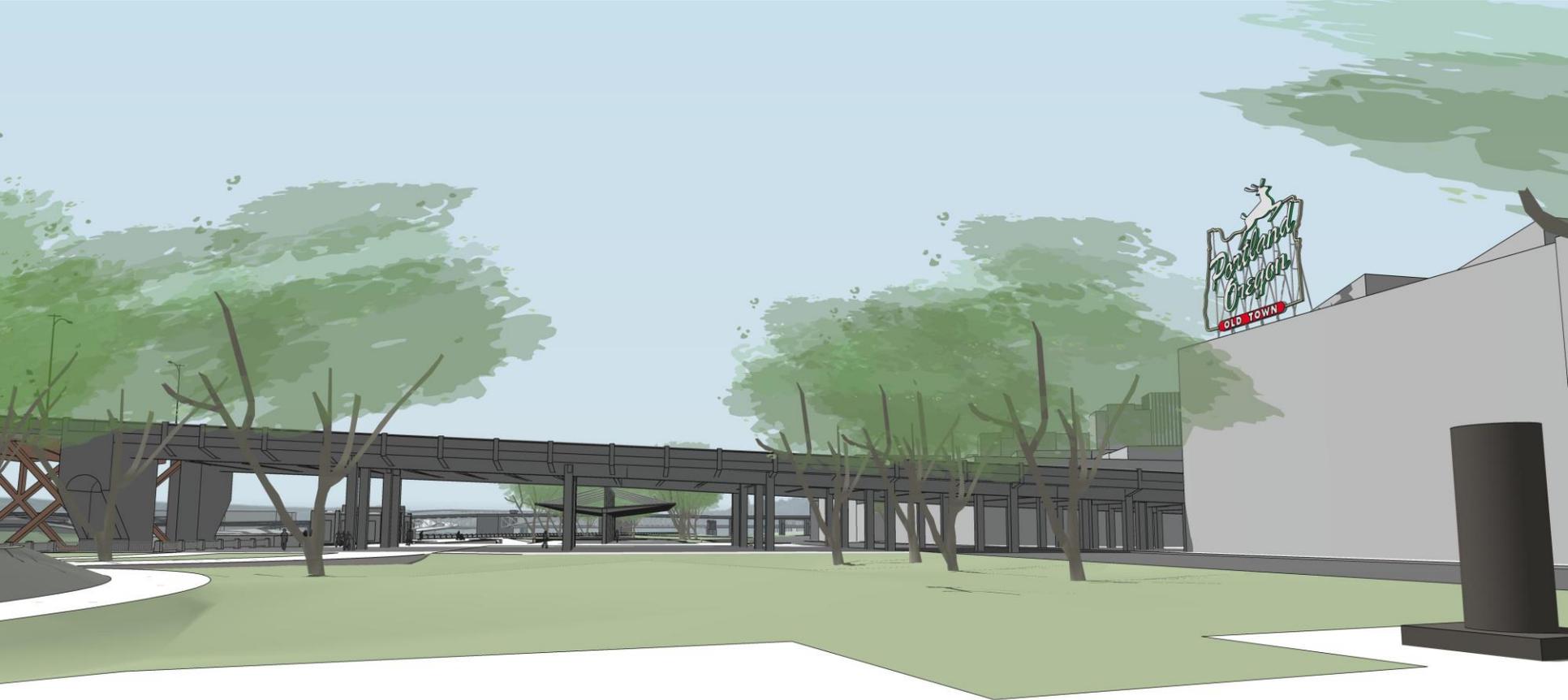


Bascule  
Options



# West Approach

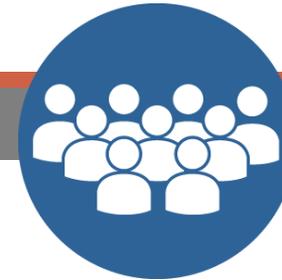
## Existing Girder Bridge



# Long-span Approach Options in the DEIS

Replacement Long Span is the Recommended Preferred Alternative

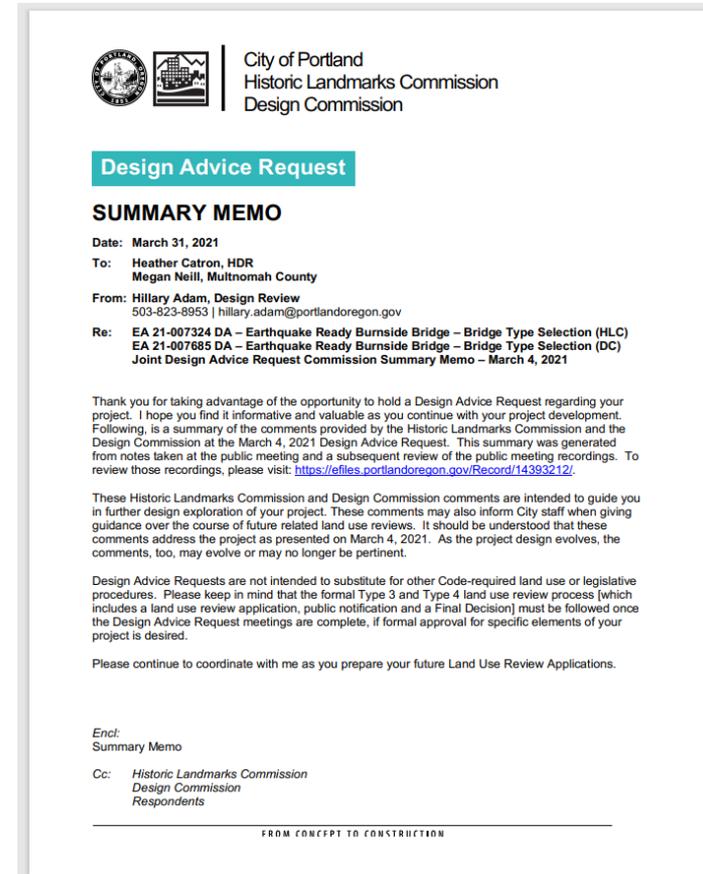




# West Approach Bridge Type

## Assessment

- **Permitting Requirements**
  - National Parks Service (Section 106 / 4(f) Feedback):
    - Above deck elements in the West Approach create **an Adverse Effect** on the Skidmore / Old Town Historic District that is avoided with a girder concept
  - Historic Landmarks Commission / Design Commission (DAR):
    - Due to visual impacts to historic districts, Girder-styled west approach option **best meets zoning code and historic guidelines**
    - **Preference for “observable asymmetry”** due to distinct differences in urban fabric on west and east sides
- **Cost:**
  - Modified girder option is **\$20-40M less expensive** than any above deck option

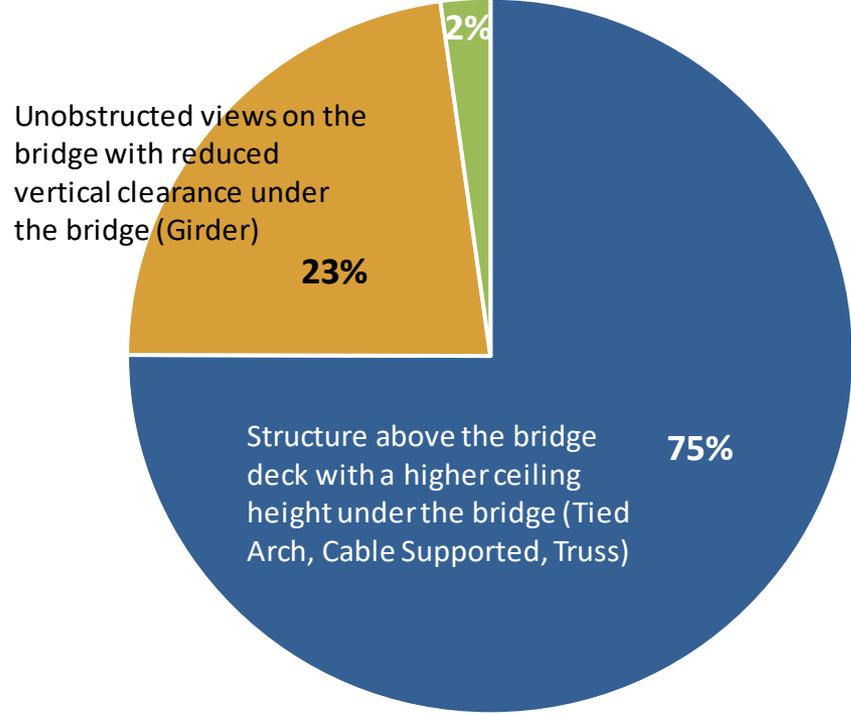
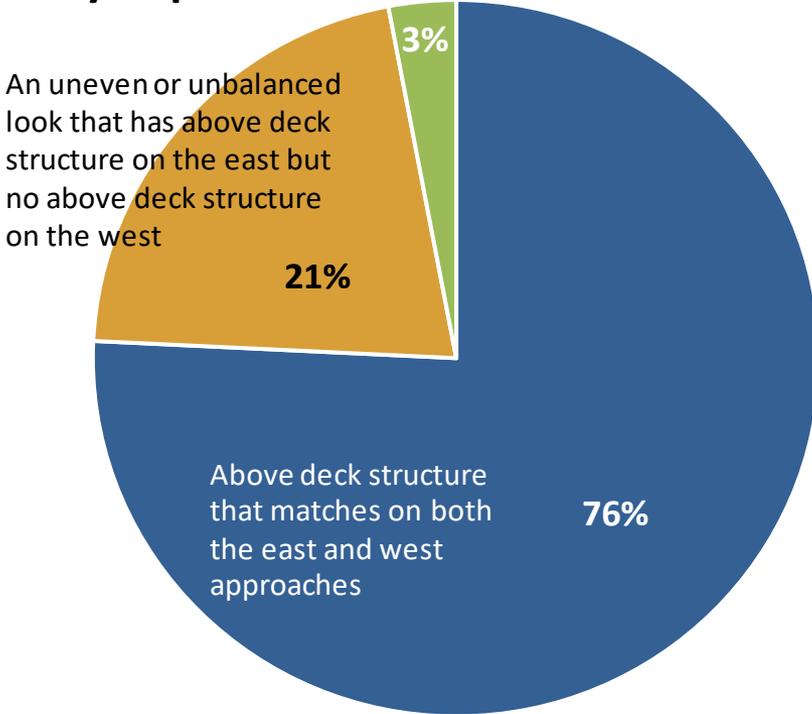


# West Approach Bridge Type

## Assessment

- Community Preferences (1,676 responses from early 2021):

**QUESTION:** For the WEST APPROACH SPAN, if you had to choose, which bridge type features would you prefer?



# UDAWG Input (Mtg on 9/29/21)

## Assessment

- **Revised Girder Option Response:**
  - No opposition vocalized
  
- **UDAWG Mtg Quotes:**
  - *With the girder approach, “the bascule makes the asymmetry work well”*



# West Approach Bridge Type

County Recommendation: West Approach Girder for all Bridge Compositions





# Movable Span Bridge Type



# Existing Willamette River Bridges



## Downtown Portland Area



1 Fremont Bridge



2 Broadway Bridge



3 Steel Bridge



4 Burnside Bridge



5 Morrison Bridge



6 Hawthorne Bridge



7 Marquam Bridge



8 Tilikum Crossing



9 Ross Island Bridge



# Range of Bridge Types

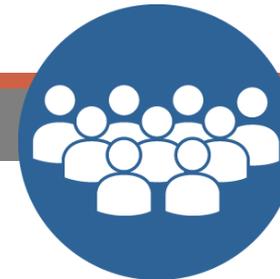
## Movable Span

### Lift



### Bascule





# Movable Span Bridge Type

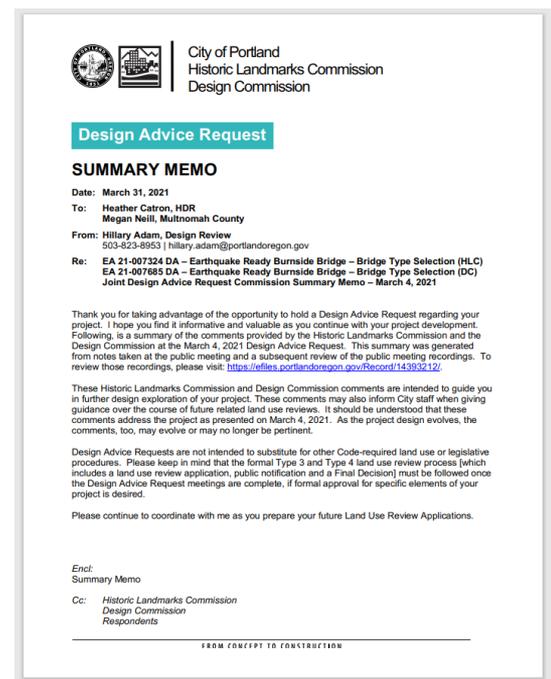
## Assessment

- **Permitting Requirements**

- National Parks Service (Section 106 / 4(f) Feedback):
  - NPS recommends the bascule option to complement the Skidmore / Old Town Historic District
- Historic Landmarks Commission / Design Commission (DAR):
  - Bascule movable bridge option **minimizes impacts to views**
  - **Preference for “observable asymmetry”** due to distinct differences in urban fabric on west and east sides
  - East Approach Bridge Type Input:
    - Cable Supported option offers similar scale and visual cohesion to east side building heights
    - Cable Supported option offers more transparency

- **Cost:**

- Bascule is **\$25-35M less expensive** than the Lift Option

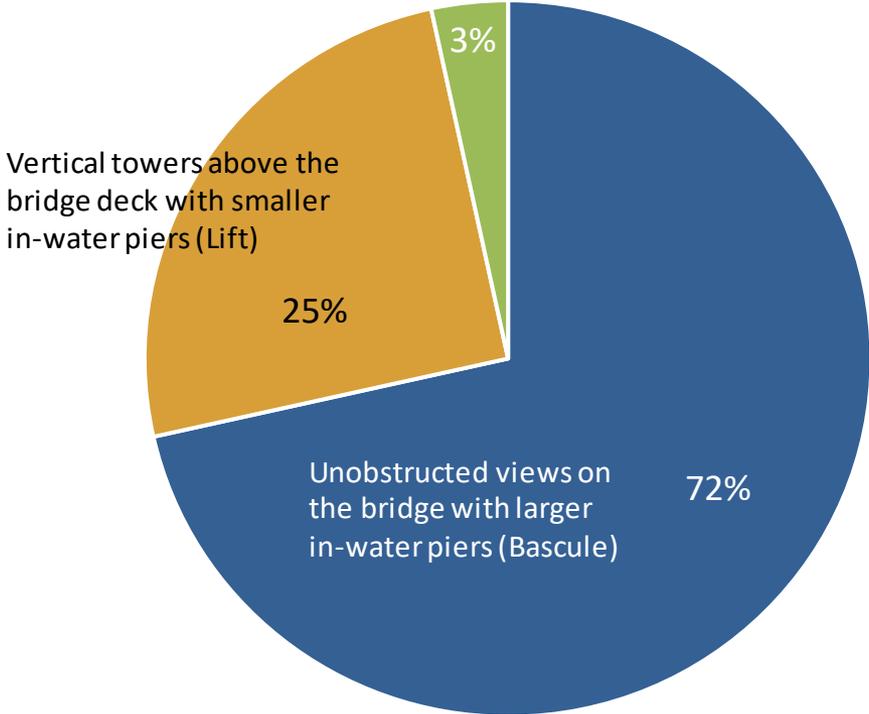


# Movable Span Bridge Type

## Assessment

- Community Preferences (1,676 responses from early 2021):

**QUESTION:** For the MOVABLE SPAN, if you had to choose, what would you prefer?



## Key Words and Phrases

### 1. Human Experience & Bridge Surroundings

- Clear views in all directions
- Bridge surface for public events
- Intrinsic gateway and a sense of arrival to and from bridge
- Enhanced on-bridge experience
- Enhanced in-water uses
- Connectivity with river from under / around the bridge
- Complements & responds to the character of the Old Town / Chinatown and Downtown neighborhoods
- Complements & responds to the character of Kerns and Buckman neighborhoods and Central Eastside Industrial District
- Complements and responds to the character of the existing Willamette River bridges, while being distinctive in its own right



# Type Selection Evaluation Criteria

## Key Words and Phrases

### 2. Overall Look and Feel of the Bridge

- Creates a look of balance, unity, and flow from multiple viewpoints
- Balance the desire for a minimized visual mass, especially in the river, while providing seismic stability and reliability
- Capture elements of the existing historic bridge
- Reflect the best practices in modern technologies, engineering, and architecture
- An identifiable beacon of safety, a landmark, and a destination within the city during the day and after dark
- Enhances the natural environment



## Key Words and Phrases

### 3. Cost and Construction Impacts to Users

- Minimize Total Project cost to plan, design, and construct the bridge
- Minimize long-term costs and support future needs after construction
- Minimize impacts to the traveling public and surrounding property owners / tenants during construction
- Minimize impacts to adjacent properties during construction





# **Movable Bridge Supporting Info:** ***Basic Form Bridge Views***



# Movable Span Bridge Type

View 1: From I-84 to I-5 Southbound



# Movable Span Bridge Type

View 1: From I-84 to I-5 Southbound



*Tied Arch with Bascule*



# Movable Span Bridge Type

View 1: From I-84 to I-5 Southbound



*Tied Arch with Lift*



# Movable Span Bridge Type

View 1: From I-84 to I-5 Southbound

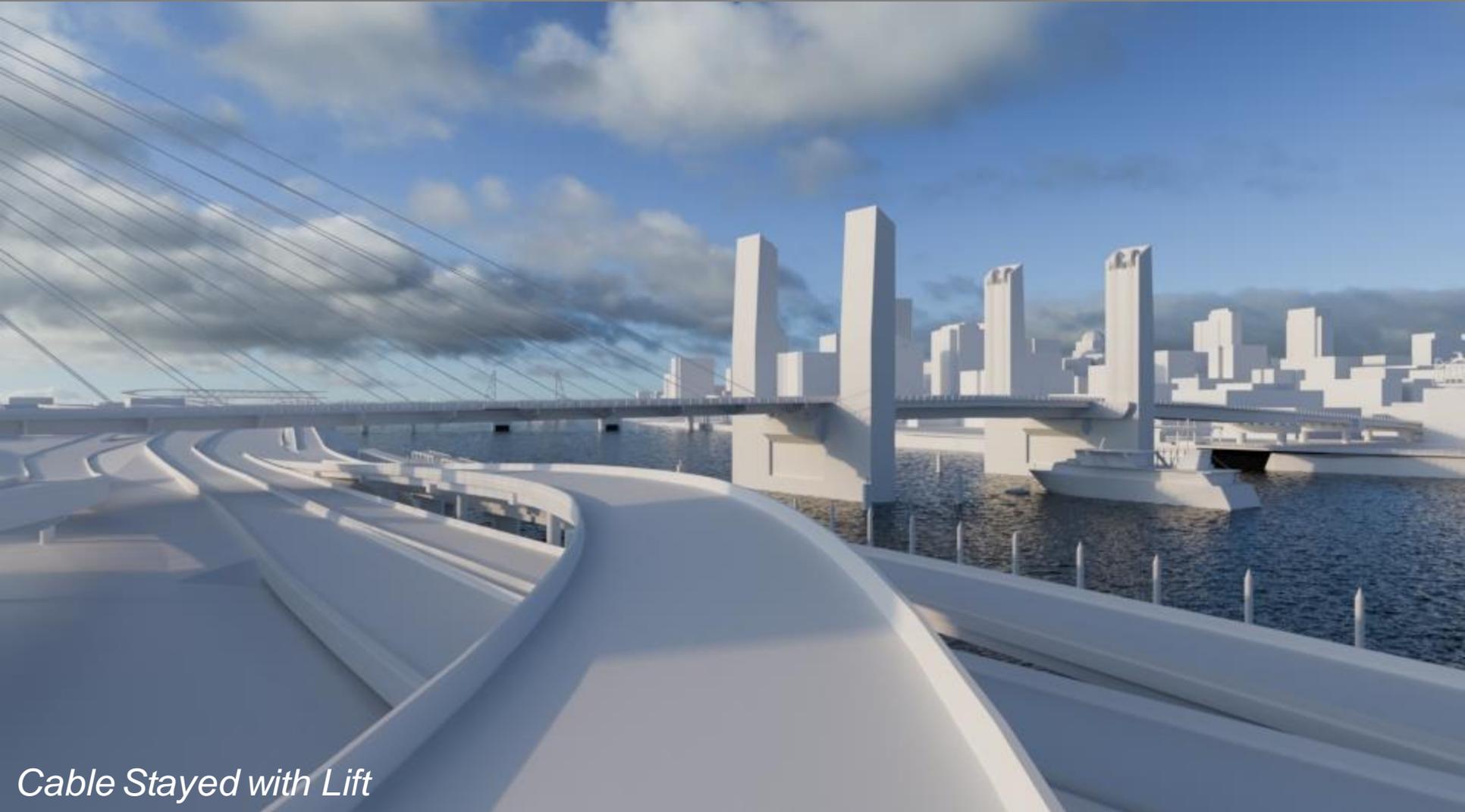


*Cable Stayed with Bascule*



# Movable Span Bridge Type

View 1: From I-84 to I-5 Southbound



*Cable Stayed with Lift*



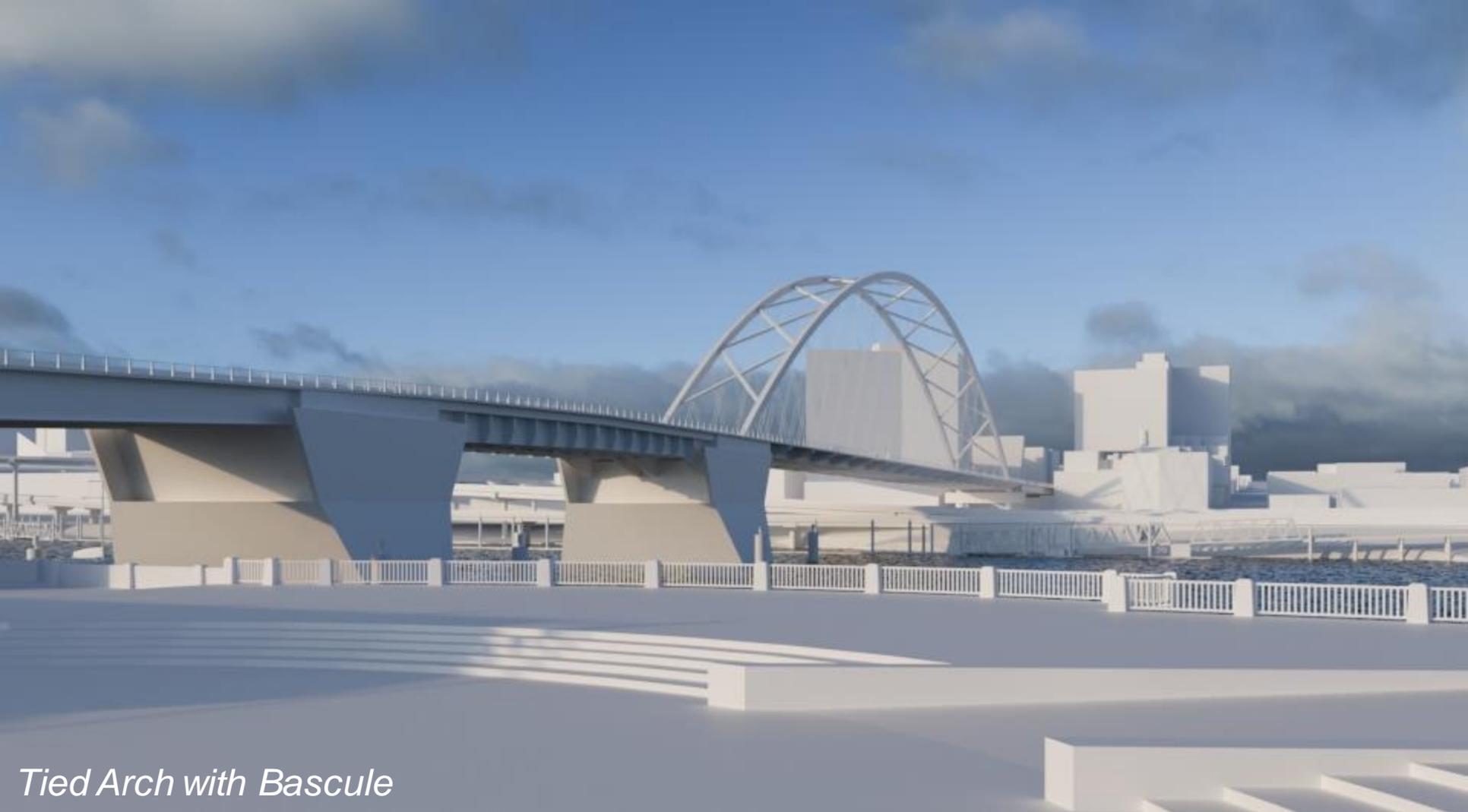
# Bridge Views: From Waterfront Park

## View 2: Looking NE from Waterfront Park



# Movable Span Bridge Type

View 2: Looking NE from Waterfront Park



*Tied Arch with Bascule*



# Movable Span Bridge Type

View 2: Looking NE from Waterfront Park



*Tied Arch with Lift*



# Movable Span Bridge Type

View 2: Looking NE from Waterfront Park



*Cable Stayed with Bascule*



# Movable Span Bridge Type

View 2: Looking NE from Waterfront Park



*Cable Stayed with Lift*



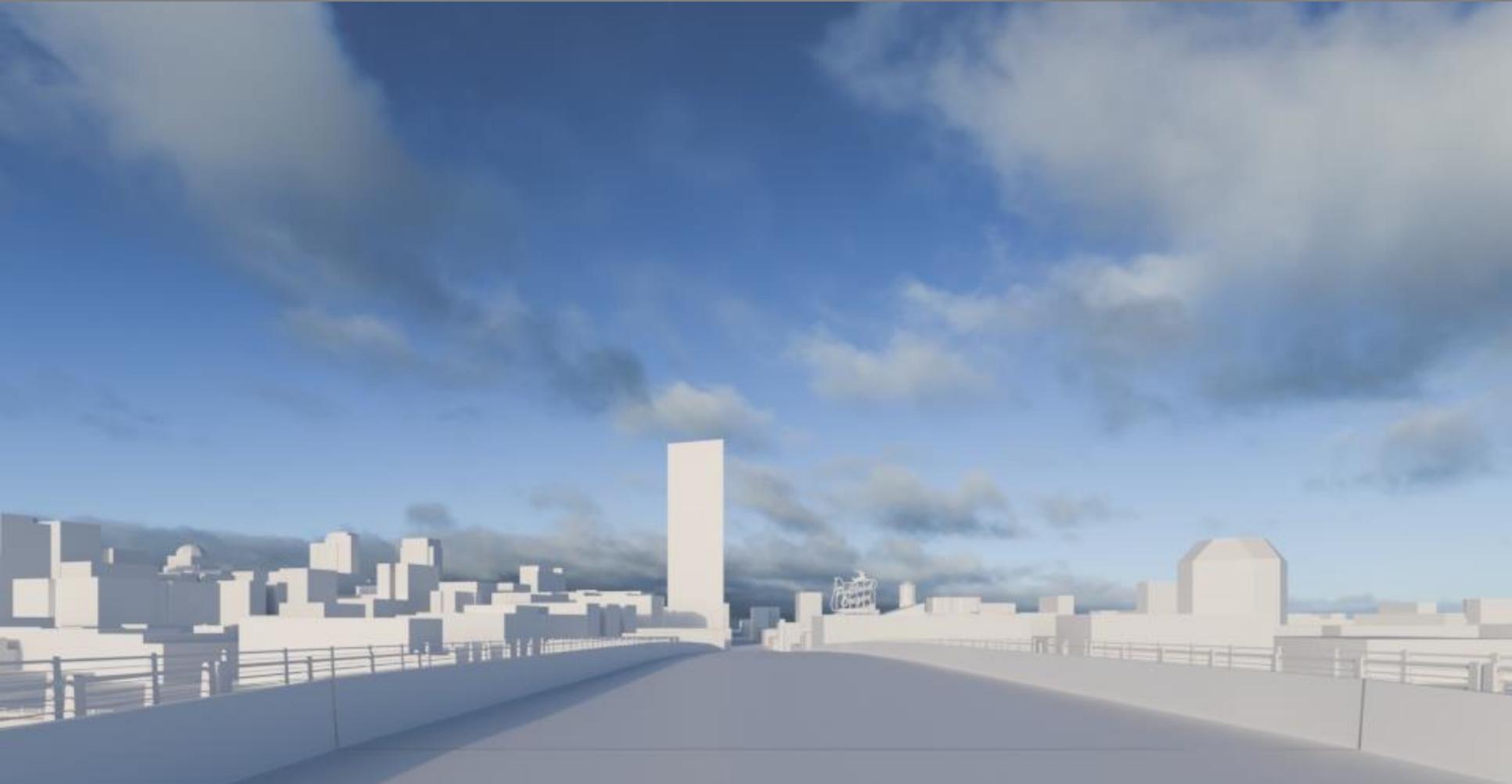
# Bridge Views

## View 3: Looking West from Burnside Bridge



# Movable Span Bridge Type

View 3: Looking West from Burnside Bridge

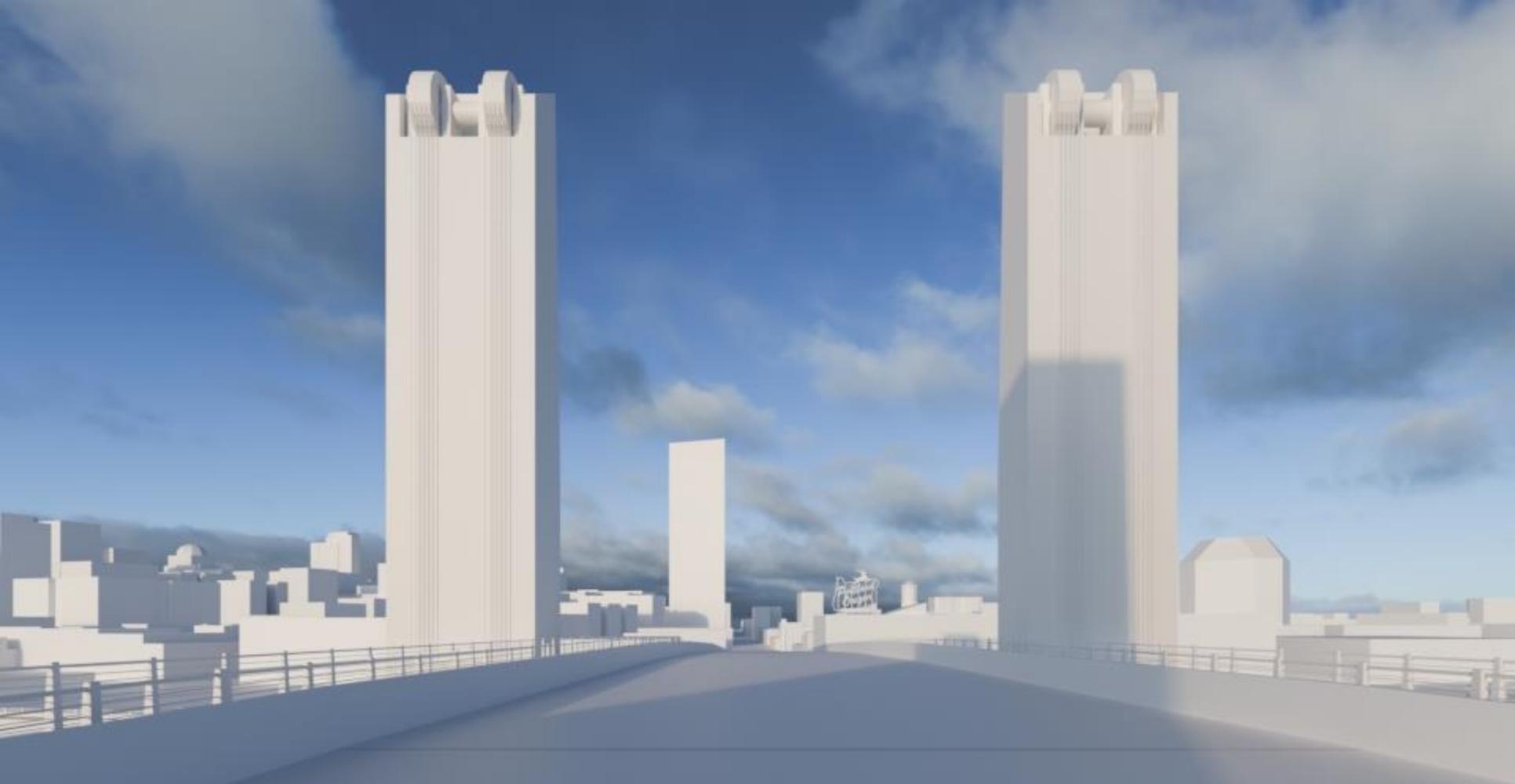


*Tied Arch with Bascule*



# Movable Span Bridge Type

View 3: Looking West from Burnside Bridge

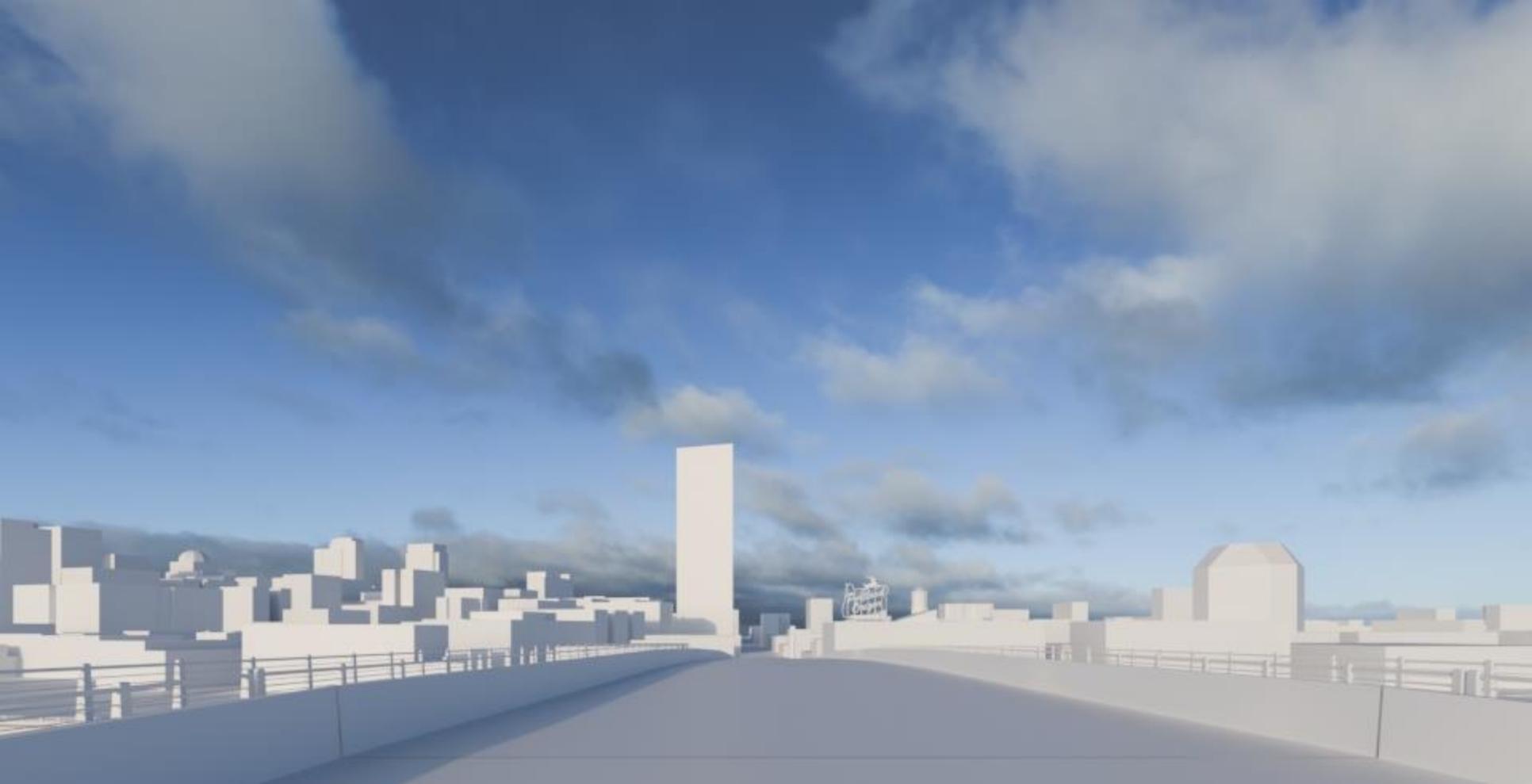


*Tied Arch with Lift*



# Movable Span Bridge Type

View 3: Looking West from Burnside Bridge



*Cable Stayed with Bascule*



# Movable Span Bridge Type

View 3: Looking West from Burnside Bridge

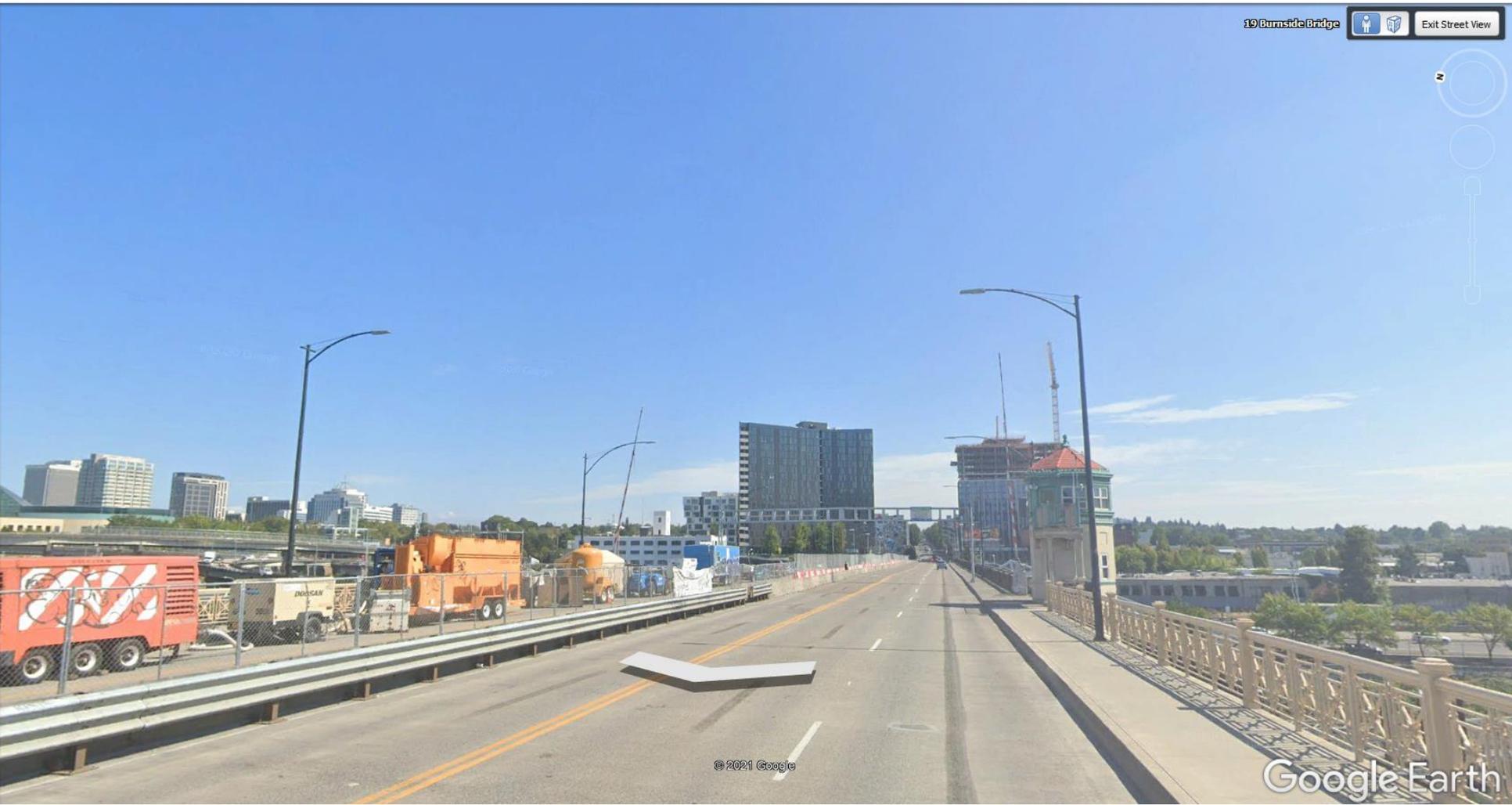


*Cable Stayed with Lift*



# Bridge Views

## View 4: Looking East from Burnside Bridge Midspan



19 Burnside Bridge   Exit Street View

© 2021 Google

Google Earth



# Movable Span Bridge Type

View 4: Looking East from Burnside Bridge Midspan



*Tied Arch with Bascule*



# Movable Span Bridge Type

View 4: Looking East from Burnside Bridge



*Tied Arch with Lift*



# Movable Span Bridge Type

View 4: Looking East from Burnside Bridge Midspan



*Cable Stayed with Bascule*



# Movable Span Bridge Type

View 4: Looking East from Burnside Bridge Midspan



*Cable Stayed with Lift*



# Bridge Views: From Waterfront Park



View 5: Looking SW from Waterfront Park



© 2021 Google

Google Earth

[Report a problem](#)



# Movable Span Bridge Type

View 5: Looking SW from Waterfront Park



*Tied Arch with Bascule*



# Movable Span Bridge Type

View 5: Looking SW from Waterfront Park



*Tied Arch with Lift*



# Movable Span Bridge Type

View 5: Looking SW from Waterfront Park



*Cable Stayed with Bascule*



# Movable Span Bridge Type

View 5: Looking SW from Waterfront Park



*Cable Stayed with Lift*



# Bridge Views

## View 6: Looking North from Morrison Bridge



# Movable Span Bridge Type

View 6: Looking North from Morrison Bridge



*Tied Arch with Bascule*



# Movable Span Bridge Type

View 6: Looking North from Morrison Bridge



*Tied Arch with Lift*



# Movable Span Bridge Type

View 6: Looking North from Morrison Bridge



*Cable Stayed with Bascule*



# Movable Span Bridge Type

View 6: Looking North from Morrison Bridge



*Cable Stayed with Lift*



# Movable Span Bridge Type

## Assessment – UDAWG Input (Mtg on 9/29/21)

- **Lift versus Bascule option Response:**
  - Zero supporters of the Lift Bridge option moving forward
- **UDAWG Meeting Quotes:**
  - *“The Lift bridge towers are completely out of scale for the size of this river and its setting. It is a non-starter.”*
  - *“The towers and lift bridge are simply too much ... too massive.”*
  - *“The lift could work well in a different setting with a different structure type framing into it; but not at this site, where the architectural event is on the east side.”*
  - *“The bascule is a better option.”*



# Movable Span Bridge Type

County Recommendation: Bascule Movable Bridge



*Bascule with Tied Arch*

**OR**

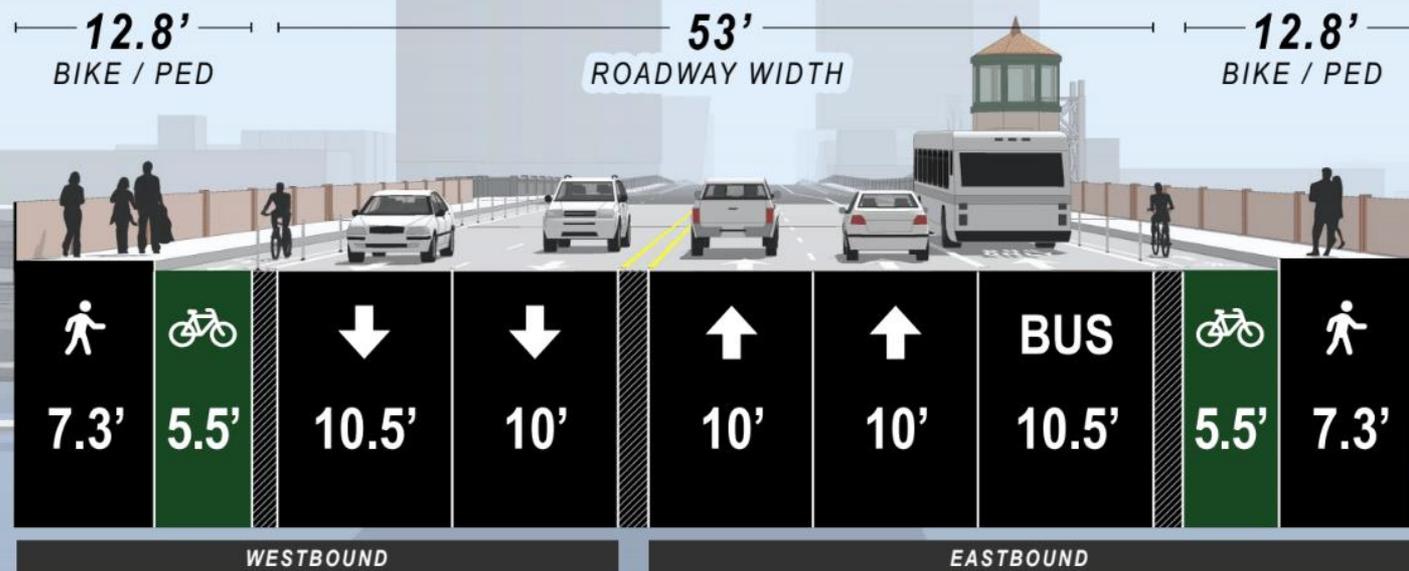
*Bascule with Cable Stayed*



# 4. Bridge Width Reduction

## Narrower Bridge

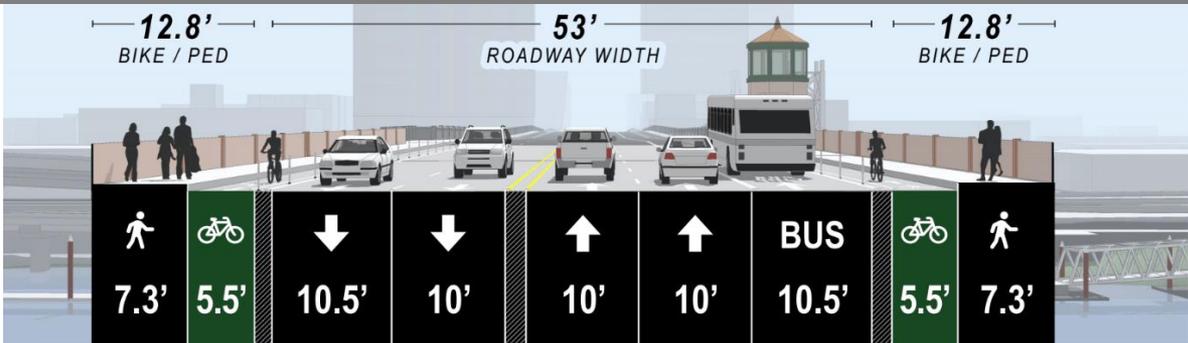
### Existing Cross Section:



# Bridge SDEIS Cross Section

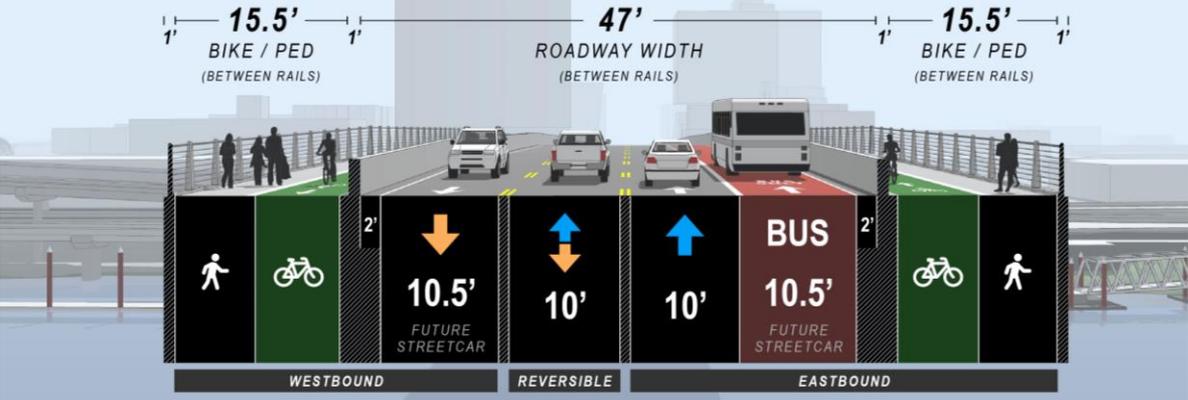
Moving some lane width to bike/ped facilities

## Existing Condition

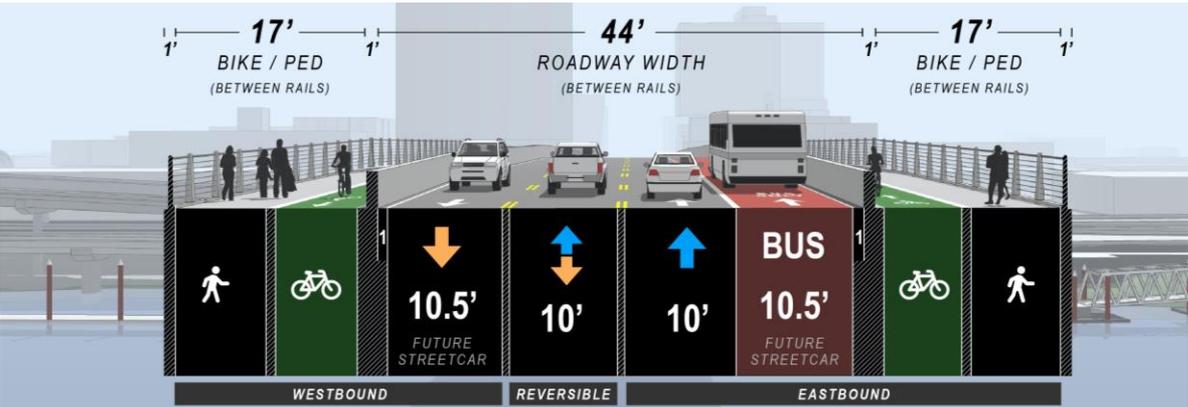


## 15.5' Bike/Ped Space

**\$140 - \$165M Savings**



## 17' Bike/Ped Space (Under consideration)



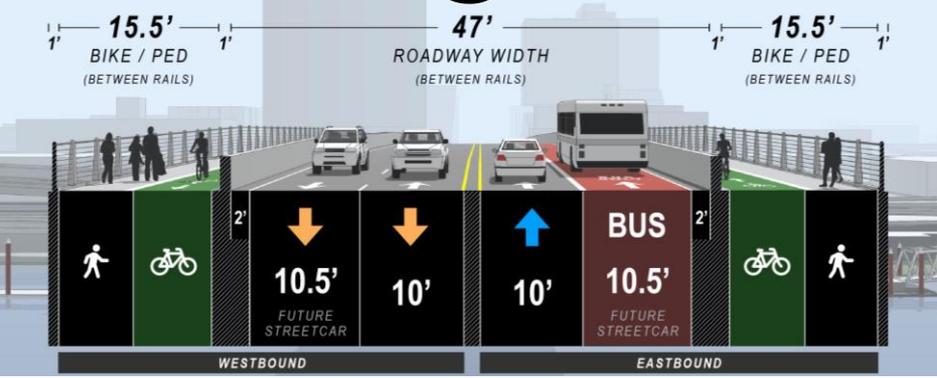
Proposed: Same overall width



# 4-Lane Traffic Configurations

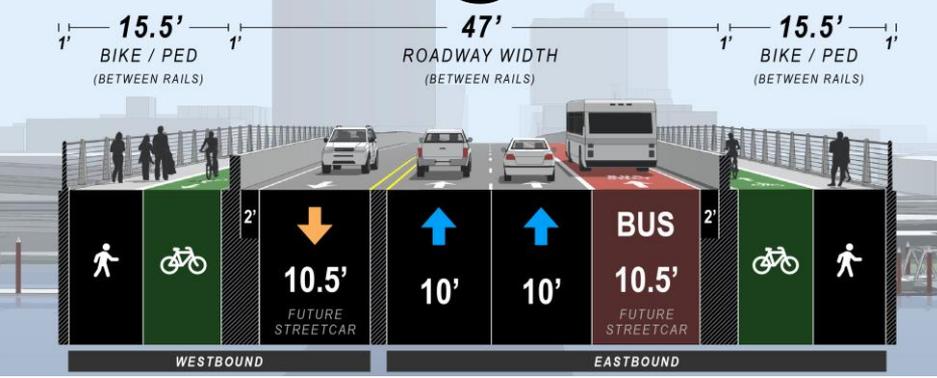
Lane Configuration is a PBOT decision

**1**



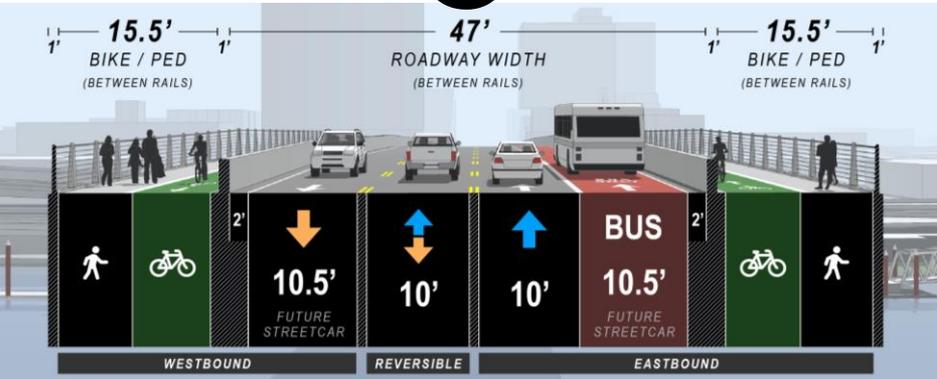
**2 WB Lanes / 1 EB + 1 Bus Lane**

**2**



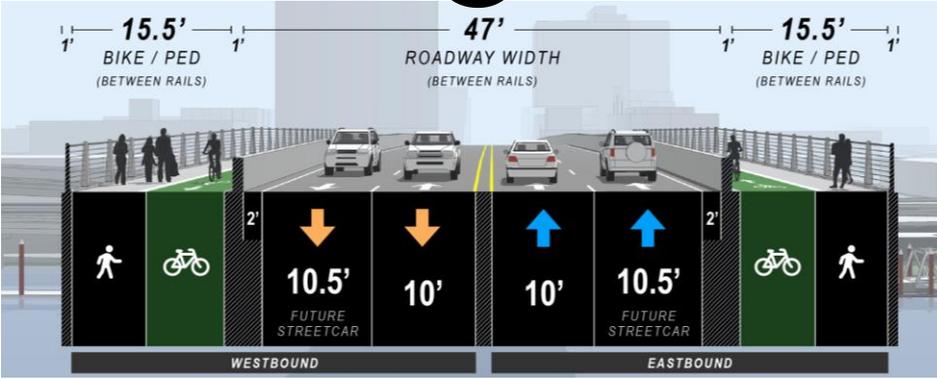
**1 WB Lane / 2 EB + 1 Bus Lane**

**3**



**Reversible Lane**

**4**



**2 WB Lanes / 2 EB Lanes (Bus queue jump)**

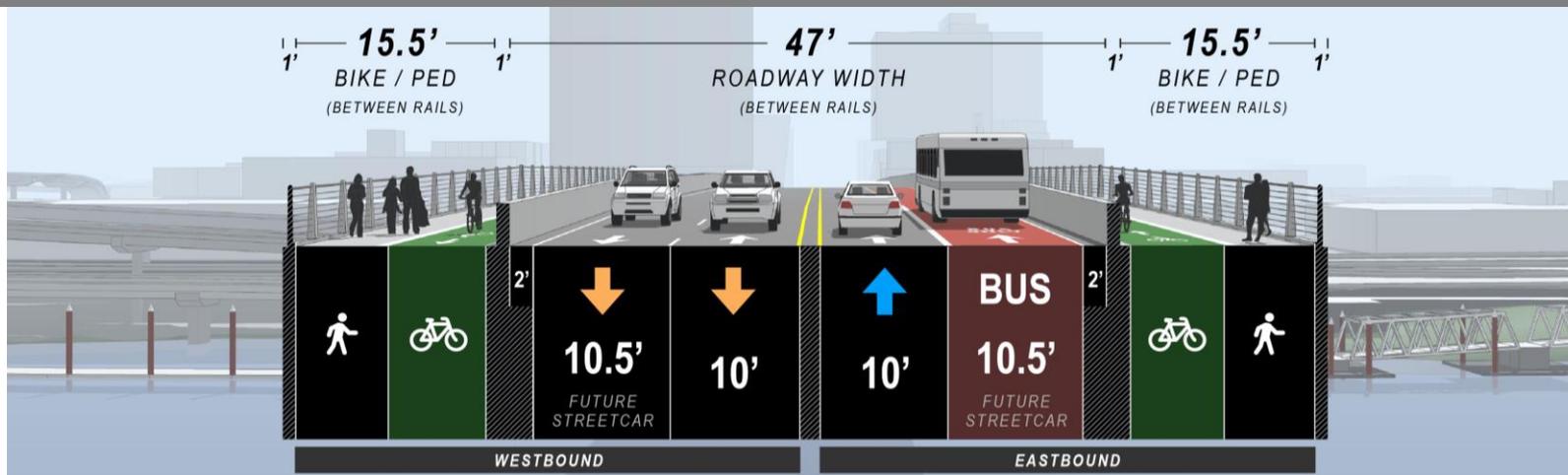


Notes: (1) Also analyzed impacts to adjacent bridges  
 (2) 15.5' bike/ped space shown; 17' bike/ped space also under consideration

# 1 Traffic Summary (With Bus Lane)

Eastbound: **Flawed**

Westbound = **Good**



## Traffic Operations:

- (+) Morning Rush Hour: Works well for traffic into downtown
- (-) Evening Rush Hour: Significant congestion and queuing out of downtown (Fatal Flaw)

## Transit Impacts:

- (+) Morning Rush Hour: Works well for traffic into downtown
- (+) Evening Rush Hour: Works well for traffic out of downtown

## Emergency Service (Fire Dept EB Service):

- (O) Acceptable for Fire Dept emergency response since traffic can pull into Bus Only lane

## City Policy:

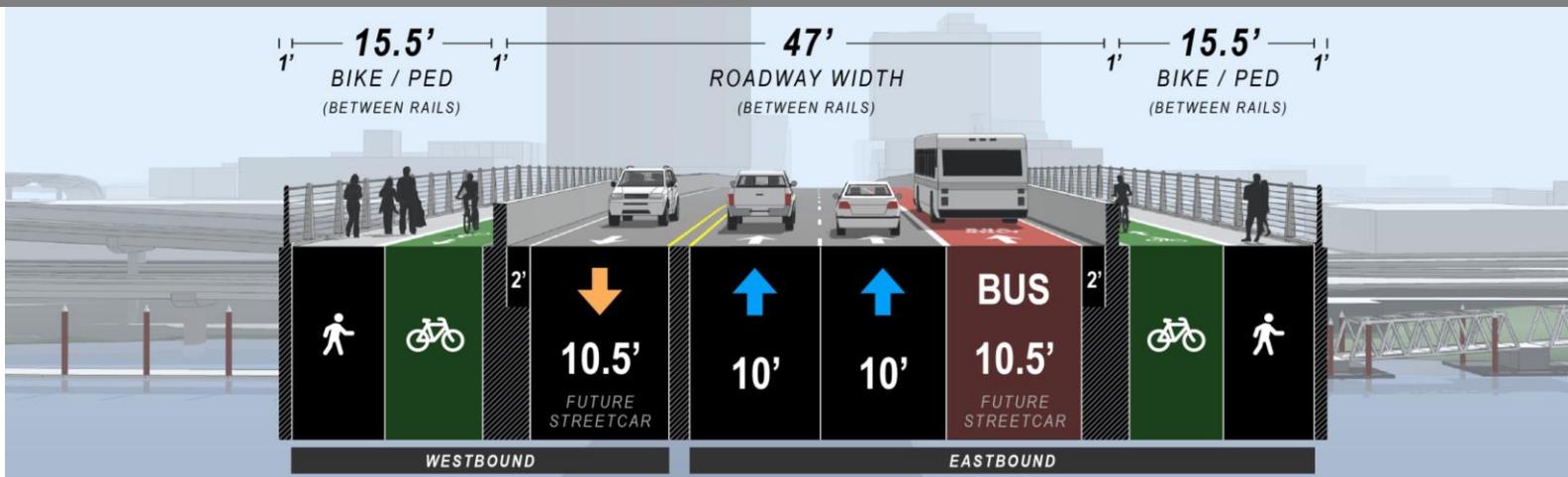
- (+) Having an EB Bus lane complies with Rose Lanes Plan and Policy 9.6 of City's Comprehensive Plan



# ② Traffic Summary (With Bus Lane)

Eastbound: **Good**

Westbound = **Bad**



## Traffic Operations:

- (-) Morning Rush Hour: Moderate congestion and queuing into downtown
- (+) Evening Rush Hour: Works Well for traffic out of downtown

## Transit Impacts:

- (-) Morning Rush Hour: Undesirable travel delays for WB morning rush hour bus service
- (+) Evening Rush Hour: Works well for traffic out of downtown

## Emergency Service (Fire Dept EB Service):

- (+) Works well for Fire Dept emergency response

## City Policy:

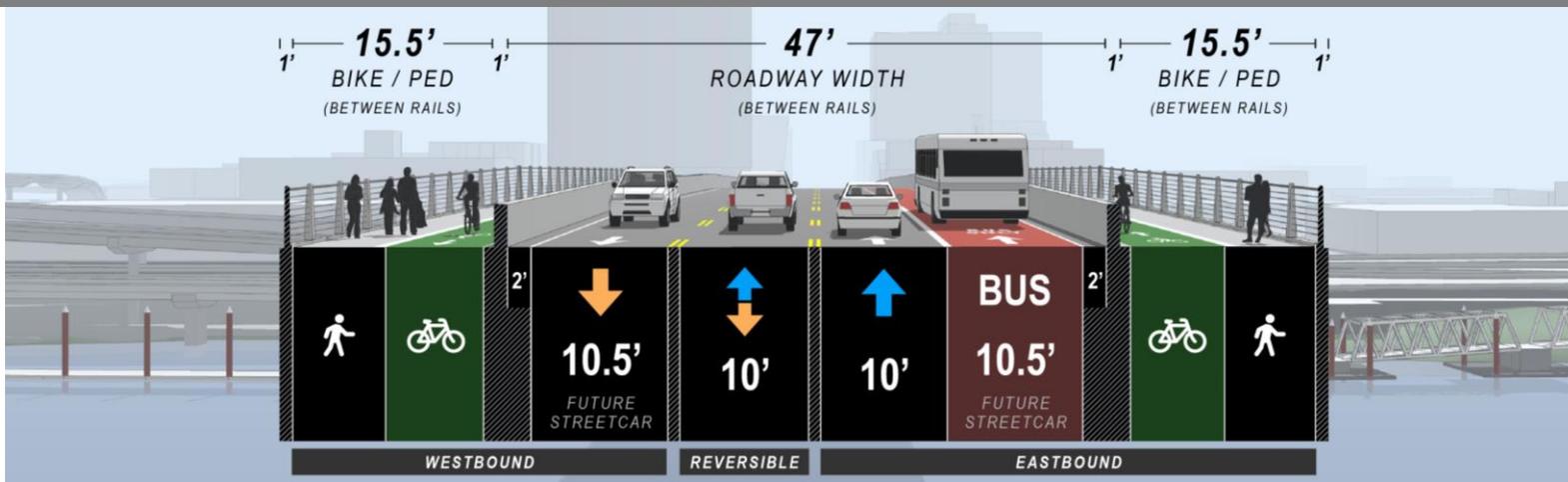
- (+) Having an EB Bus lane complies with Rose Lanes Plan and Policy 9.6 of City's Comprehensive Plan



# 3 Traffic Summary (With Bus Lane)

Eastbound: **Good**

Westbound = **Good**



## Traffic Operations:

- (+) Morning Rush Hour: Works well for traffic into downtown
- (+) Evening Rush Hour: Works Well for traffic out of downtown

## Transit Impacts:

- (+) Morning Rush Hour: Works well for traffic into downtown
- (+) Evening Rush Hour: Works well for traffic out of downtown

## Emergency Service (Fire Dept EB Service):

- (+) Works well for Fire Dept emergency response

## City Policy:

- (+) Having an EB Bus lane complies with Rose Lanes Plan and Policy 9.6 of City's Comprehensive Plan

## Note:

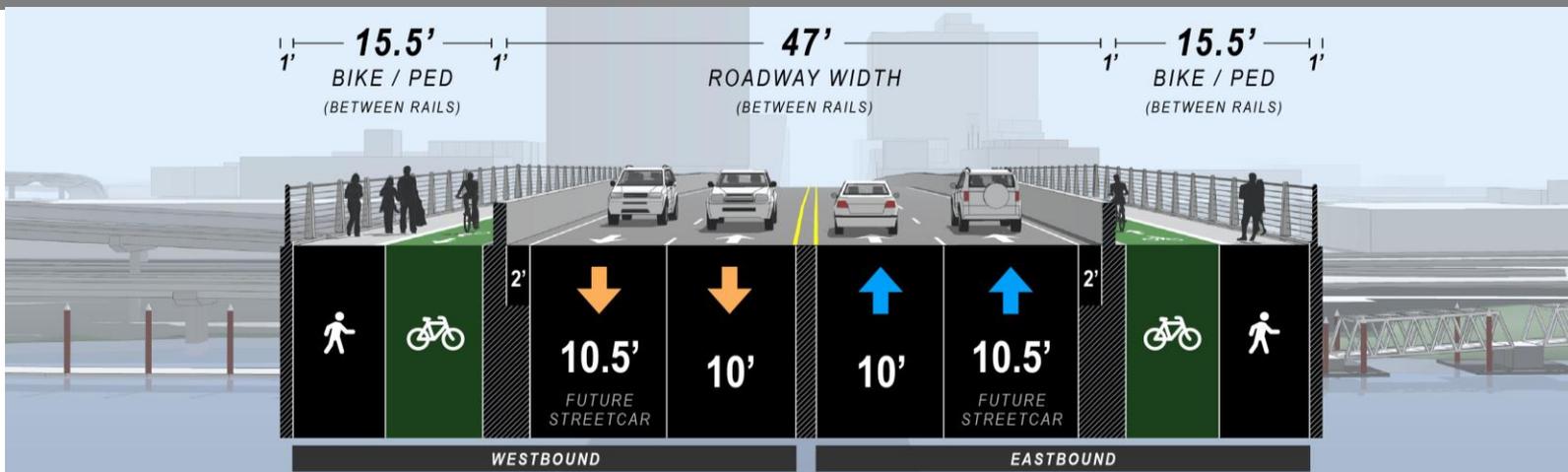
Some modest EB traffic congestion could occur in the mornings



# 4 Traffic Summary (With Bus Lane)

Eastbound: **Flawed**

Westbound = **Good**



## Traffic Operations:

- (+) Morning Rush Hour: Works well for traffic into downtown
- (+) Evening Rush Hour: Works Well for traffic out of downtown

## Note:

- Requires an additional \$25-50M for the queue jump lane

## Transit Impacts:

- (+) Morning Rush Hour: Works well for traffic into downtown
- (-) Evening Rush Hour: Undesirable travel delays for EB rush hour bus service due to lack of queue length

## Emergency Service (Fire Dept EB Service):

- (-) If the bridge is congested, Fire Department would be delayed compared to any option with a Bus Lane

## City Policy:

- (-) Not having an EB Bus lane is non-compliant with Rose Lanes Plan and Policy 9.6 of City's Comp Plan



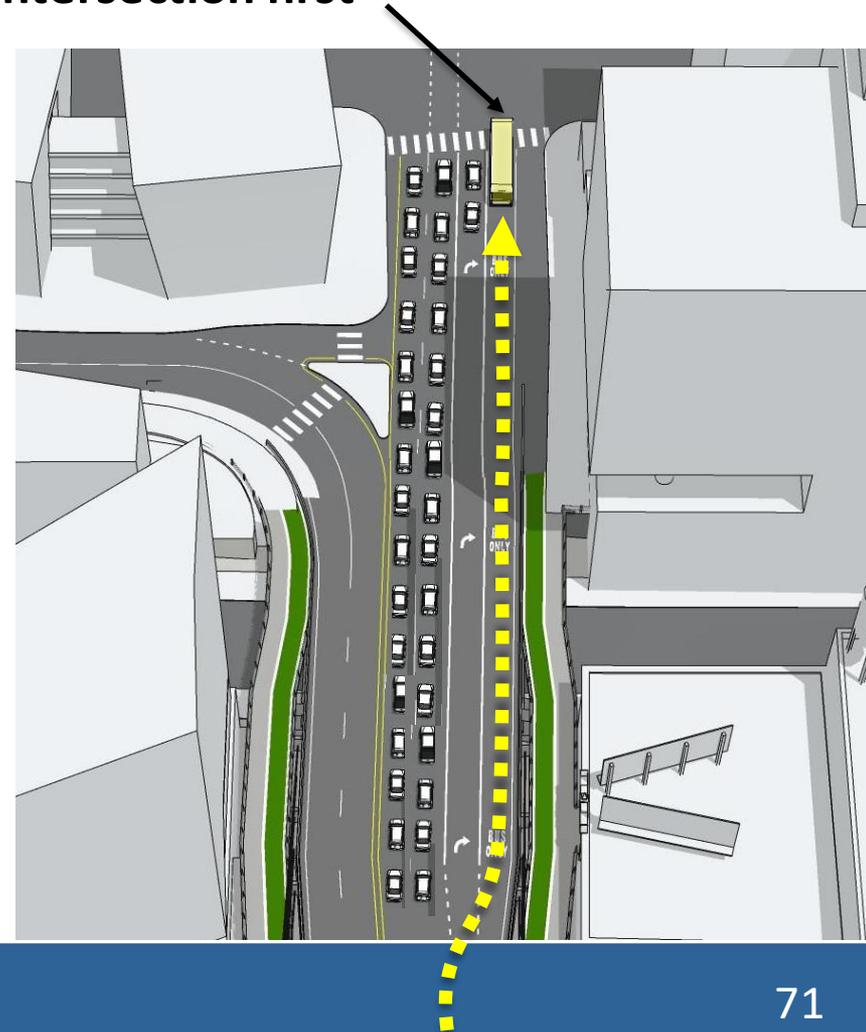
# Traffic Analysis Summary (4)

Lane Configuration is a PBOT decision

**Partial length Bus-only Lane (at bridgeheads only) to allow buses to slip past queued cars and go thru intersection first**

## Issue:

Transit reliability is a concern for TriMet because car backups can exceed the calculated length of the bus queue lane, **thereby rendering the queue jumps ineffective**



# ③ Reversible Lane Option

## What we're studying ...

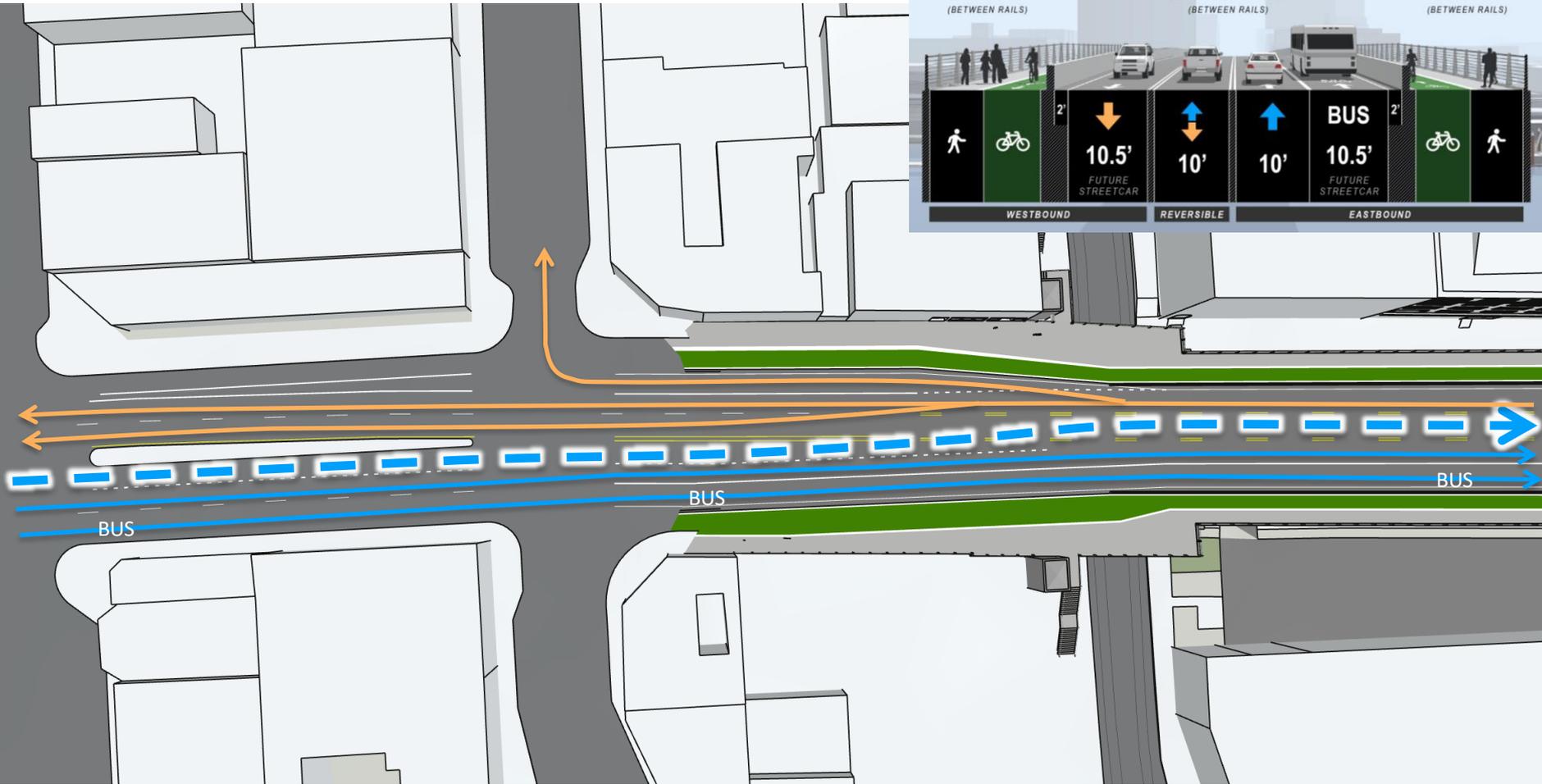
- Lessons Learned from others
- Traffic operations and safety
- Entry treatments



Collins St, Arlington, TX

# ③ Reversible Lane Option

West Side (All times except Morning Rush Hours)



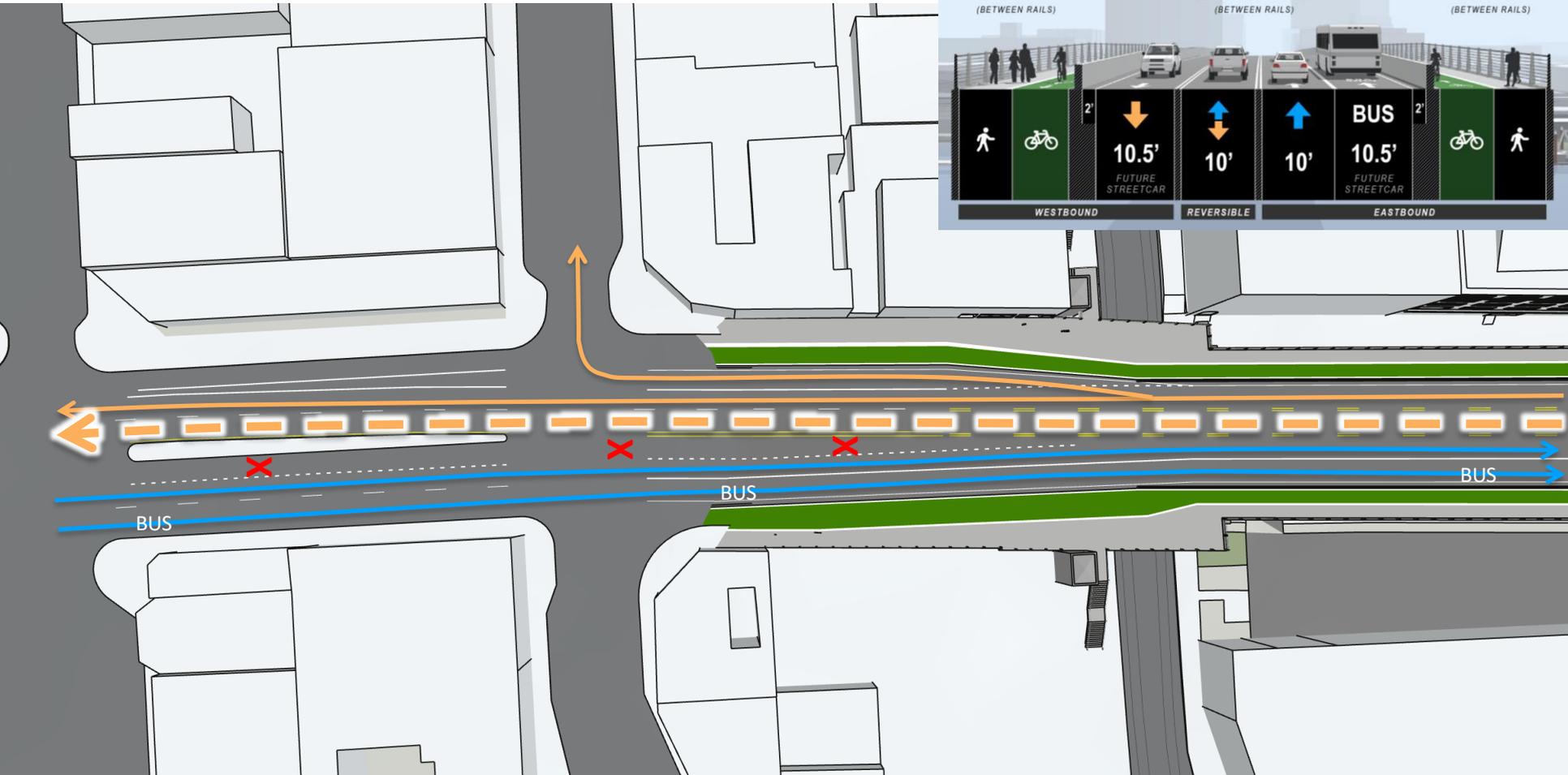
Orange arrows = Westbound

Blue arrows = Eastbound



# ③ Reversible Lane Option

West Side (Morning Rush Hours)



Orange arrows = Westbound

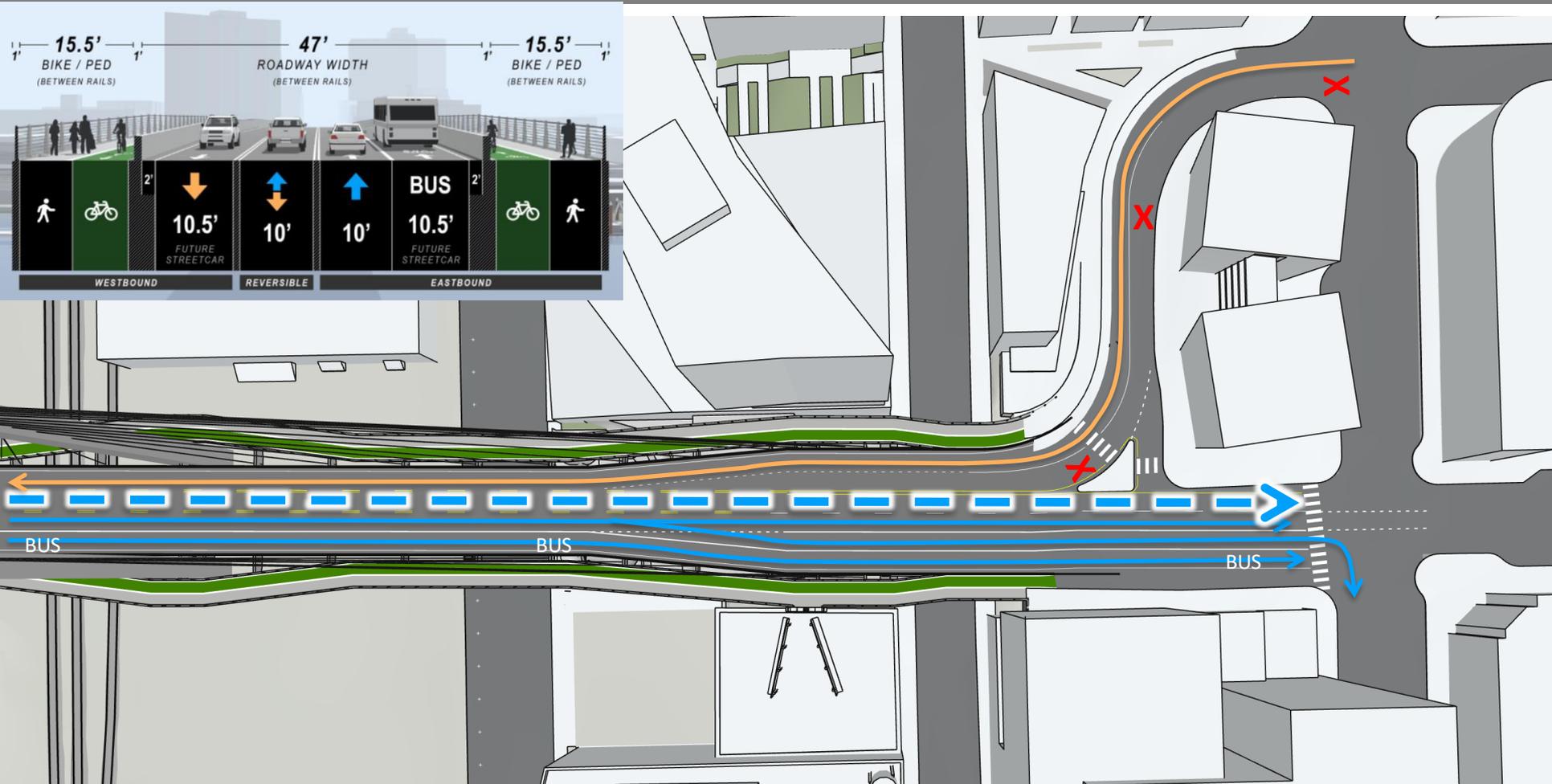
Blue arrows = Eastbound

X = Potential gate



# ③ Reversible Lane Option

## East Side (All times except Morning Rush Hours)



Orange arrows = Westbound

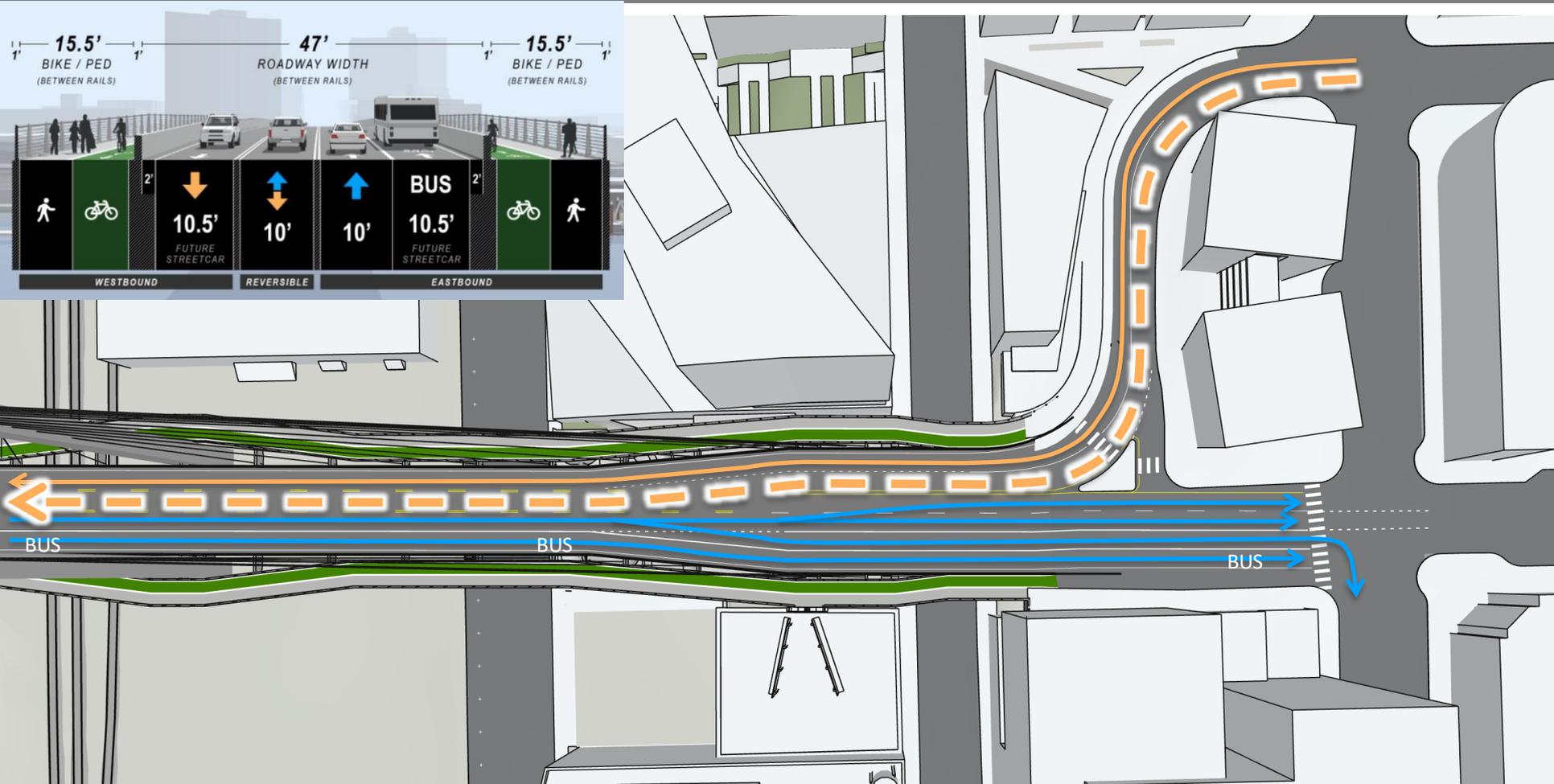
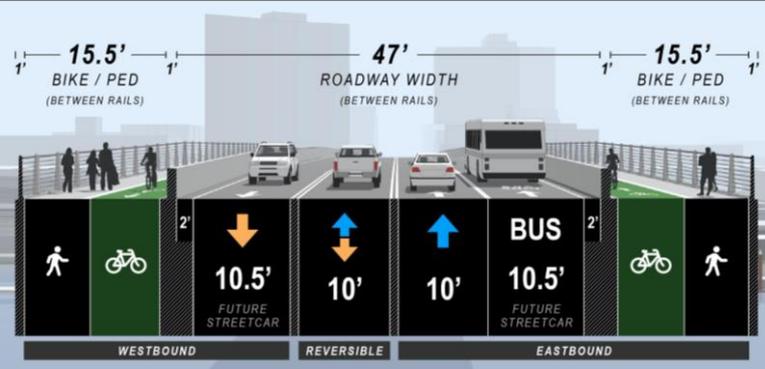
Blue arrows = Eastbound

X = Potential gate



# ③ Reversible Lane Option

## East Side (Morning Rush Hours)



Orange arrows = Westbound

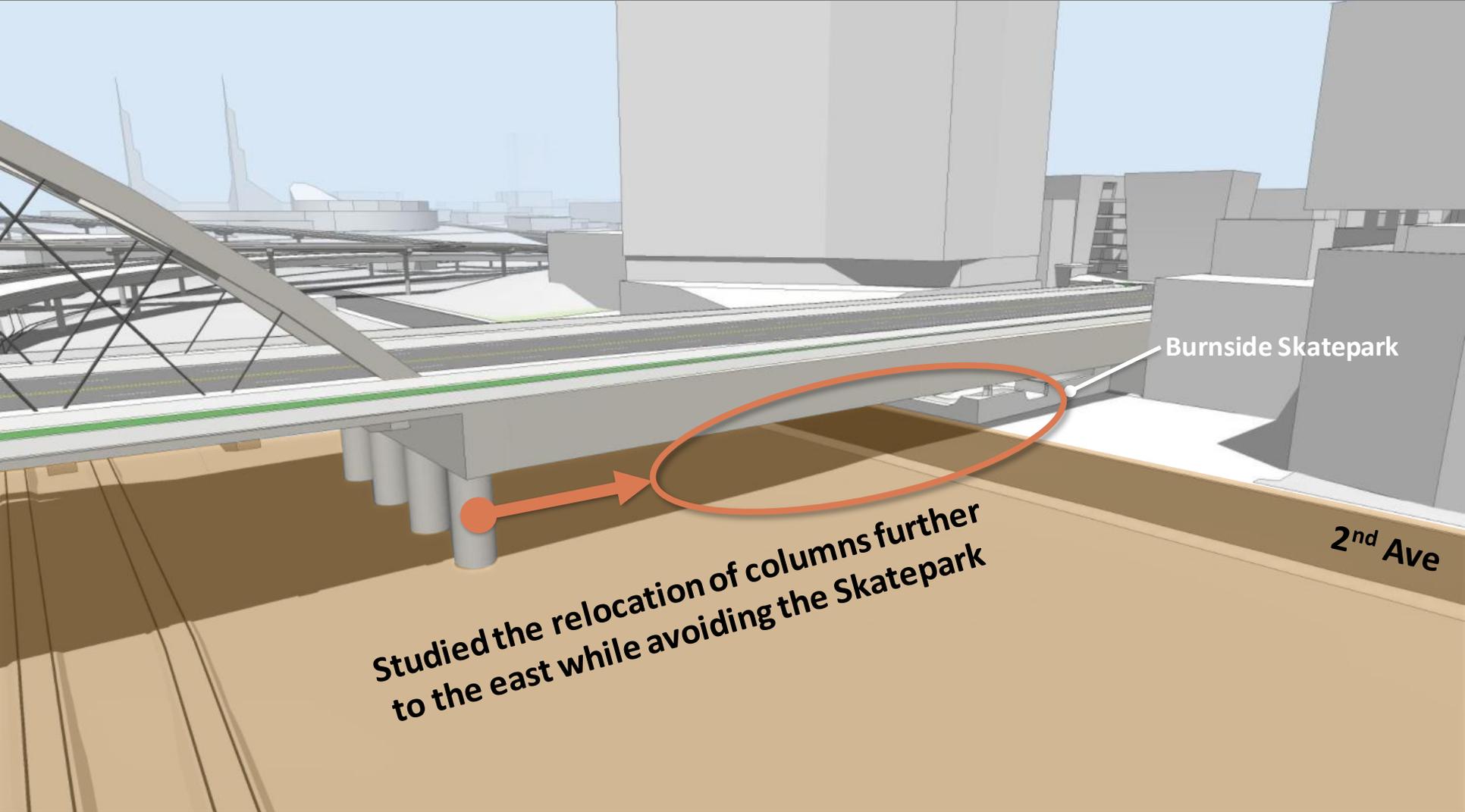
Blue arrows = Eastbound



# East Approach Support Location



## Tied Arch Alternative



Studied the relocation of columns further to the east while avoiding the Skatepark

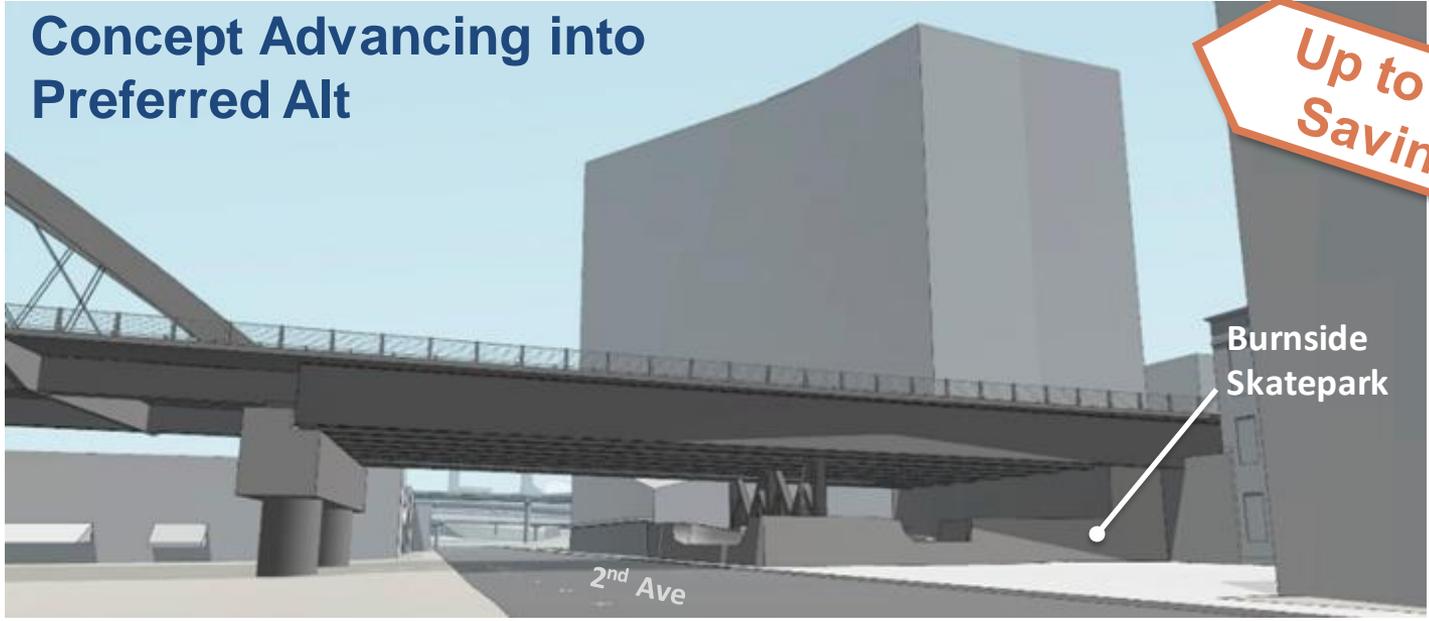


*Does not apply to Cable Stayed bridge type*

# East Approach Support Location

## Tied Arch Alternative

Concept Advancing into Preferred Alt



Concepts Dismissed



# Connections to MAX & Esplanade



## Existing Conditions

North & South Stairs to Skidmore Max Station



Owner: Multnomah County

South Stairs to Eastbank Esplanade



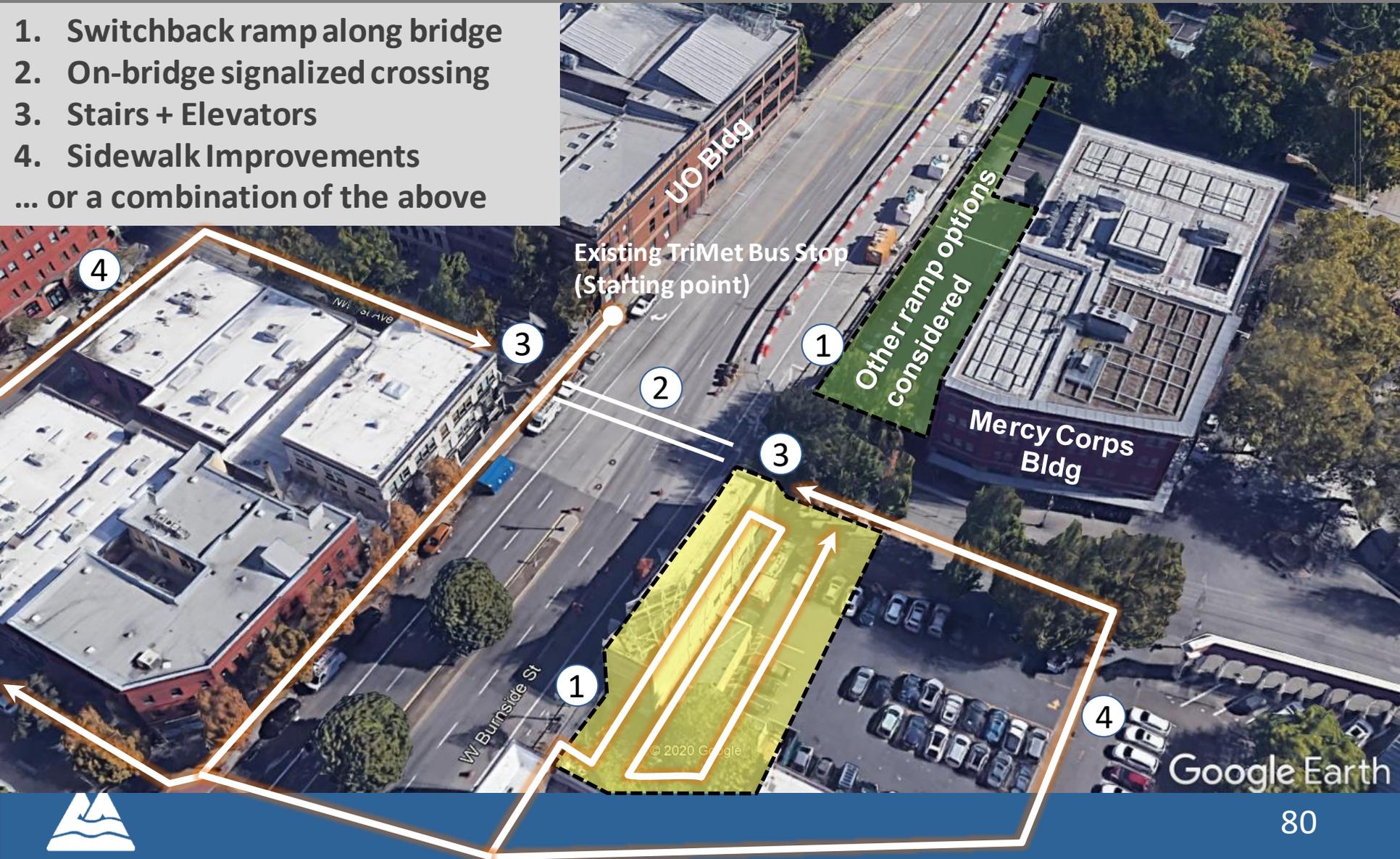
Owner: City of Portland



# Connection to Skidmore MAX Station

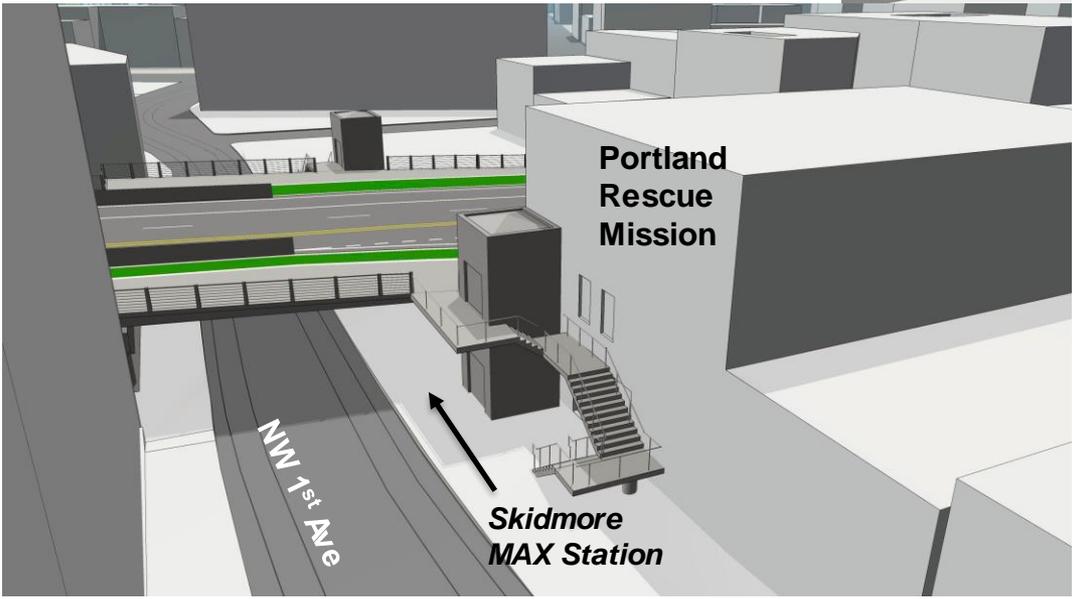
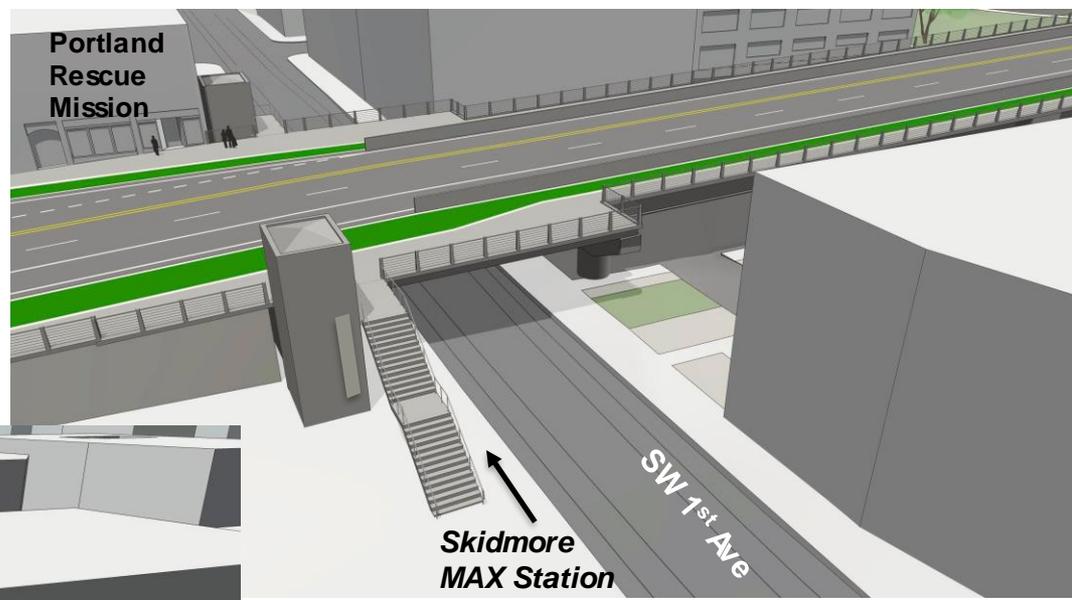
## Initial Options Discussed

- 1. Switchback ramp along bridge
- 2. On-bridge signalized crossing
- 3. Stairs + Elevators
- 4. Sidewalk Improvements
- ... or a combination of the above



## County Proposal

- **Stairs + Elevators**



# Westside Street Network Improvements

## County Proposal

- Street network upgrades to improve routes from bridge to nearest bus/MAX stops on westside



# Connection to Skidmore MAX Station

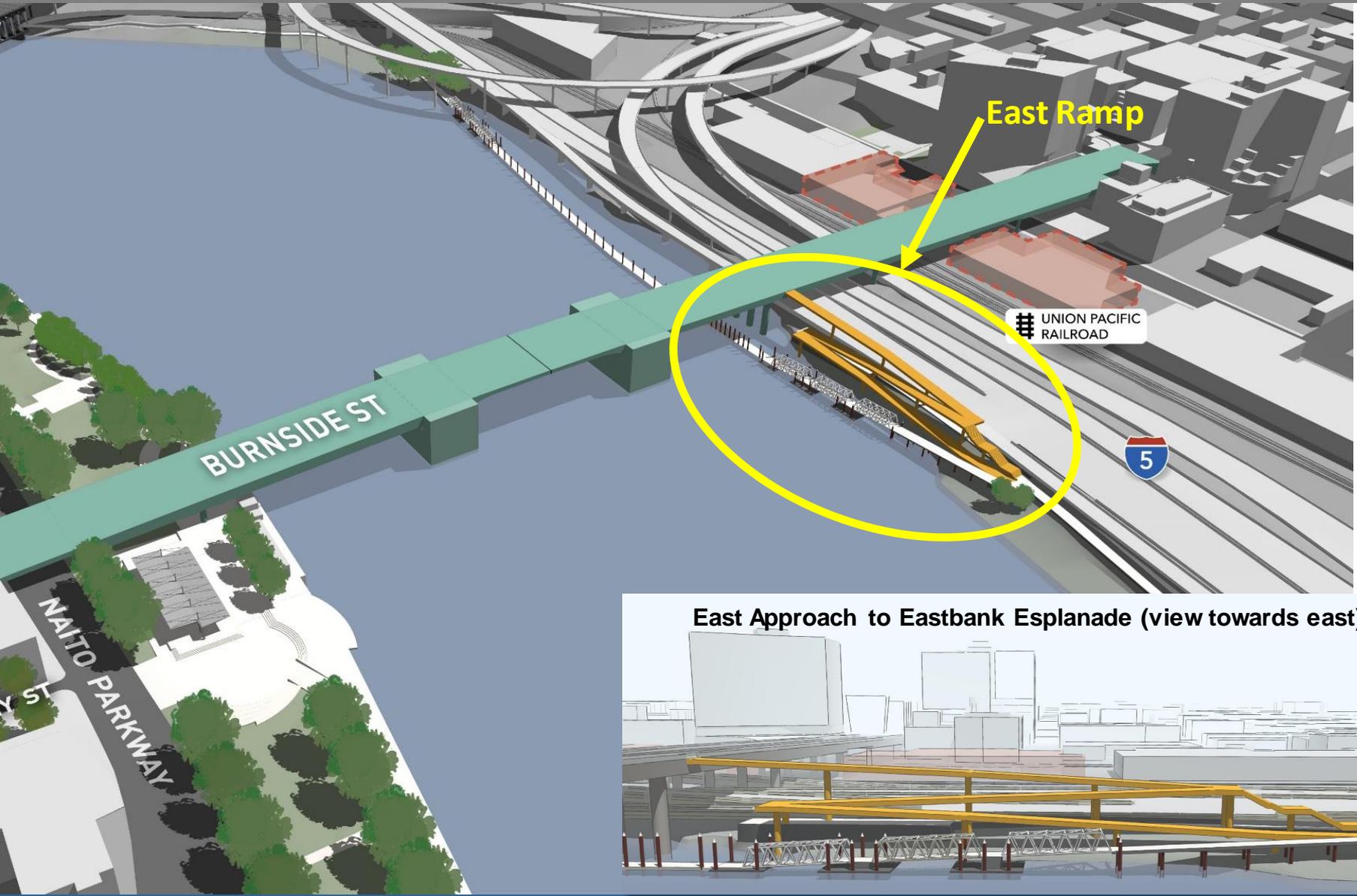
## New Consideration

- Potential west approach bus stop relocation to NW 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue
- TriMet to revisit closure of Skidmore MAX station in 2024 after studying ridership



# Connection to Eastbank Esplanade

## Original Concept



# Connection to Eastbank Esplanade

## Range of options considered

1. Ramp from bridge
  2. On-bridge signalized crossing or under bridge crossing
  3. Stairway + Elevator
- ... or a combinations of the above



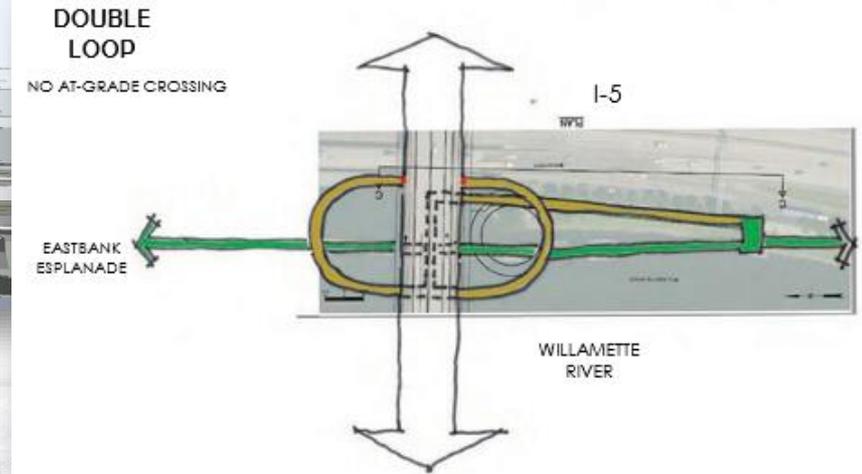
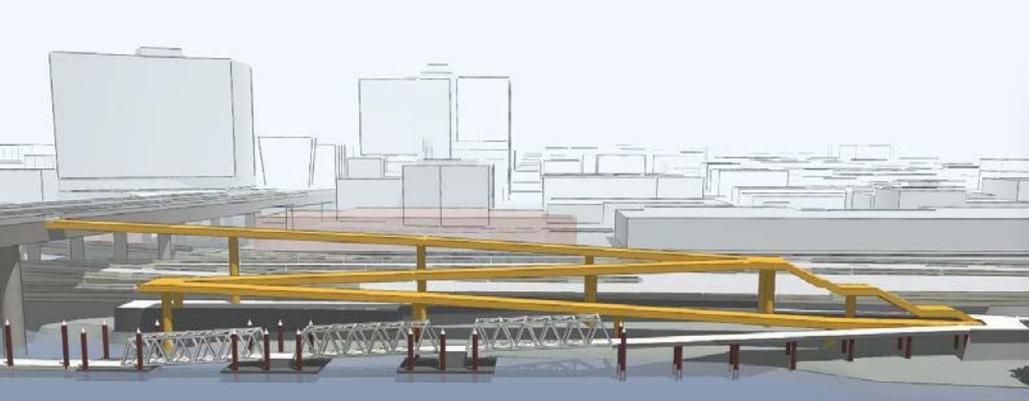
© 2020 Google

Google Earth



# Connection to Eastbank Esplanade

Other options proposed (*needs additional funding for implementation*)



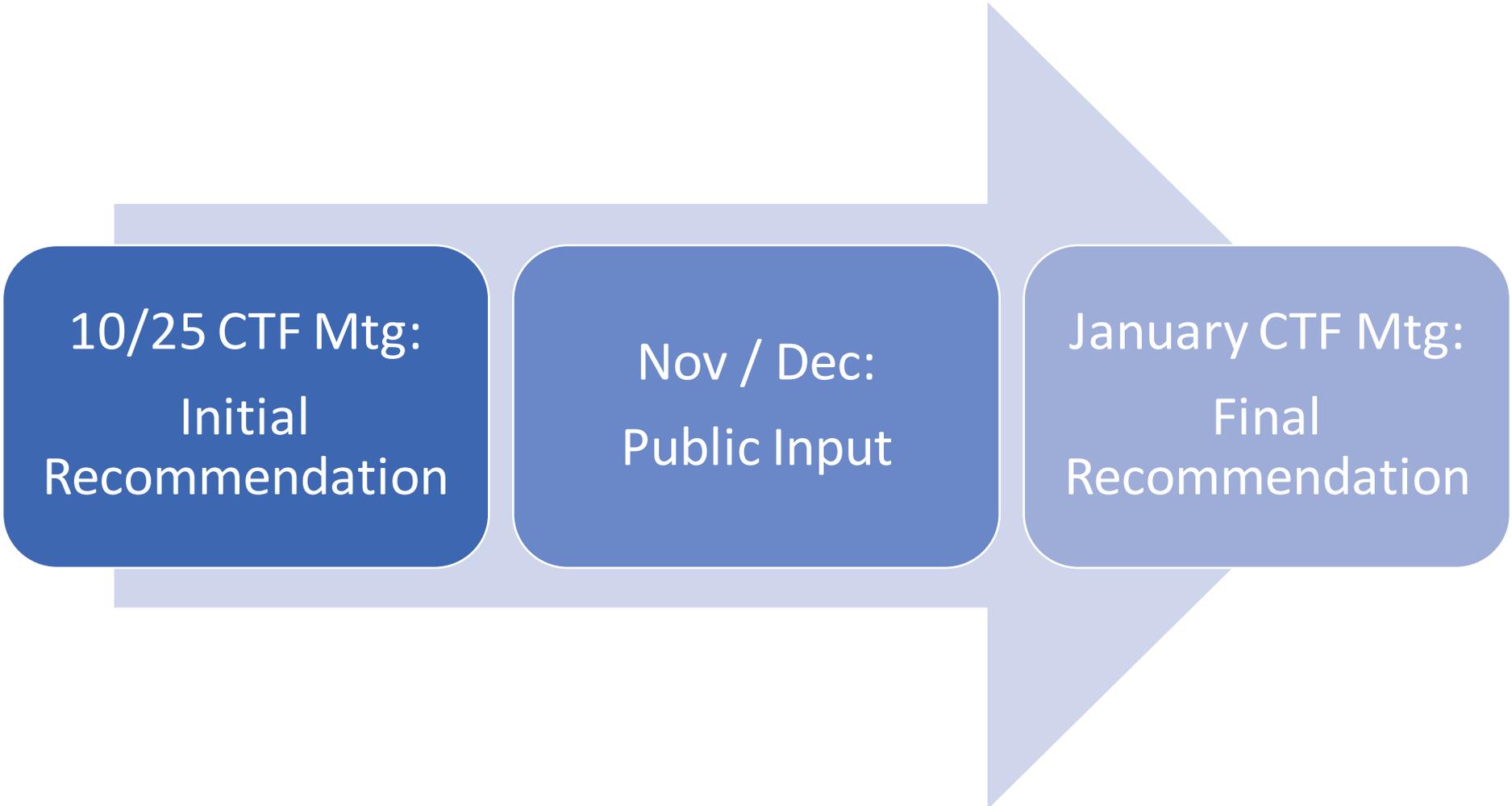
## County Recommendation

- **Stairs + Elevators**



# Decision Process

CTF recommendation on package of Preferred Alternative refinements



10/25 CTF Mtg:  
Initial  
Recommendation

Nov / Dec:  
Public Input

January CTF Mtg:  
Final  
Recommendation



# Preferred Alternative Refinements

Revised Preferred Alternative Refinements	Why?	CTF Recommendation on 10/25?
<b>1. Bridge width:</b> Reduced by approx. 26 feet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost savings</li> </ul>	✓
<b>2. Vehicle Lanes:</b> Reduced from 5 to 4 vehicular lanes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost savings</li> </ul>	✓
Lane Configurations: 4 Options under consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimize traffic impact</li> </ul>	City decision
<b>3. Bike / Ped Space:</b> Reduced from 20' to 15.5' (or 17')	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost savings</li> </ul>	✓
<b>4. West Approach bridge type:</b> Reduced to only Girder type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regulatory permitting</li> <li>• Cost savings</li> </ul>	✓
<b>5. Movable span bridge type:</b> Select either Lift or Bascule type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regulatory permitting</li> <li>• Community preference</li> <li>• Cost savings</li> </ul>	✓
<b>6. East Span Bridge Type:</b> Dismiss Truss (Tied Arch and Cable Stayed types advanced to Design Phase)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community preference</li> </ul>	✓
Eastside column location for Tied Arch: Advancing option west of NE 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regulatory permitting</li> <li>• Cost savings</li> </ul>	County decision
ADA Connections to Bridge: Advance stairs and elevators (dismiss Ramps)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimize cost</li> </ul>	County decision





What additional information do you need to make a preliminary recommendation on the package of Preferred Alternative refinements at the next CTF meeting?

- **October 25 CTF Meeting:** CTF recommendation on package of Preferred Alternative refinements
- **November / December 2021** – Share recommendations with public and seek community feedback (online open house and survey)
- **January 2022 CTF Meeting** – Share community feedback and confirm recommendations for Policy Group approval
- **January PG Meeting 2022** – Share community and CTF feedback and seek Policy Group approval and Mult Co BCC Revised PA adoption
- **March / April 2022** – Publication of Supplemental Draft EIS and public comment period
- **July 2022 CTF Meeting** – Review SDEIS feedback and mitigation strategies. Celebrate conclusion of CTF work!
- **September 2022** – Final EIS and Record of Decision



# Thank you!

