



Policy Group Meeting

Department of Community Services
Transportation Division

October 30, 2018

The information presented here, and the public and agency input received, may be adopted or incorporated by reference into a future environmental review process to meet the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act.

Agenda

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks
2. Project Update
3. September Engagement
4. Environmental Review Phase Kickoff
5. Public Comment
Policy Group Discussion – Purpose & Need and Range of Alternatives
6. Next Steps and Closing Remarks



2. Project Update

Earthquake Ready Burnside Project Timeline



Where are we now?



2. Project Update

Feasibility Study Process and Findings

What we've done since last meeting?

- Published the Draft Feasibility Study Report, Purpose and Need, Range of Alternatives
- Conducted outreach to get input on findings
- Committee Meetings
 - Senior Agency Staff – Oct 11th
 - Community Task Force – Oct 17th

What's next?

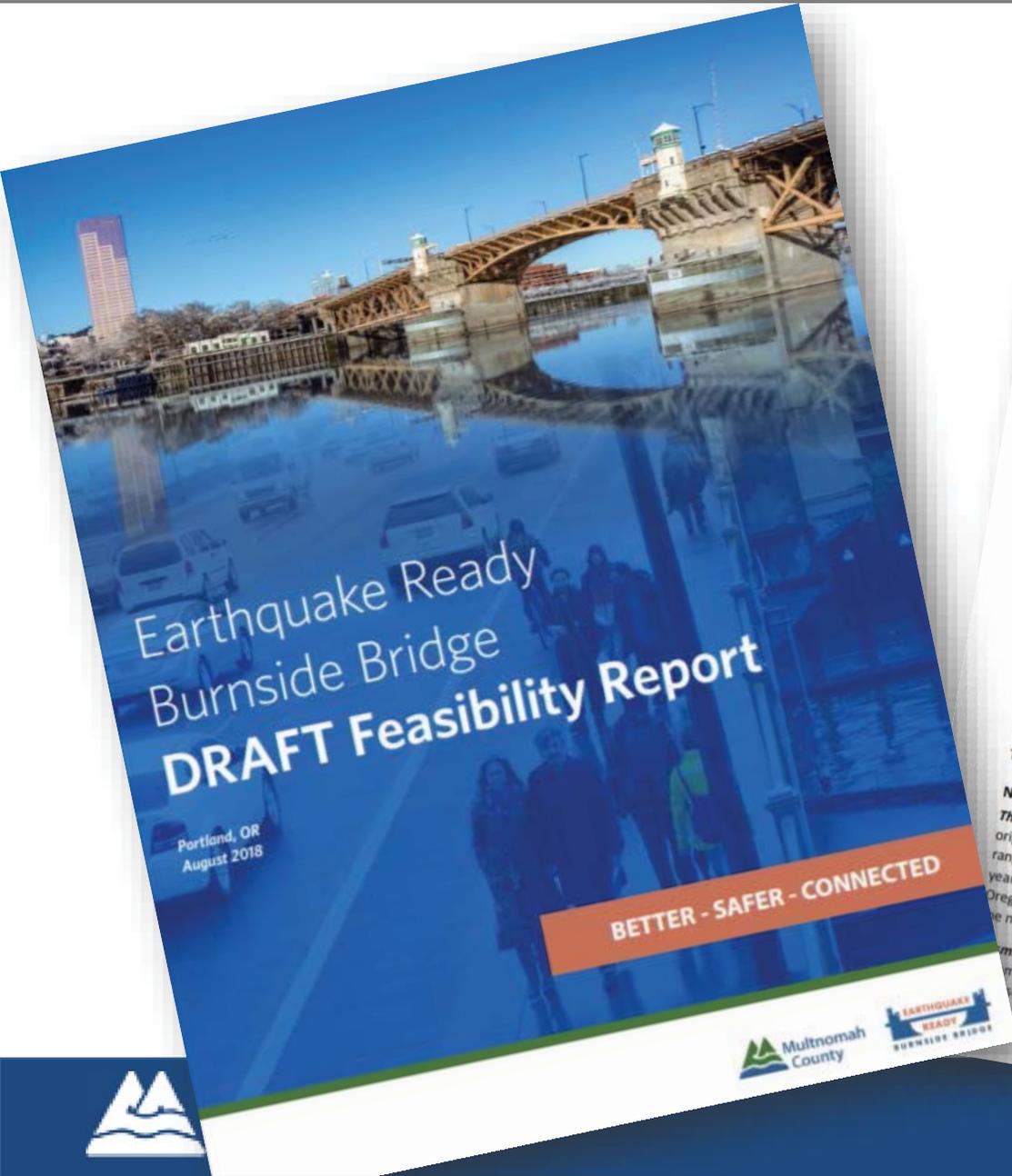
- Board of County Commissioners Meeting – **Nov 1st**
 - Board adoption of Feasibility Study findings
 - Feasibility Study Phase concludes
 - Environmental Review Phase begins



2. Project Update



Draft Feasibility Study Report and Purpose & Need



Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge
Better. Safer. Connected.



DRAFT Statement of Purpose and Need

Introduction

Oregon is located in the Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ), making it subject to some of the world's most powerful, recurring earthquakes. Studies show that the most recent CSZ earthquake occurred just over 300 years ago and that there is a significant risk that the next major earthquake will occur within the lifetimes of the majority of Oregon residents.¹ The best available science warns that given current conditions, the next major CSZ event is expected to result in thousands of deaths, widespread damage to our region's critical infrastructure, and long-term adverse social and economic impacts.²

The effects of the next CSZ earthquake can be reduced through preparation, including creating seismically resilient transportation "lifeline routes," particularly to provide access to critical facilities in urban areas. Such lifeline routes will facilitate post-earthquake emergency response, rescue and evacuation, as well as enable post-disaster regional recovery and help prevent permanent population loss and long-term economic decline.² The importance of having a seismically resilient lifeline route across the Willamette River is why Multnomah County has proposed to make the Burnside Bridge earthquake ready.

Project Purpose

The primary purpose of this project is to create a seismically resilient Burnside Street lifeline crossing of the Willamette River that will remain fully operational and accessible for vehicles and other modes of transportation immediately following a major CSZ earthquake. A seismically resilient Burnside Bridge will support the region's ability to provide rapid and reliable emergency response, rescue and evacuation after a major earthquake, as well as enable post-earthquake economic recovery. In addition to ensuring that the crossing is seismically resilient, the purpose is also to provide a long-term, low-maintenance and safe crossing for all users.

Project Need

The Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge project is intended to address the following needs:
Need for a Seismically Resilient River Crossing and Lifeline Route

The Cascadia Subduction Zone: Geologic evidence shows that more than 40 major earthquakes have originated along the CSZ fault over the last 10,000 years. The interval between CSZ earthquakes has ranged from a few decades to over a thousand years. The last major earthquake in Oregon occurred 318 years ago, a timespan that exceeds 75 percent of the intervals between major Oregon earthquakes. The Oregon Resilience Plan predicts extensive casualties, infrastructure damage and economic losses from the next CSZ earthquake.²

Seismically Vulnerable Willamette River Bridges and Roads: All of the older bridges crossing the Willamette River are expected to suffer seismic damage in a major earthquake. Some are expected to be unusable immediately following the earthquake. In addition, the

September 2018

Page 1



2. Project Update

Purpose and Need



Create a seismically resilient Burnside Street lifeline crossing of the Willamette River that will remain fully operational and accessible for vehicles and other modes of transportation immediately following a major CSZ earthquake.



Support the region's ability to provide rapid and reliable emergency response, rescue and evacuation after a major earthquake, as well as enable post-earthquake economic recovery.



Provide a long-term, low-maintenance and safe crossing for all users.



2. Project Update

Screening Criteria

-  **SEISMIC RESILIENCY**
Support reliable and rapid emergency response after an earthquake.
-  **NON-MOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION**
Support access and safety for bicyclists, pedestrians and people with disabilities.
-  **CONNECTIVITY**
Support street system integration and function for all modes.
-  **EQUITY**
Minimize adverse impacts to historically marginalized communities and promote transportation equity.
-  **BUILT ENVIRONMENT**
Promote land use compatibility and minimize impacts to parks and historic resources.
-  **FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP**
Ensure public funds are invested wisely.

Scoring



HIGH



MEDIUM



LOW

2. Project Update

Findings: Range of Alternatives [April 2018]

Enhanced Seismic Retrofit



WIDENED AND UNWIDENED

Replacement: Existing Alignment



MOVABLE BRIDGE



MOVABLE STACKED BRIDGE



97' HIGH FIXED BRIDGE

Replacement: Wishbones

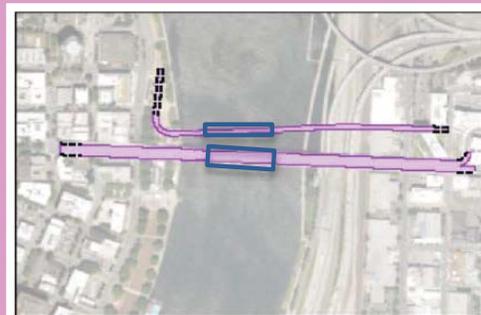


MOVABLE BRIDGE - EAST COUCH COUPLET

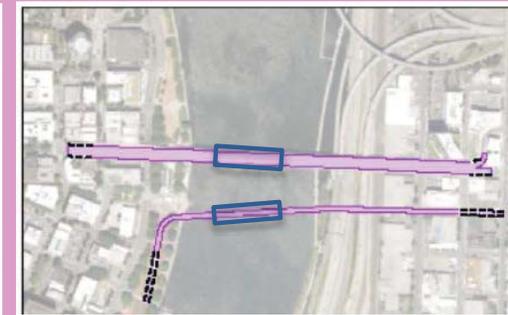


MOVABLE BRIDGE - EAST ANKENY COUPLET

Replacement: Mode-Separated



MOVABLE BRIDGE - COUCH BIKE/PED ONLY BRIDGE



MOVABLE BRIDGE - ANKENY BIKE/PED ONLY BRIDGE

2. Project Update

Findings: Range of Alternatives [April 2018]

Enhanced Seismic Retrofit



UNWIDENED

Replacement: Existing Alignment



MOVABLE BRIDGE



MOVABLE STACKED BRIDGE



97' HIGH FIXED BRIDGE

Replacement: Wishbones



MOVABLE BRIDGE - EAST COUCH COUPLET



MOVABLE BRIDGE - EAST ANKENY COUPLET

Replacement: Mode-Separated

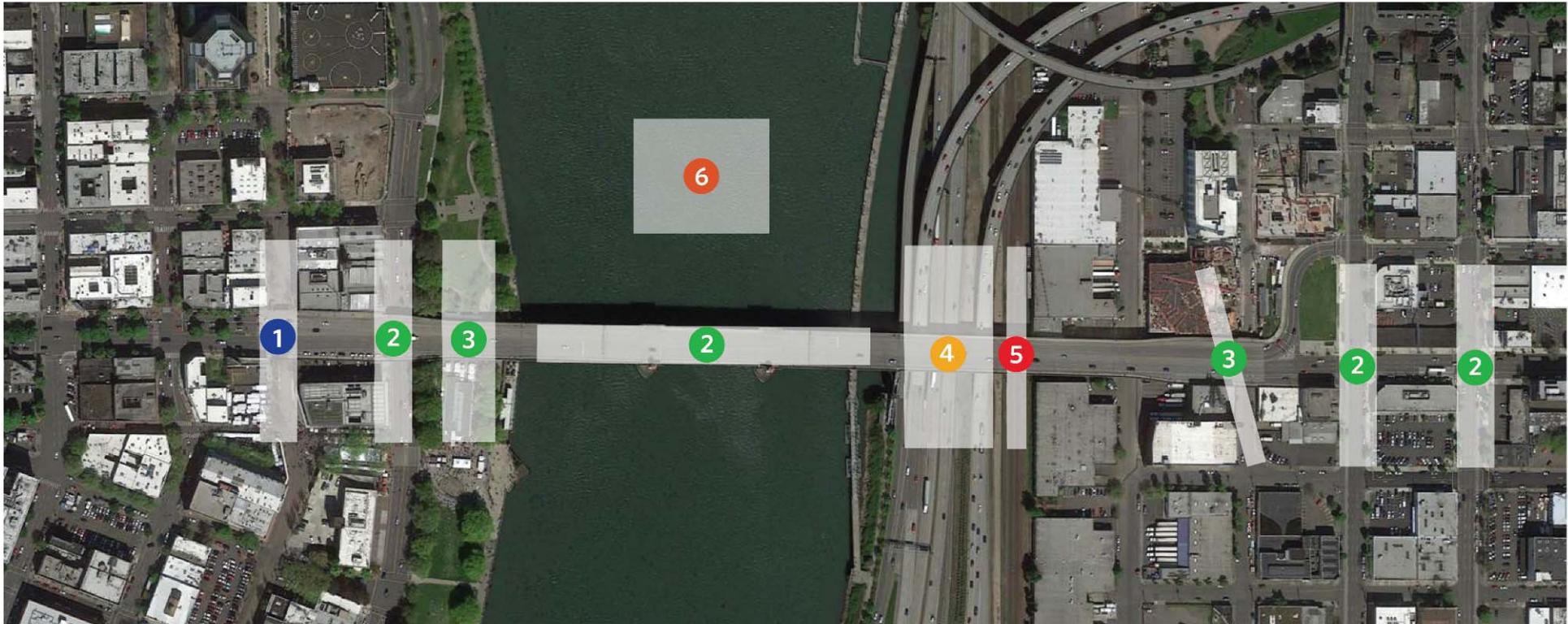


MOVABLE BRIDGE - COUCH BIKE/PED ONLY BRIDGE



MOVABLE BRIDGE - ANKENY BIKE/PED ONLY BRIDGE

2. Project Update



TRIMET 1 TriMet Lightrail Service



2 City of Portland Roadway (Naito Pkwy, NE/SE MLK, NE/SE Grand)
3 City of Portland Combined Sewer Overflow



4 Oregon Department of Transportation Highway Facilities (I-5 and I-84)



5 Union Pacific Railroad Mainline



6 U.S. Coast Guard / River Navigation



2. Project Update

Recommended Range of Alternatives

ENHANCED SEISMIC RETROFIT

An upgrade of the existing bridge to meet current seismic standards. Because a retrofit over the I-5 corridor and railroad is not feasible due to long-term closures during construction. That portion of the bridge will be replaced. This option would maintain its existing 86 foot width over the river.



REPLACEMENT: Fixed Bridge

A new fixed bridge with a maximum clearance of 97 feet, at about the same location as the current bridge to allow for ship passage. The west landing could touch down up to three blocks further west of the current bridge. This option assumes a width of approximately 110 feet over the river.



REPLACEMENT: Movable Bridge

A new movable bridge at about the same height and location as the current bridge. This option assumes a width of approximately 110 feet over the river.



REPLACEMENT: Movable Bridge – NE Couch Connection

A new movable bridge at about the same height as the current bridge. The east landing splits to connect to NE Couch Street. Westbound traffic enters from NE Couch Street. This option assumes a width of approximately 110 feet over the river.



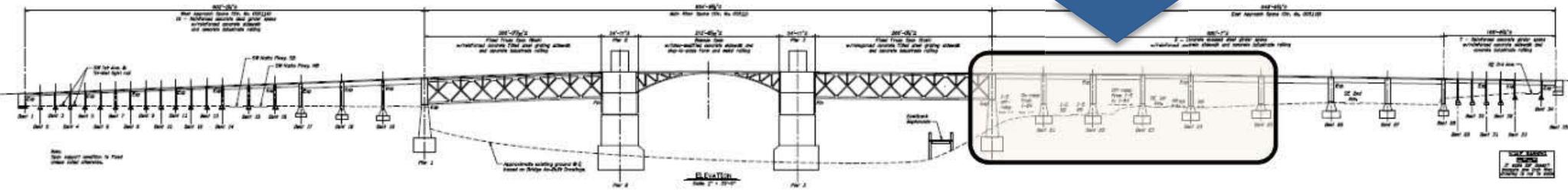
The 4 recommended build options.

A No-Build option will also be evaluated.

2. Project Update

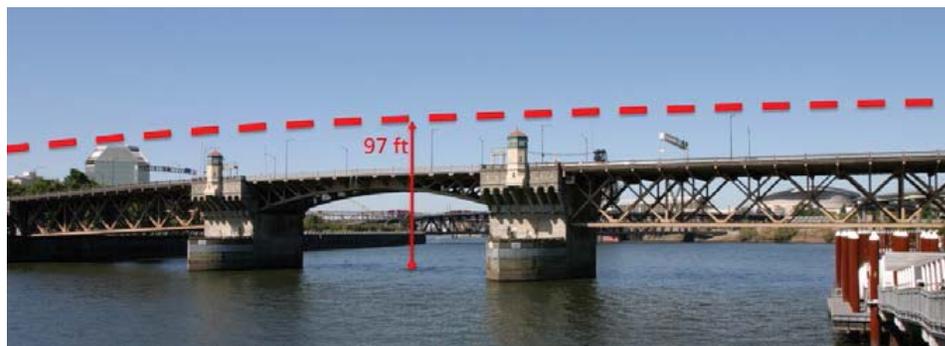
Enhanced Seismic Retrofit

Replacement Portion



2. Project Update

Replacement: Fixed Bridge



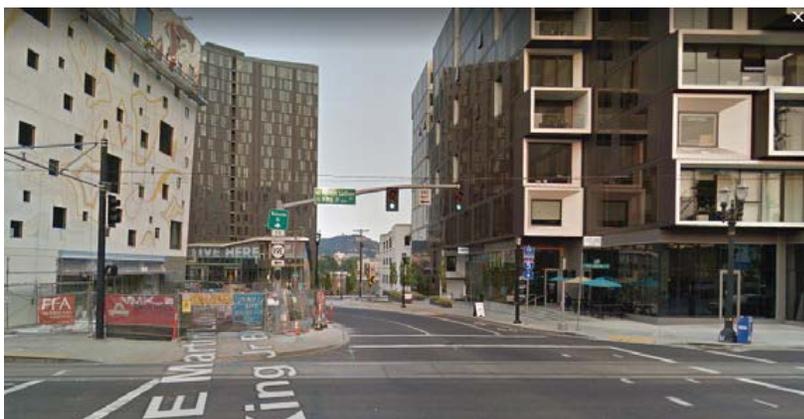
2. Project Update

Replacement: Movable Bridge



2. Project Update

Replacement: Movable Bridge – NE Couch Connection



2. Project Update

Preliminary Project Costs (\$M)

Burnside St is open to traffic during construction

\$\$\$

Burnside St is closed to traffic during construction

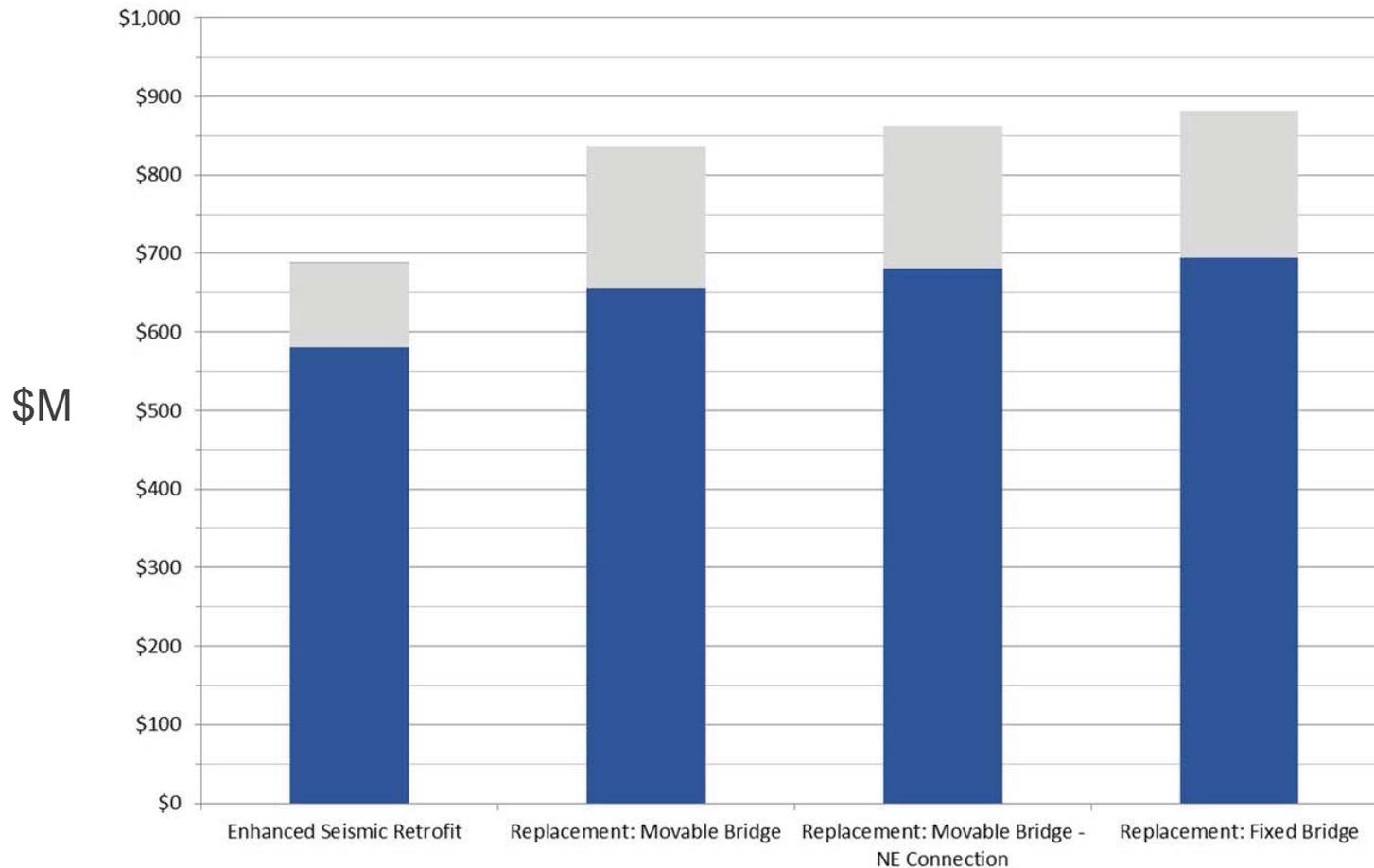
\$\$

\$



2. Project Update

Total Preliminary Project Costs (\$M)



Notes:

1. Project costs include NEPA, Design, ROW Acquisition, and Construction phases
2. Project costs are escalated to the year of construction
3. Cost based on high level conceptual design



2. Project Update

Briefings and Presentations

- EQRB Stakeholder Representatives Group – 4/16/18
- EQRB Policy Group – 4/26/18
- Board of County Commissioners – 5/24/18
- Metro Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation – 6/21/18
- Historic Landmarks Commission – 6/25/18 & 10/8/18
- City Club Friday Forum – 7/27/18
- East Multnomah County Transportation Committee – 8/13/18
- Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization 8/24/18
- ASCE Oregon Chapter Annual Conference – 9/11/18
- Regional Public Information Officers – 9/13/18
- Central Eastside Industrial Council – 10/2/18
- Old Town Community Association – 10/3/18
- Portland Design Commission – 10/18/18



2. Project Update

Social Services Workshop – July 31, 2018



3. September Engagement



Online Open House

ONLINE OPEN HOUSE: August 31 – September 30, 2018

Select Language

Powered by Google Translate



Welcome

Background

Bridge Options

Share Your Thoughts

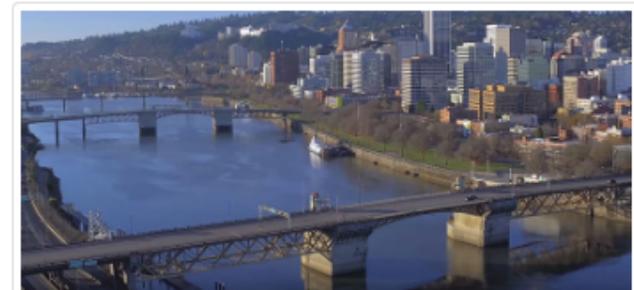
What's Next

Welcome

Welcome to the Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge online open house! Multnomah County is evaluating options for creating a resilient Burnside crossing that will withstand a major earthquake. At this point, the project is just wrapping-up the feasibility study that analyzed more than 100 Willamette River crossing options and recommended four options for further evaluation in the upcoming environmental review.

By participating in this open house and completing the survey questions you will have the opportunity to provide input on:

Burnside Bridge



3. September Engagement

In-Person Open Houses



3. September Engagement

Videos and Social Media



We're creating an earthquake-safe downtown river crossing

Located in the heart of Portland, the Burnside Bridge is a regionally established emergency route across the Willamette River. Providing a way to get across the river after a major earthquake will be critical for emergency response, reuniting families and helping our community recover.

Built in 1926, the Burnside Bridge was not designed to survive a large earthquake. Multnomah County is taking the lead on making the Burnside Bridge earthquake ready so our region can respond and recover more quickly.

The project has extensively screened over 100 options for the future of the Burnside Bridge in the draft [Feasibility Study](#). The study recommends a short list of options for additional study in the environmental review. We want to hear your feedback on:

- Recommended range of options
- Project purpose and need
- Scope of the environmental study
- Draft Feasibility Study

Join the conversation!

We're hosting in-person and online opportunities during September where you can review and provide feedback on the work done so far, and weigh-in on what we should consider through the next phase of the project.

Open house event

Tue. Sept. 25, 5-7 p.m.
 Fair-haired Dumbbell
 11 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. ([map](#))



With views looking onto the Burnside Bridge, join project team members in discussing the future of the bridge. We'll be in the colorful building [Fair-haired](#)



Multnomah County, Oregon
 @MultCo

- Home
- About
- Photos
- Events
- Videos
- Reviews
- Posts
- Community
- Info and Ads

Create a Page



3. September Engagement

By the Numbers



3. September Engagement

What We Heard



Urgency to get the project done earlier



Desire for bike paths, pedestrian paths and bus only lanes



Concerns about impacts to nearby buildings and the overall transportation system



Most said they agree or strongly agree with choice of recommended options, remarking that they were reasonable and well thought out



More support for a new bridge than a retrofit, but still some support for retrofit



More support for movable than fixed, but some support for both



Views and aesthetics should still be considered, making the bridge an “iconic” part of Portland



Interest in keeping some historical components/aesthetics of the bridge, concern for demolishing the bridge and its historical importance.



3. September Engagement

Community Task Force Recruitment

- **Outreach**

- News Release
- Email Blast
- City Club Friday Forum
- DJC Article
- Social Services Workshop
- Email to former Stakeholder Representative Group
- County E-Newsletter
- East MultCo Transportation Committee
- City of Gresham Chamber of Commerce
- Email to 22 EJ-related organizations

- **37 Applicants**

Outreach to Diverse Organizations

- Community Engagement Liaisons Program
- Verde
- Organizing People / Activating Leaders
- Latino Network
- Asian Health and Services Center
- Elders in Action
- MultCo Senior Advisory Council
- Coalition of Communities of Color
- Portland African American League Forum
- Urban League of Portland
- Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon
- Voz
- Native American Youth & Family Center
- Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization
- Multnomah Youth Commission
- Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs
- National Association Minority Contractors of Oregon
- Hispanic Chamber
- Professional Business Development Group
- Portland Commission on Disability
- Disability Services Advisory Council
- Northwest China Council



3. September Engagement

Committee Membership Changes

Community Task
Force

Incoming

Mercy Corps
American Medical Response
Oregon Walks
Disability Rights Oregon
Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce
Powell Valley Neighborhood
Portland Rescue Mission
Portland Freight Advisory Committee

Outgoing

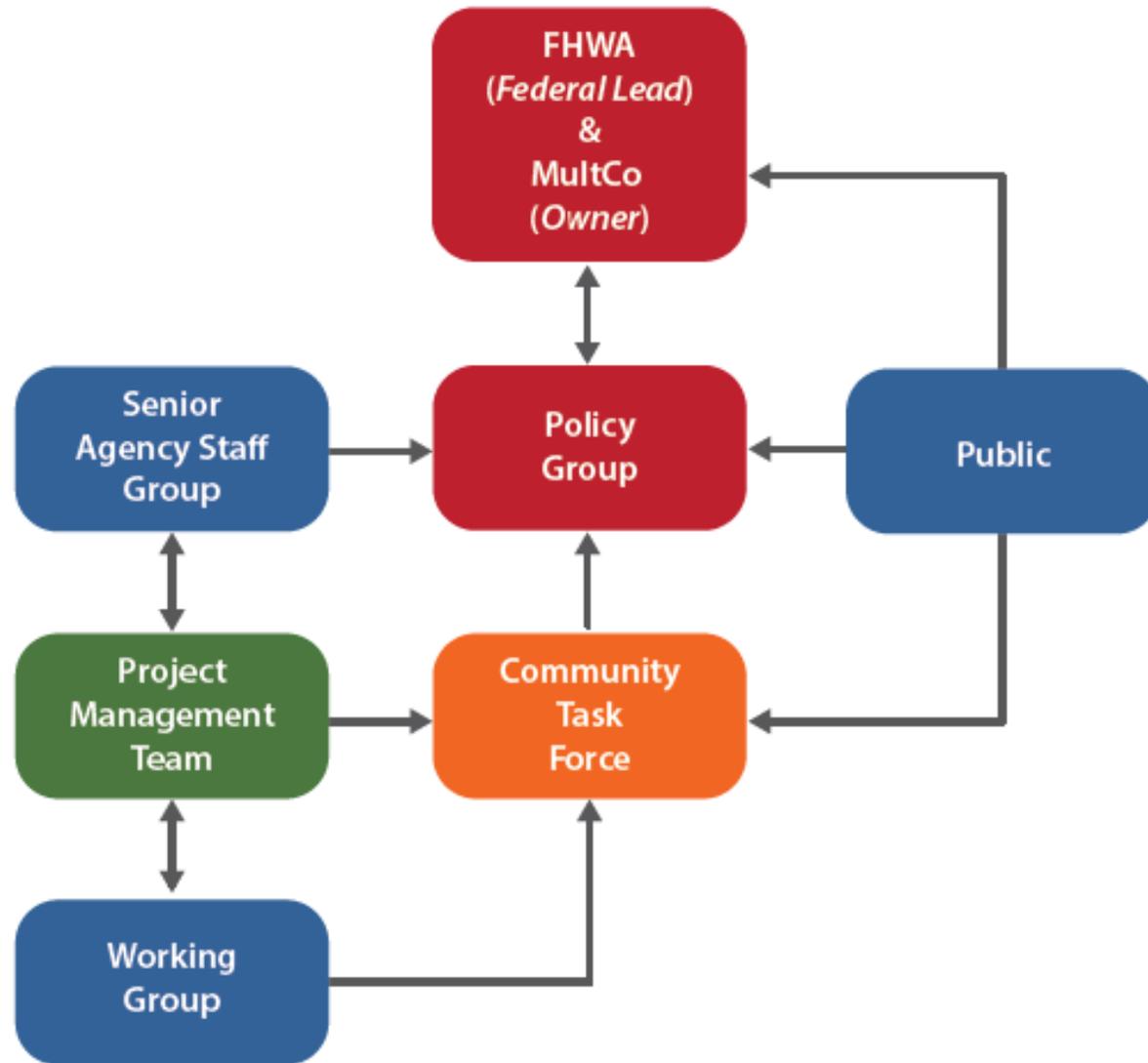
Willamette River Keepers
University of Oregon Architecture Student
The Street Trust
Oregon Trucking Association



4. Environmental Review Kickoff

Committee Framework

-  Decision Maker
-  Recommendation
-  Facilitation
-  Input



4. Environmental Review Kickoff

Cooperating and Participating Agencies



U.S. Department
of Transportation
Federal Highway
Administration

Oregon Division
September 19, 2018

530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-369-5749
Oregon.FHWA@dot.gov

In Reply Refer To:
HAD-OR

Dear Mr. Whitman:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with Multnomah County and the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), is conducting early coordination and early scoping in preparation to initiate an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a project to seismically retrofit or replace the existing Burnside Bridge in downtown Portland, OR. A Notice of Intent (NOI) is expected to be published in 2019. The primary purpose of this project is to create a seismically resilient Burnside Street lifeline crossing of the Willamette River that will remain fully operational and accessible for vehicles and other modes of transportation immediately following a major Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ) earthquake. The attached draft Purpose and Need statement provides additional detail on why this project is proposed.

The project is currently completing the Feasibility Study phase and entering the Environmental Review phase, which starts with early scoping in September 2018. During early scoping we will be requesting agency input on:

- the draft Purpose and Need Statement
- the proposed range of alternatives for the EIS
- the scope of analysis for the EIS, and
- the draft Coordination Plan.

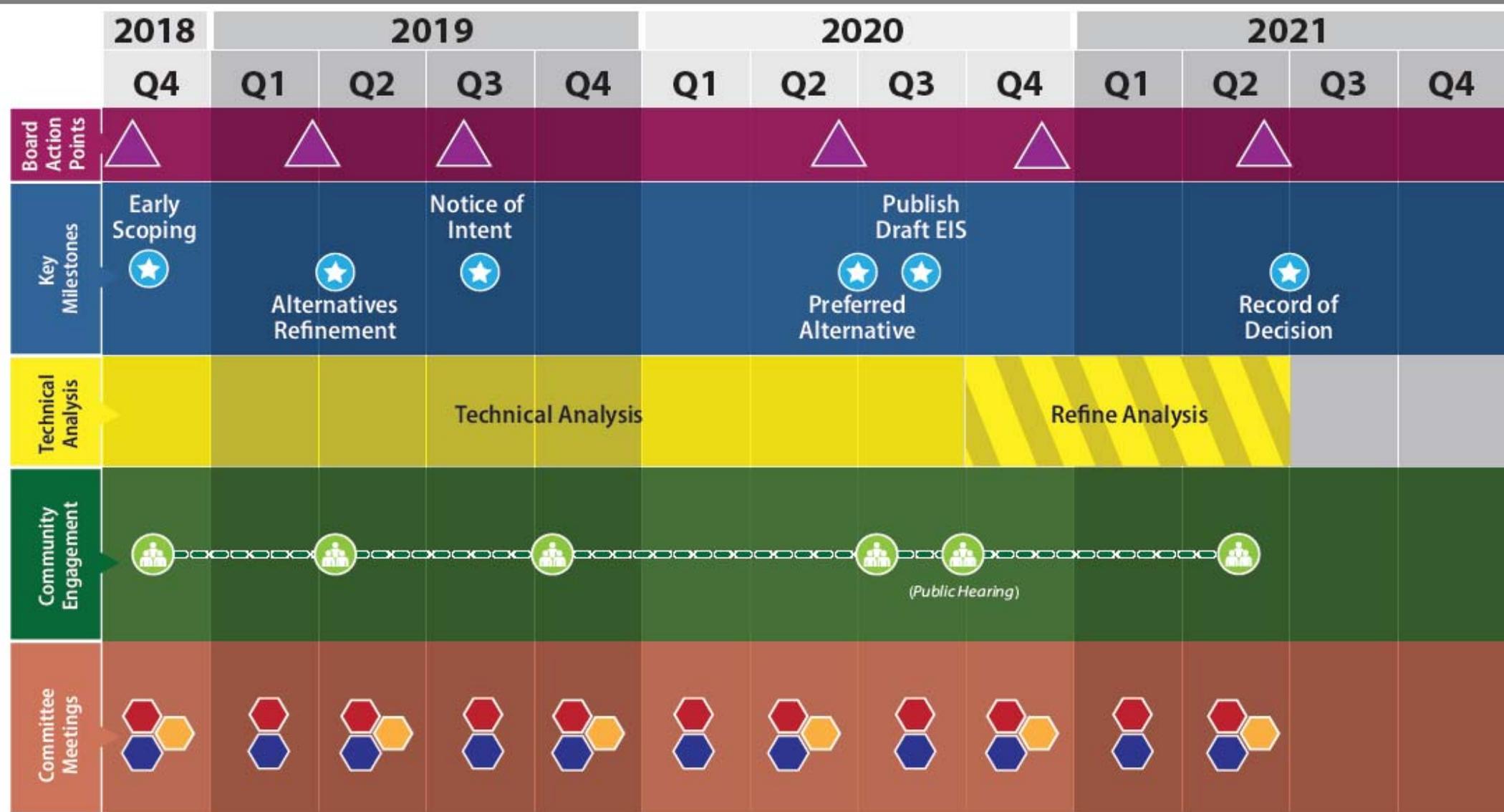
Agency and public input will help to finalize the range of alternatives and the areas of concern to be studied in the EIS. Resources potentially impacted during construction or operation include water resources, fish, historic and archaeological resources, parks and recreation, navigation, traffic, social and community resources, and others.

This project, based on its location and the needs that it will address, may be of interest to your agency. With this letter, we extend an invitation to you to become a Participating Agency with the FHWA in the development of the EIS. Pursuant to 23 U.S.C. Section 139, participating agencies are responsible for identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental, social, or economic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from permit or other approval that is needed for the project. The intent is to assure that agencies understand their role in the development of the above



4. Environmental Review Kickoff

Project Overview and Milestones



Board Action Points

Key Milestones

Key Engagement Events

Ongoing Engagement Activities

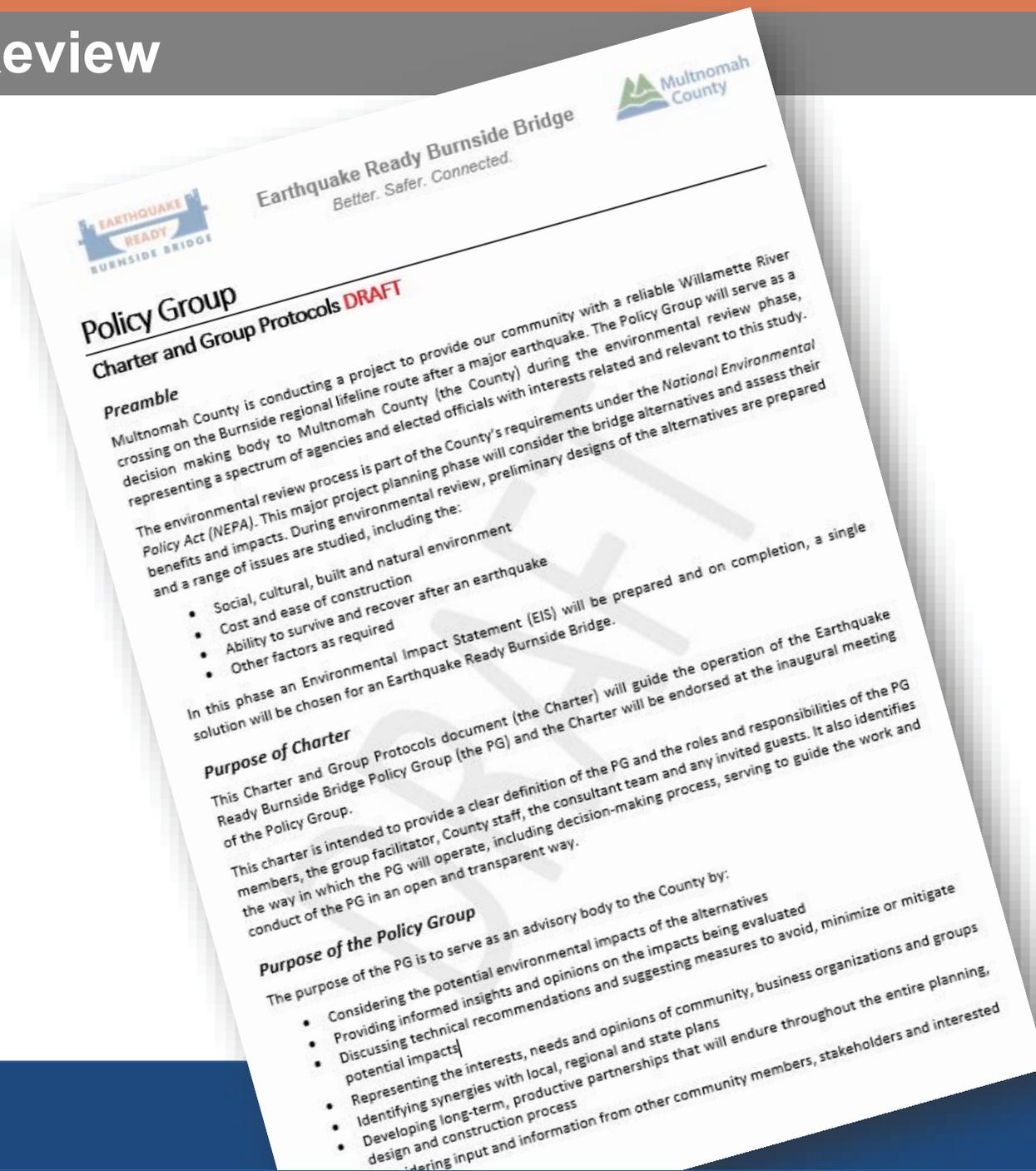
Senior Agency Staff Group

Community Task Force

Policy Group

4. Environmental Review Kickoff

Charter Review



4. Environmental Review Kickoff



Today's Action



Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge
Better. Safer. Connected.



EXHIBIT A

Statement of Purpose and Need

Introduction

Oregon is located in the Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ), making it subject to some of the world's most powerful, recurring earthquakes. Studies show that the most recent CSZ earthquake occurred just over 300 years ago and that there is a significant risk that the next major earthquake will occur within the lifetimes of the majority of Oregon residents.¹ The best available science warns that given current conditions, the next major CSZ event is expected to result in thousands of deaths, widespread damage to our region's critical infrastructure, and long-term adverse social and economic impacts.²

The effects of the next CSZ earthquake can be reduced through preparation, including creating seismically resilient transportation "lifeline routes," particularly to provide access to critical facilities in urban areas. Such lifeline routes will facilitate post-earthquake emergency response, rescue and evacuation, as well as enable post-disaster regional recovery and help prevent permanent population loss and long-term economic decline.² The importance of having a seismically resilient lifeline route across the Willamette River is why Multnomah County has proposed to make the Burnside Bridge earthquake ready.

Project Purpose

The primary purpose of this project is to create a seismically resilient Burnside Street lifeline crossing of the Willamette River that will remain fully operational and accessible for vehicles and other modes of transportation immediately following a major CSZ earthquake. A seismically resilient Burnside Bridge will support the region's ability to provide rapid and reliable emergency response, rescue and evacuation after a major earthquake, as well as enable post-earthquake economic recovery. In addition to ensuring that the crossing is seismically resilient, the purpose is also to provide a long-term, low-maintenance and safe crossing for all users.

Project Need

The Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge project is intended to address the following needs:

Need for a Seismically Resilient River Crossing and Lifeline Route

The Cascadia Subduction Zone: Geologic evidence shows that more than 40 major earthquakes have originated along the CSZ fault over the last 10,000 years. The interval between CSZ earthquakes has ranged from a few decades to over a thousand years. The last major earthquake in Oregon occurred 318 years ago, a timespan that exceeds 75 percent of the intervals between major Oregon earthquakes. The



Exhibit B

BETTER - SAFER - CONNECTED

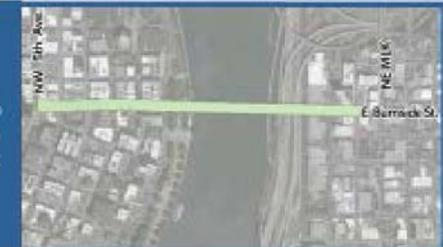
ENHANCED SEISMIC RETROFIT

An upgrade of the existing bridge to meet current seismic standards. Because a retrofit over the I-5 corridor and railroad is not feasible due to long-term closures during construction, that portion of the bridge will be replaced. This option would maintain its existing 86 foot width over the river.



REPLACEMENT: Fixed Bridge

A new fixed bridge with a maximum clearance of 97 feet, at about the same location as the current bridge to allow for ship passage. The west landing could touch down up to three blocks further west of the current bridge. This option assumes a width of approximately 110 feet over the river.



REPLACEMENT: Movable Bridge

A new movable bridge at about the same height and location as the current bridge. This option assumes a width of approximately 110 feet over the river.



REPLACEMENT: Movable Bridge – NE Couch Connection

A new movable bridge at about the same height as the current bridge. The east landing splits to connect to NE Couch Street. Westbound traffic enters from NE Couch Street. This option assumes a width of approximately 110 feet over the river.



5. Public Comment



Comments?



6. Next Steps & Closing Remarks



Upcoming Activities

- Board of County Commissioners Meeting – **November 1**
- Next Policy Group Meeting – **Spring 2019**
- Initiate Alternatives Refinement – **Early 2019**



Thank You!

