



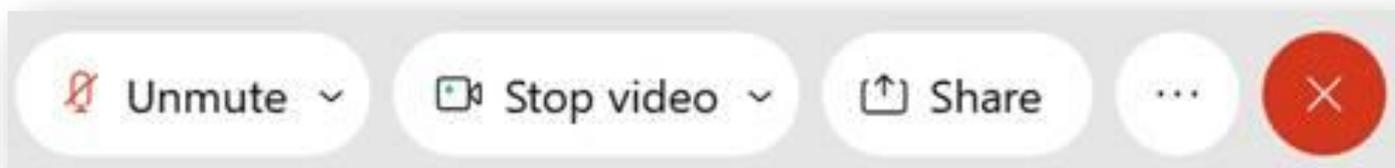
# Senior Agency Staff Meeting #16

*Members join meeting via  
WebEx link in calendar invite*

Multnomah County  
Department of Community Services  
Transportation Division  
October 18, 2021

# Meeting Protocols

## Using WebEx participation features



*For WebEx tech support call or email Liz Stoppelman:*

*(916) 200-5123*

*Liz.Stoppelman@hdrinc.com*



# Agenda

1. Welcome, Introductions, and Housekeeping
2. Public Comment
3. Funding Context and Cost Savings
4. Preferred Alternative Refinements
5. Workplan Update
6. Open Discussion
7. Next Steps



# Introductions and Roll Call

## Senior Agency Staff Group and Project Management Team

- **Mark Lear**, Portland Bureau of Transportation
- **Brian Monberg**, City of Gresham
- **Chris Deffebach**, Washington County
- **Malu Wilkinson**, Metro
- **Mike Bezner**, Clackamas County
- **Steve Witter**, TriMet
- **Mike Morrow**, FHWA
- **Sam Hunaidi**, ODOT
- **Katie Morrison**, Sen. Kathleen Taylor's Office
- **Dan Bower**, Portland Streetcar
- **Greg Theisen**, Port of Portland
- **Brett Horner**, Portland Parks and Recreation
- **Tate White**, Portland Parks and Recreation
- **Liz Smith Currie**, MultCo
- **Chris Fick**, MultCo
- **Jessica Berry**, MultCo
- **Jeston Black**, MultCo
- **Jon Henrichsen**, MultCo
- **Emily Miletich**, MultCo
- **Jamie Waltz**, MultCo
- **Brendon Haggerty**, MultCo
- **Patrick Sweeney**, PBOT
- **Sharon Daleo**, PBOT
- **Emily Cline**, FHWA
- **Shaneka Owens**, FHWA
- **Alex Oreschak**, Oregon Metro
- **Mike Baker**, DEA
- **Suzanne Carey**, DEA



# Funding Context

## Funding Opportunities and Approaches

### Funding Opportunities

- Federal Transportation & Infrastructure Package
- Federal RAISE Grant
- Potential Future Regional Transportation Bond Measure
- Multnomah County Vehicle Registration Fee (secured)



### Approach

- Cost reductions via scope refinements (Revised Preferred Alternative)
- Establishing a cost cap
- Continual *Value Engineering*

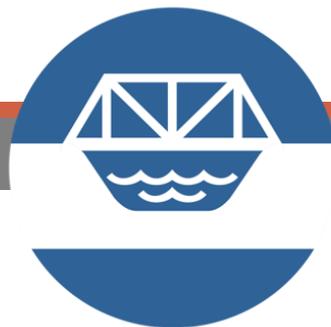


# Cost Saving Measures

## Guiding Principles

- Moving forward with recommended Long Span Replacement Alternative
- Ensure the Purpose and Need is met
  - Seismic resiliency
  - Emergency response and regional recovery
  - Long term transportation needs
- Maintain County's equity lens





# Preferred Alternative Refinements



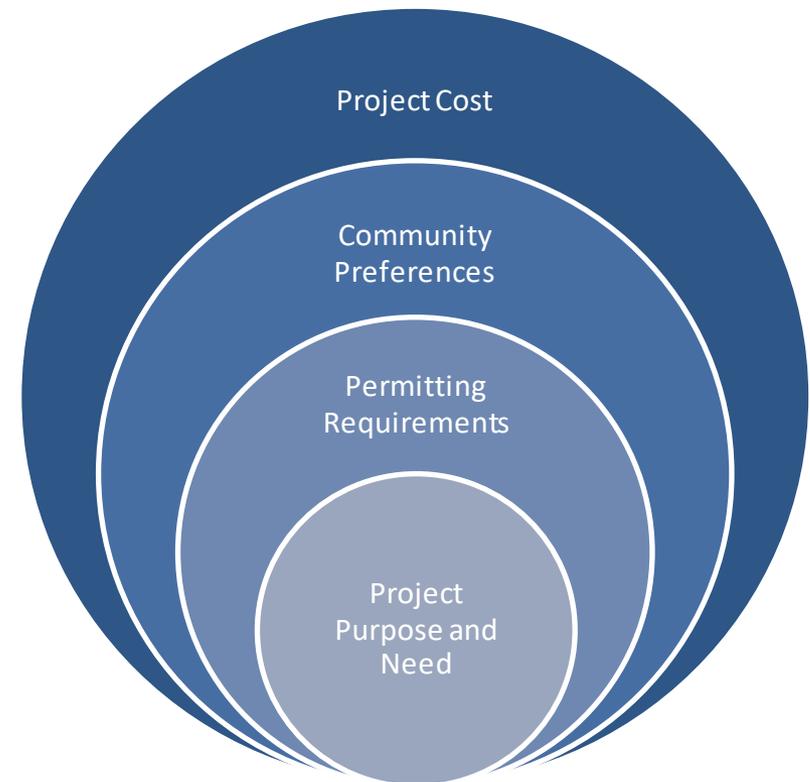
# Why revise the Preferred Alternative?

## Key Drivers

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

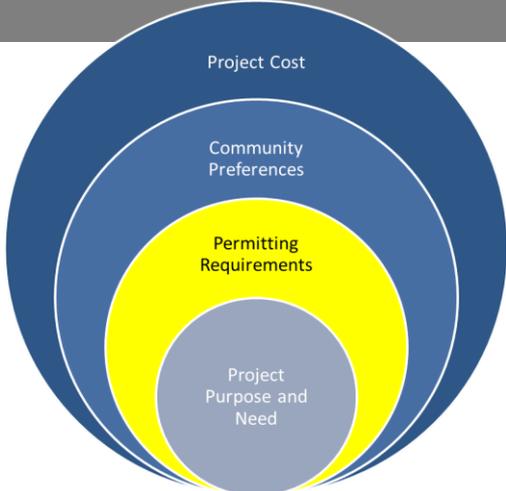
### Why?

- 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?	Cost Savings
<b>1. Bridge width:</b> Reduced by approx. 26 feet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost savings</li> </ul>	<b>\$140 – 165M</b>
<b>2. Vehicle Lanes:</b> Reduced from 5 to 4 vehicular lanes (4 Lane configurations under consideration)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost savings</li> </ul>	
<b>3. Bike / Ped Space:</b> Reduced from 20' to between 14' - 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>\$20 - 40M</b>
<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>\$25 - 35M</b>
<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>TBD</b>
<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>	<b>\$0 - 5M</b>
<b>ADA Connections to Bridge:</b> Advance stairs and elevators (dismiss Ramps)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost savings</li> </ul>	<b>\$5 -10M</b>



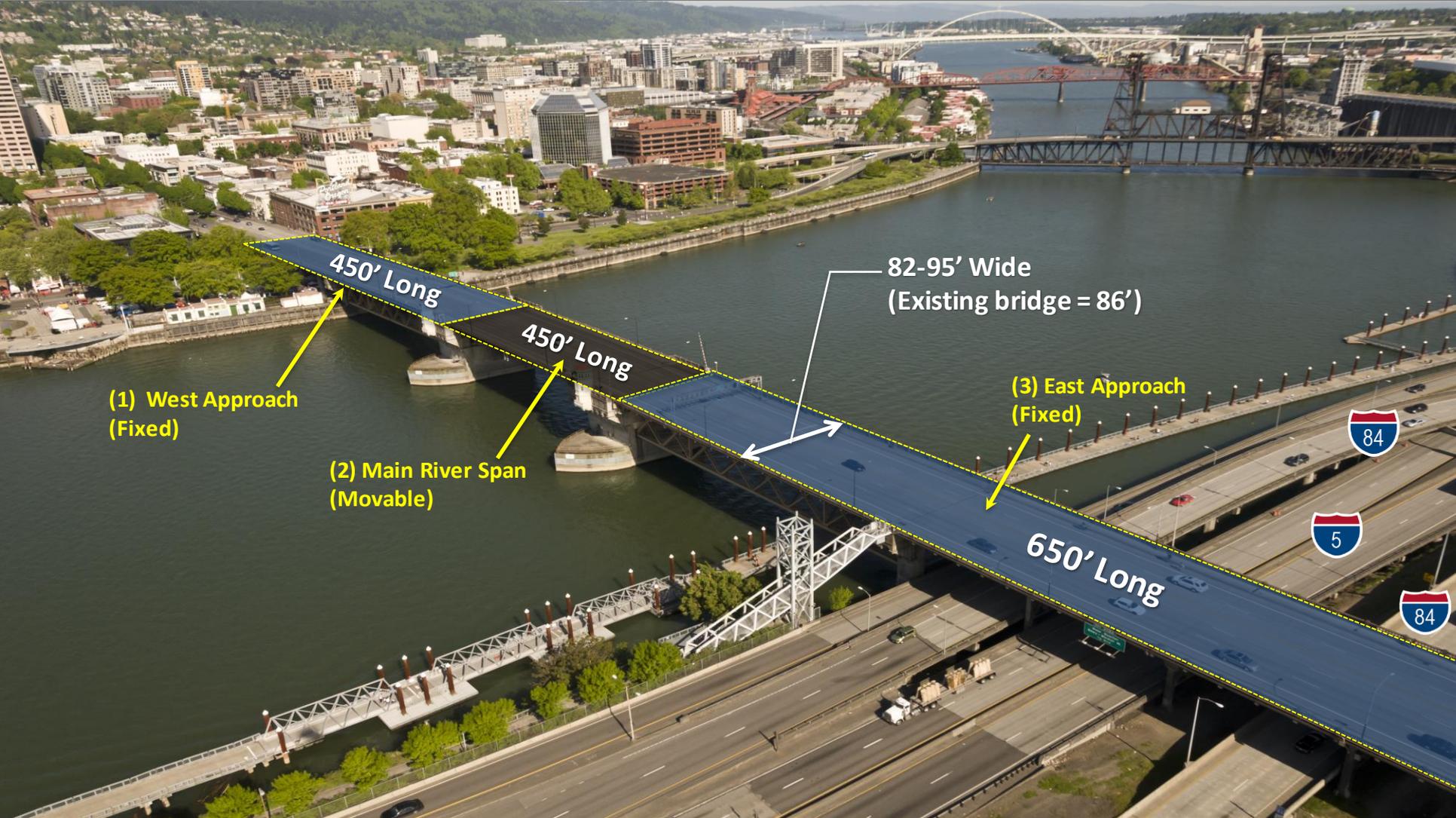


# West Approach Bridge Type



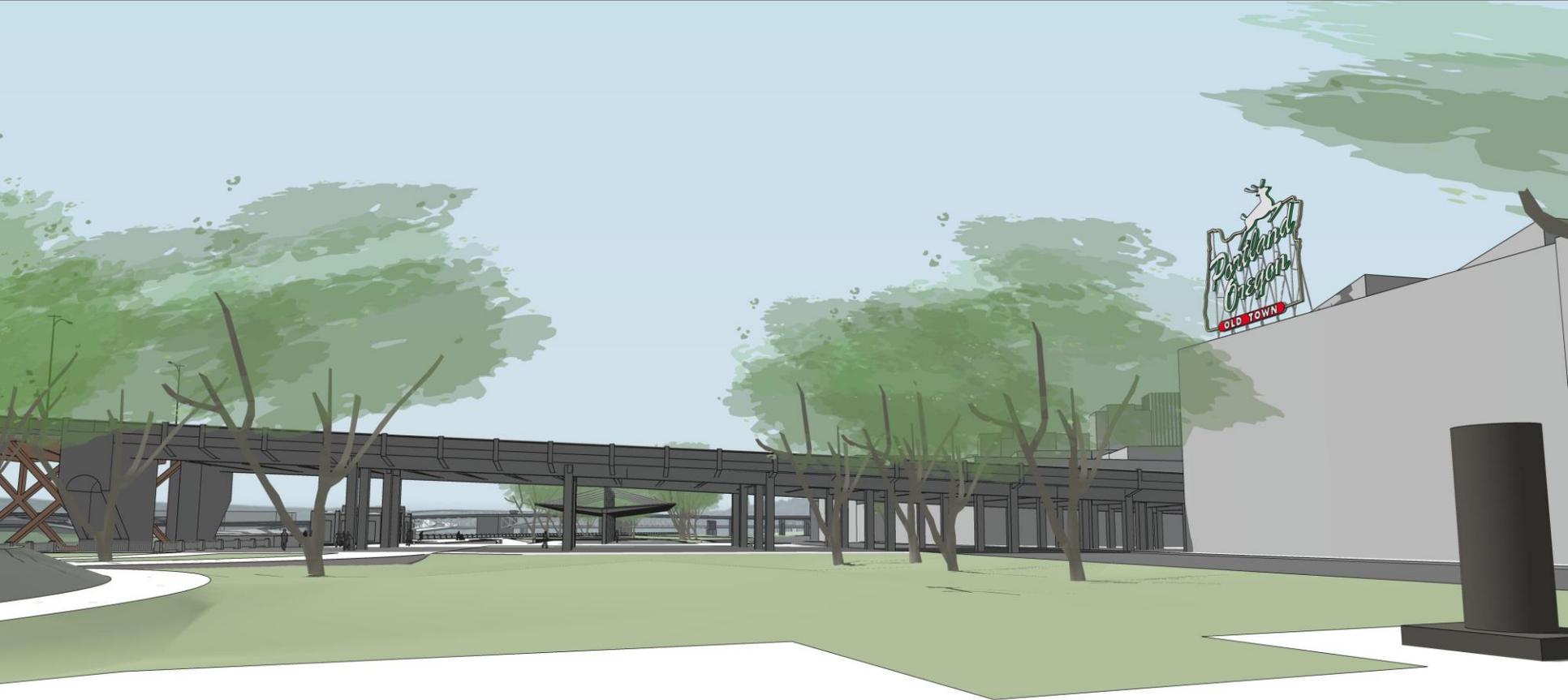
# Long-span Alternative

“Three bridges in one”



# West Approach

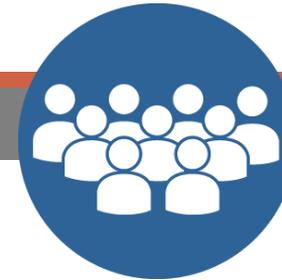
## Existing Girder Bridge



# Long-span Approach Options in the DEIS

Replacement Long Span is the Recommended Preferred Alternative

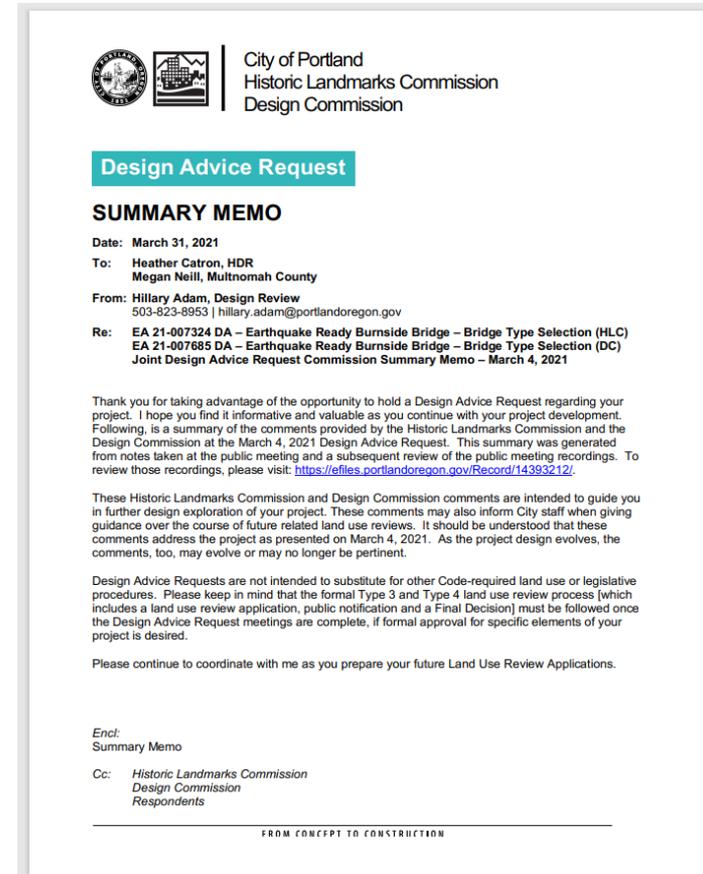




# West Approach Bridge Type

## 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

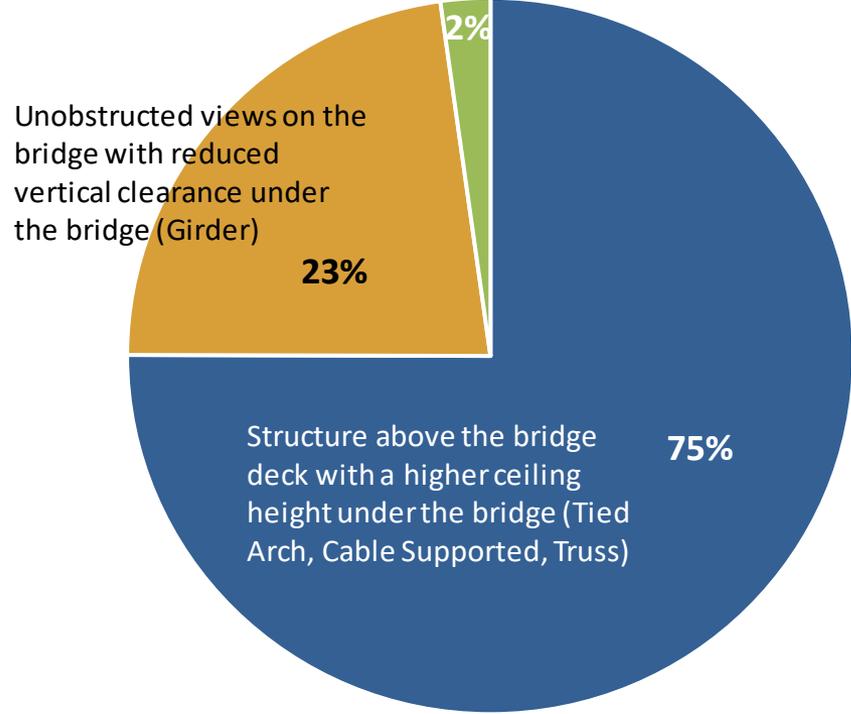
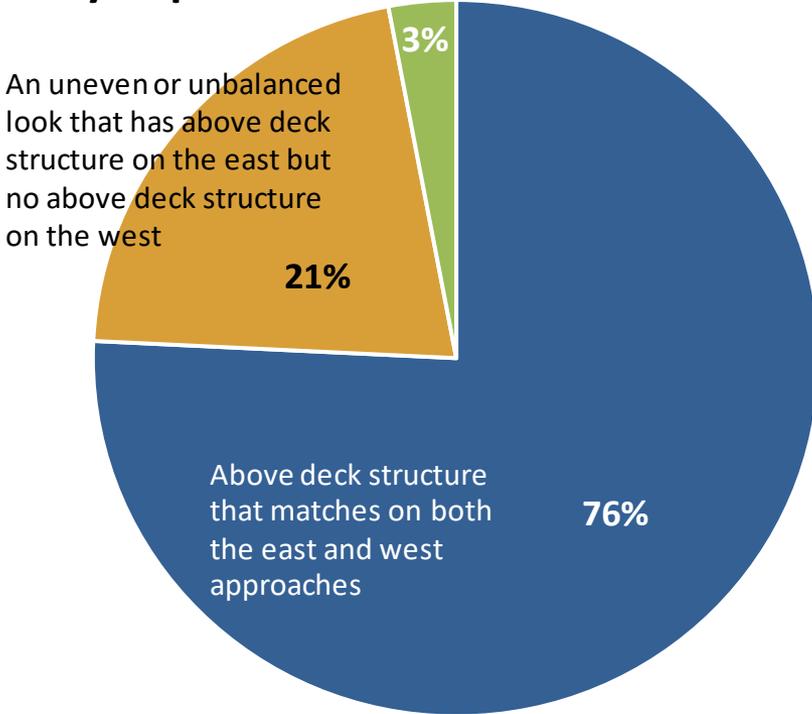


# West Approach Bridge Type

## 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

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

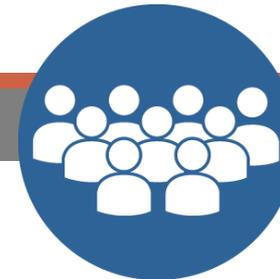
## Movable Span

### Lift



### Bascule





# Movable Span Bridge Type

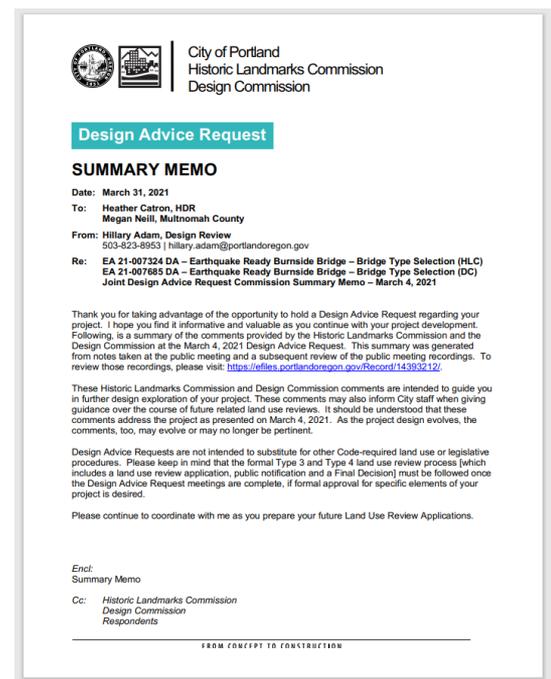
## Assessment

- **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

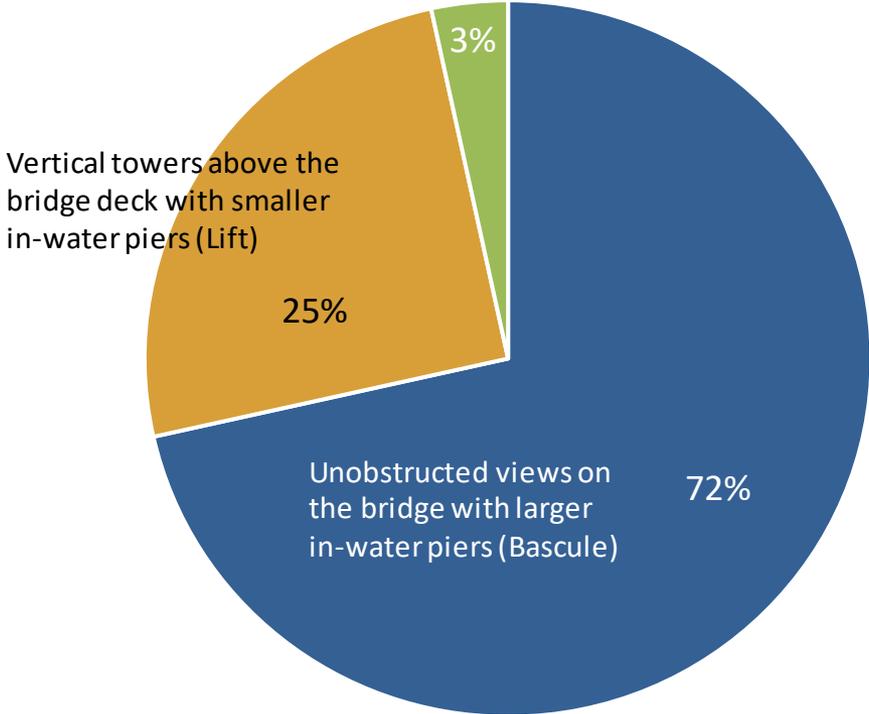


# Movable Span Bridge Type

## Assessment

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

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



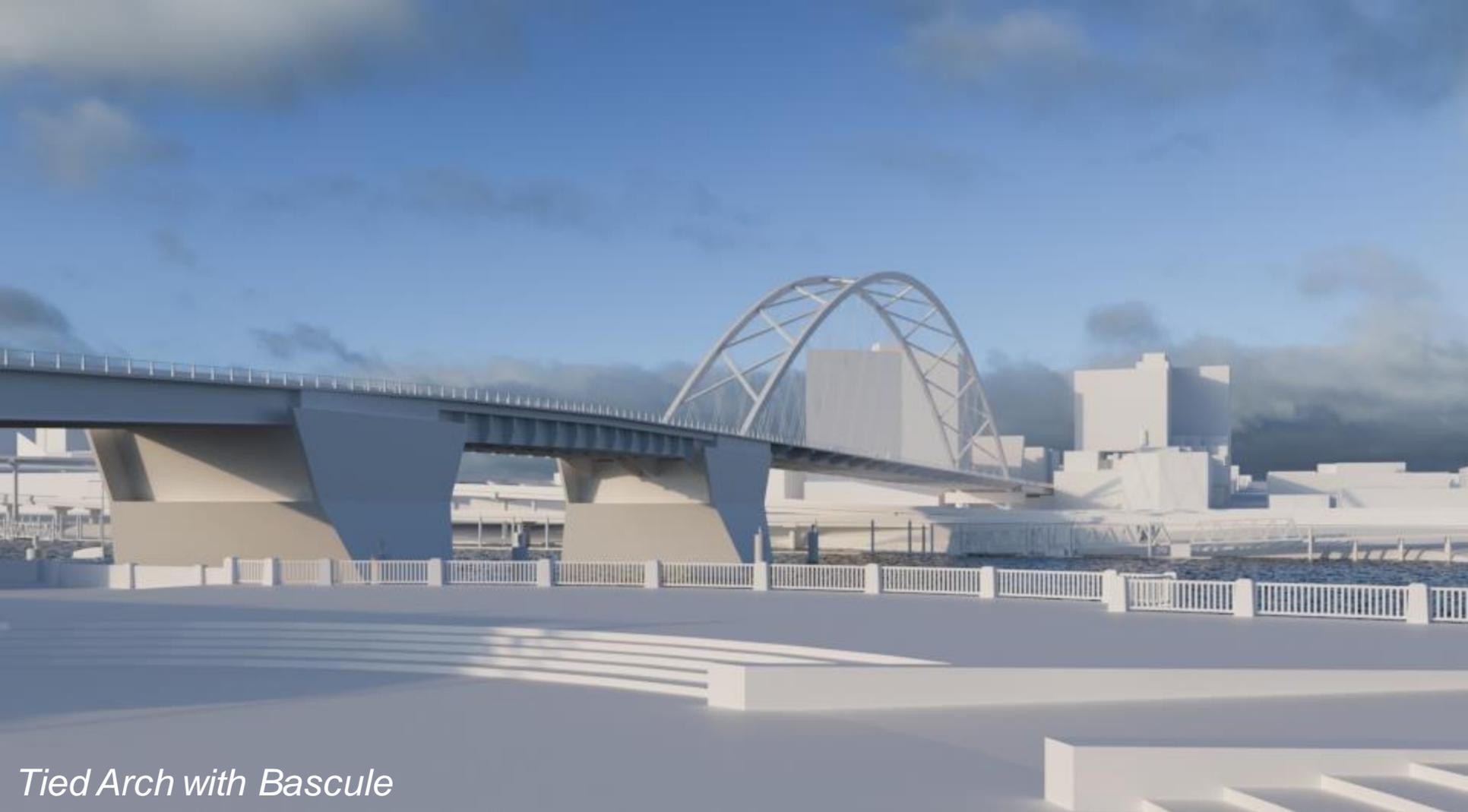
# Bridge Views: From Waterfront Park

## View 2: Looking NE from Waterfront Park



# Movable Span Bridge Type

View 2: Looking NE from Waterfront Park

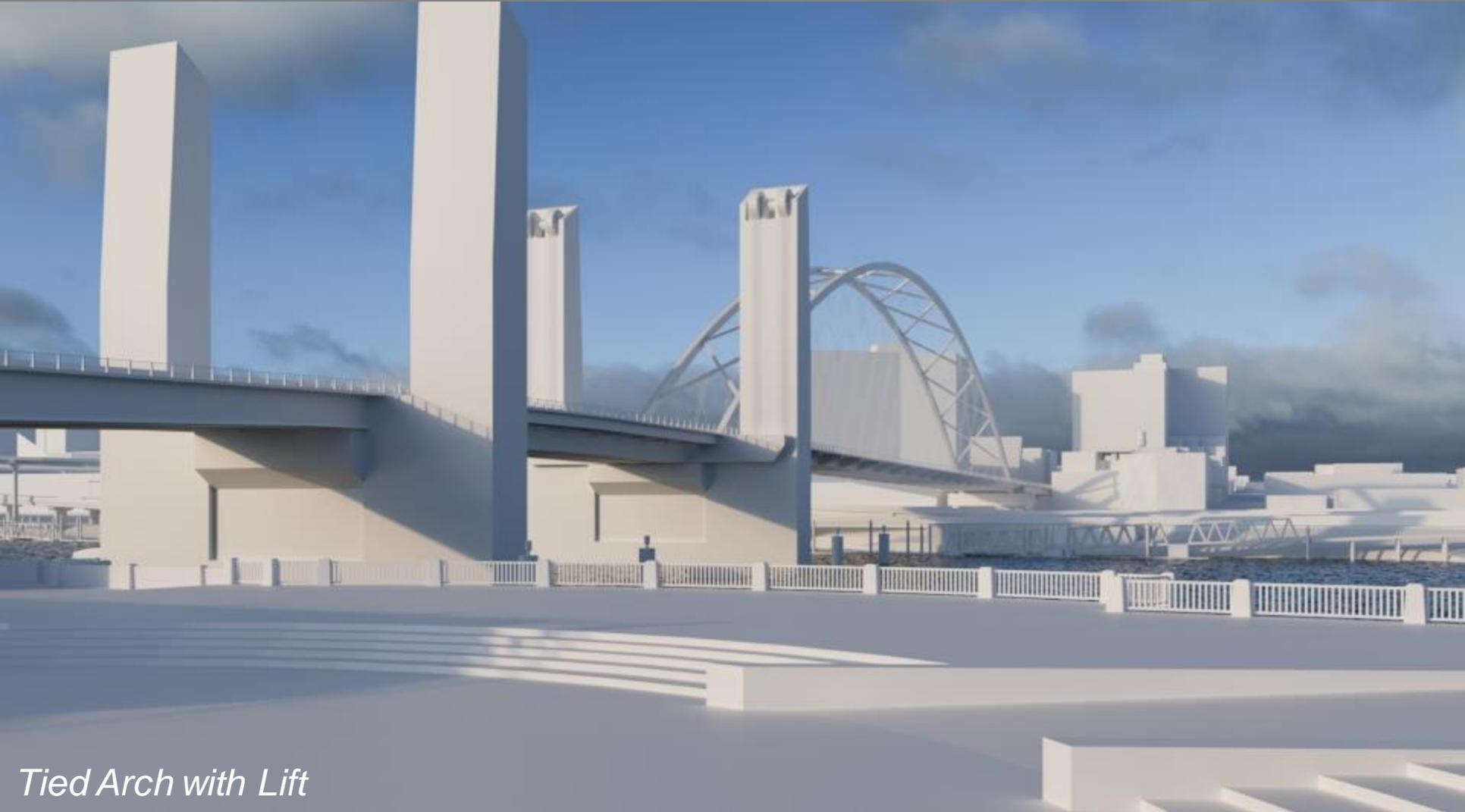


*Tied Arch with Bascule*



# 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*



# 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

Recommendation: Bascule Movable Bridge



*Bascule with Tied Arch*

**OR**

*Bascule with Cable Stayed*



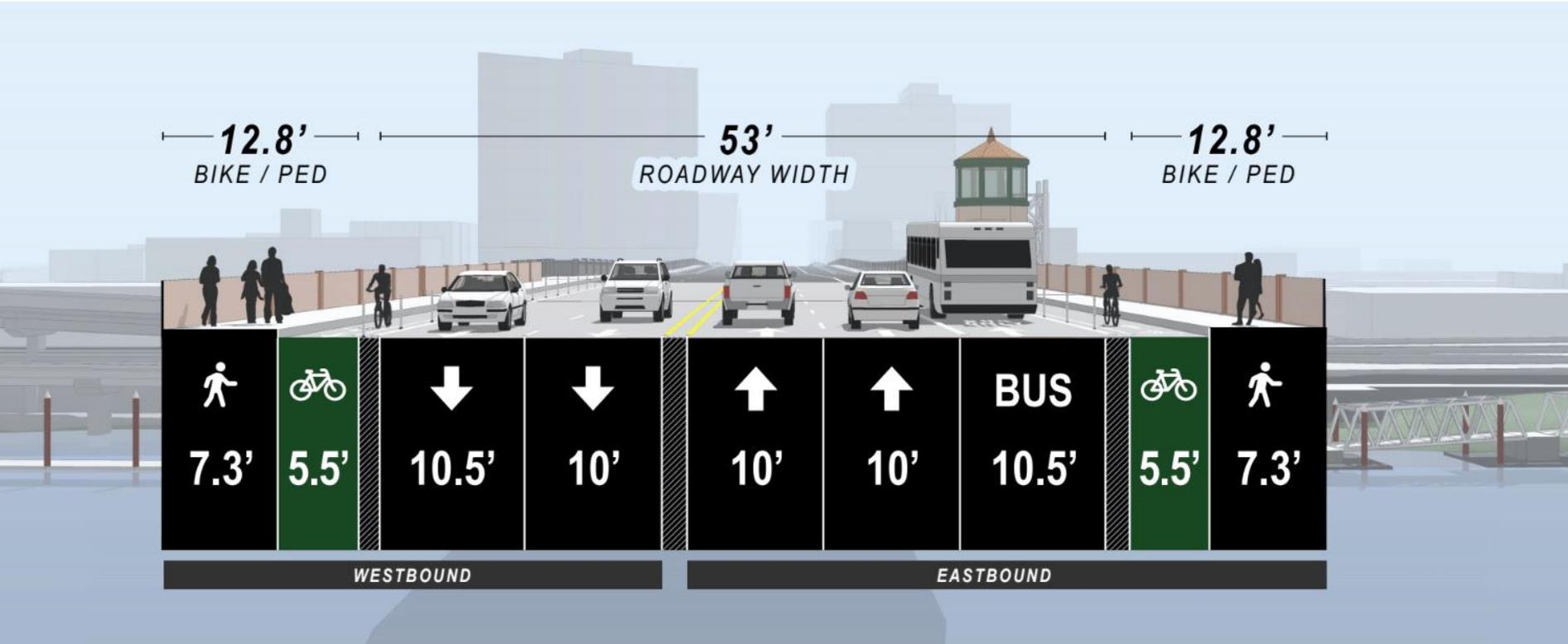


# Bridge Width



# Bridge Width Reduction

## Existing Cross Section:



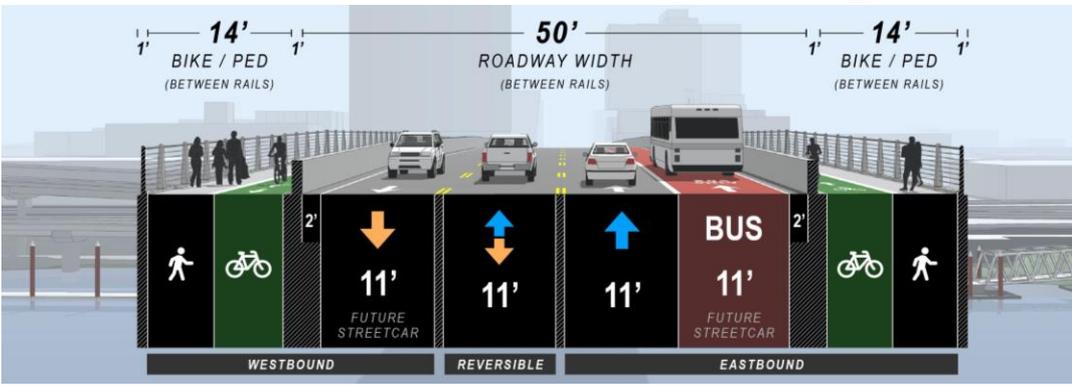
# SDEIS Cross Section Options

\$140 - \$165M Savings

Re-allocating some vehicular width to bike/ped space

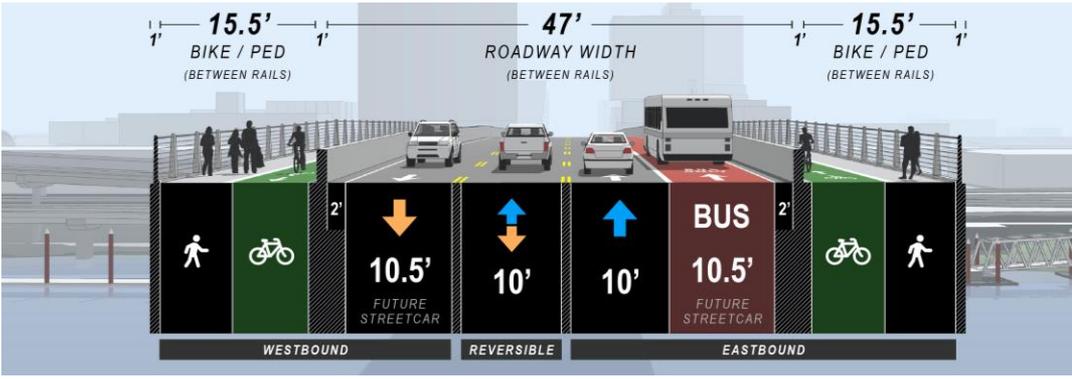
## Option A:

14' Bike/Ped Space + 50' Roadway Width



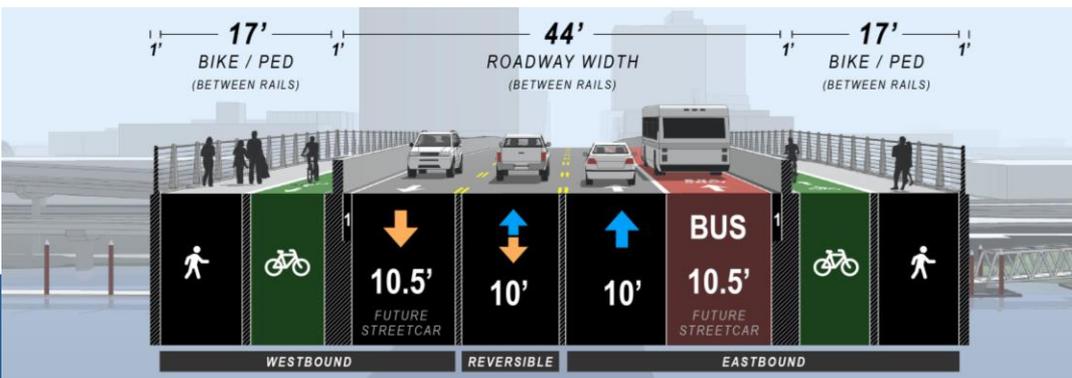
## Option B:

15.5' Bike/Ped Space + 47' Roadway Width



## Option C:

17' Bike/Ped Space + 44' Roadway Width



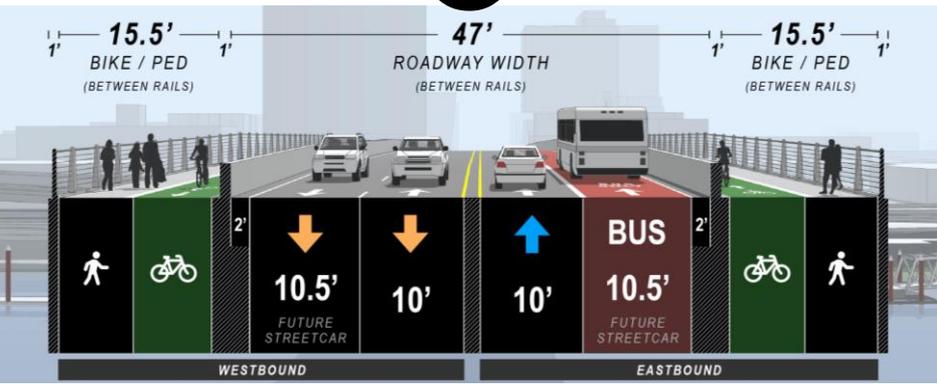
Same overall bridge width for every option



# 4-Lane Traffic Configurations

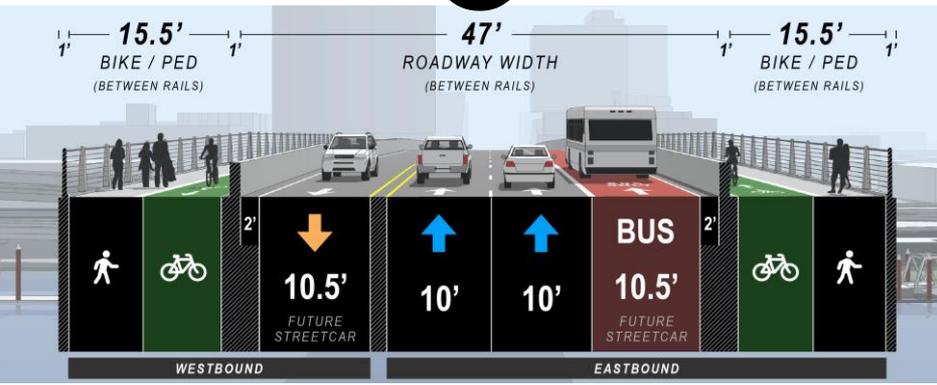
Lane Configuration is a PBOT decision

**1**



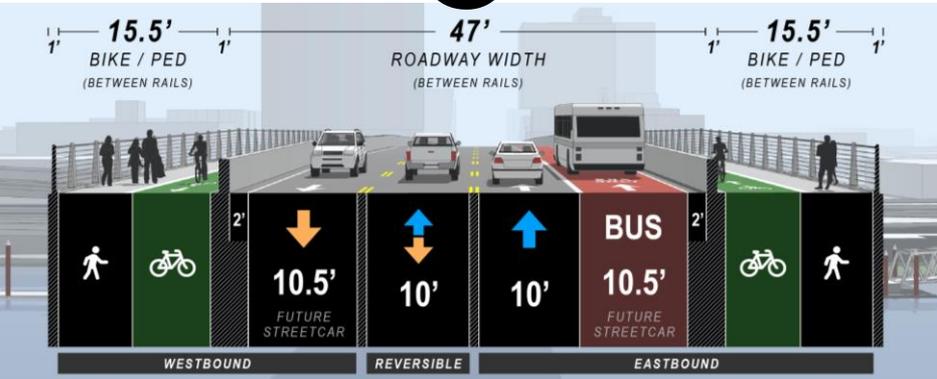
**2 WB Lanes / 1 EB + 1 Bus Lane**

**2**



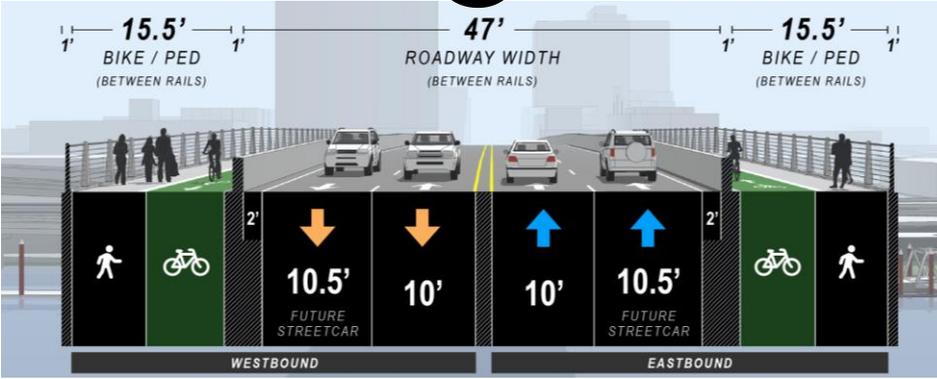
**1 WB Lane / 2 EB + 1 Bus Lane**

**3**



**Reversible Lane**

**4**



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

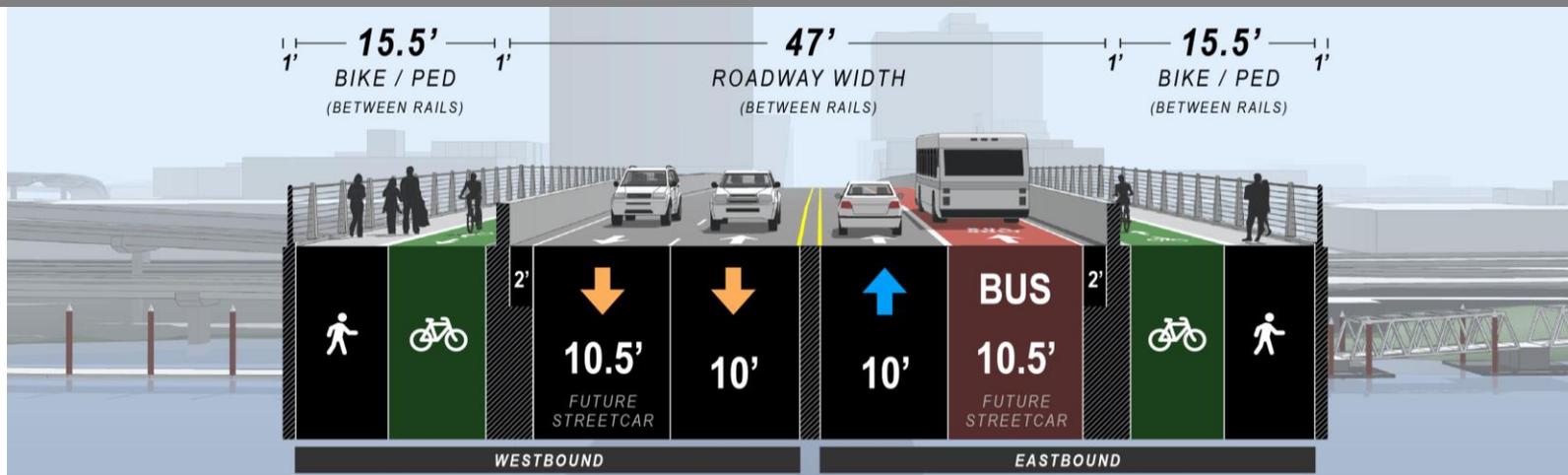


Notes: (1) Also analyzed impacts to adjacent bridges  
 (2) 15.5' bike/ped space shown; 17' bike/ped space also under consideration

# 1 Traffic Summary (With Bus Lane)

Eastbound: **Flawed**

Westbound = **Good**



## Traffic Operations:

- (+) Morning Rush Hour: Matches existing condition for traffic into downtown
- (-) Evening Rush Hour: Significant congestion and queuing out of downtown

## Transit Impacts:

- (+) Morning Rush Hour: Matches existing condition for buses into downtown
- (+) Evening Rush Hour: Works well for buses out of downtown

## Emergency Service (Fire Dept EB Service):

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

## City Policy:

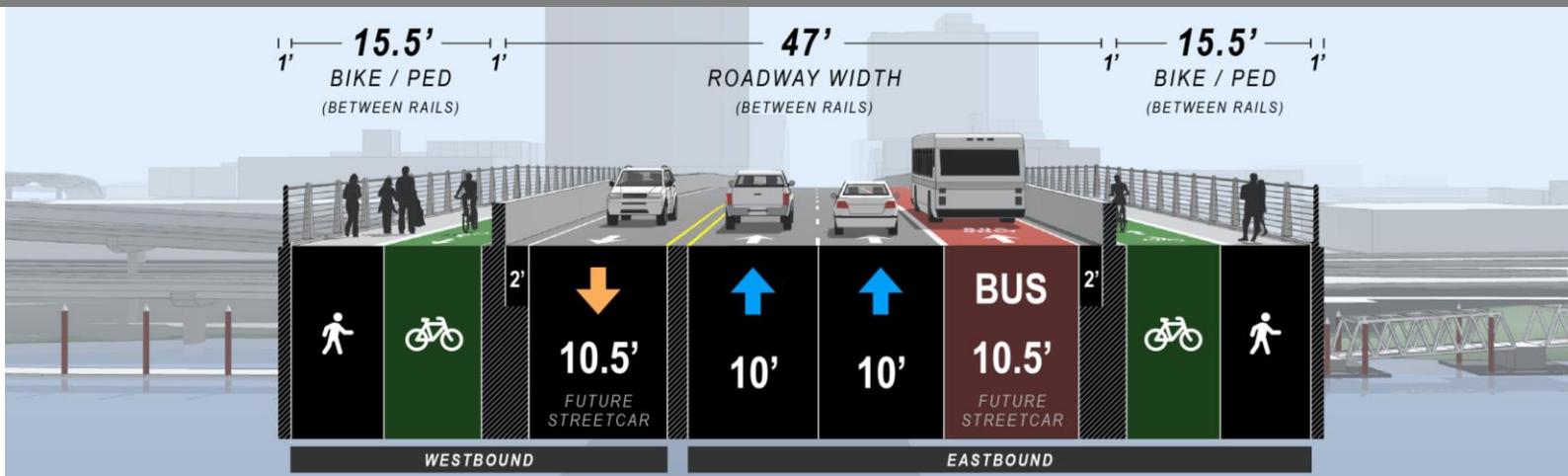
- (+) Having an EB Bus lane complies with Rose Lanes Plan and Policy 9.6 of City's Comprehensive Plan



# ② Traffic Summary (With Bus Lane)

Eastbound: **Good**

Westbound = **Poor**



## Traffic Operations:

- (-) Morning Rush Hour: Moderate congestion and queuing into downtown
- (+) Evening Rush Hour: Matches existing condition for traffic out of downtown

## Transit Impacts:

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

## Emergency Service (Fire Dept EB Service):

- (+) Works well for Fire Dept emergency response

## City Policy:

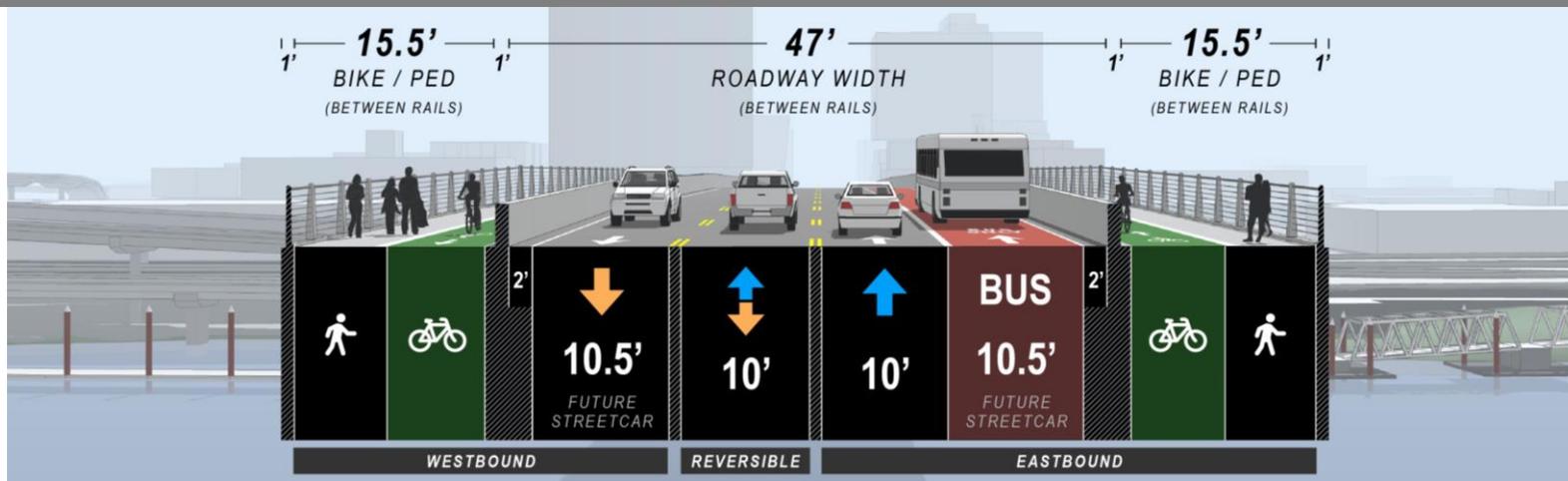
- (+) Having an EB Bus lane complies with Rose Lanes Plan and Policy 9.6 of City's Comprehensive Plan



# ③ Traffic Summary (With Bus Lane)

Eastbound: **Good**

Westbound = **Good**



## Traffic Operations:

- (+) Morning Rush Hour: Matches existing condition into downtown
- (+) Evening Rush Hour: Matches existing condition out of downtown

## Transit Impacts:

- (+) Morning Rush Hour: Matches existing condition for buses into downtown
- (+) Evening Rush Hour: Works well for buses 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:

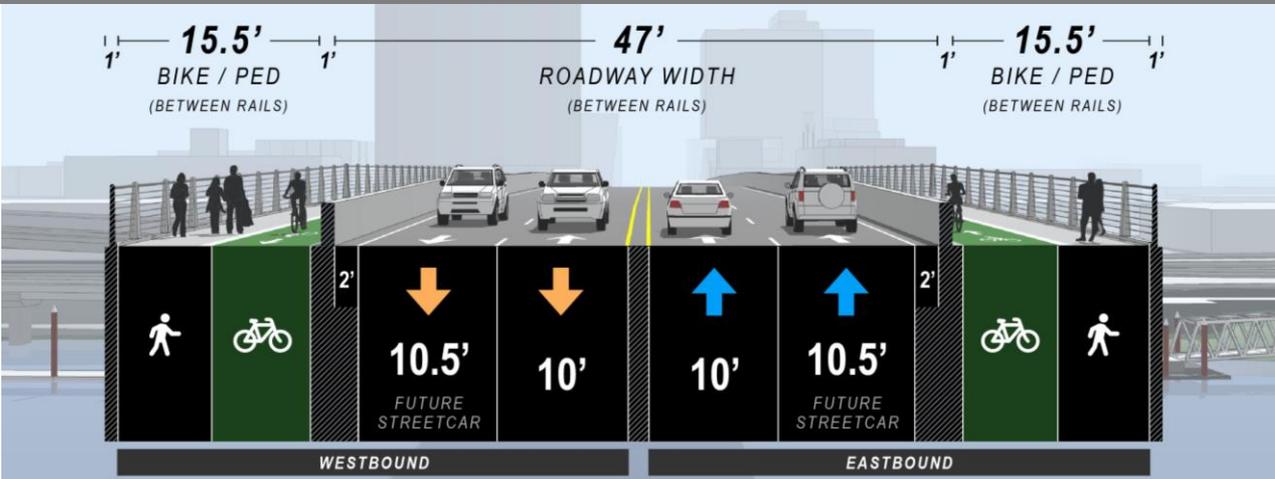
- Some EB traffic congestion could occur in the mornings
- Some WB congestion could occur in the evenings



# 4 Traffic Summary (Without a Bus Lane)

Eastbound: **Flawed**

Westbound = **Good**



**Note:**

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

**Traffic Operations:**

- (+) Morning Rush Hour: Matches existing condition for traffic into downtown
- (+) Evening Rush Hour: Matches existing condition for traffic out of downtown

**Transit Impacts:**

- (+) Morning Rush Hour: Matches existing condition for buses 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



# ③ Reversible Lane Option

## What we're studying ...

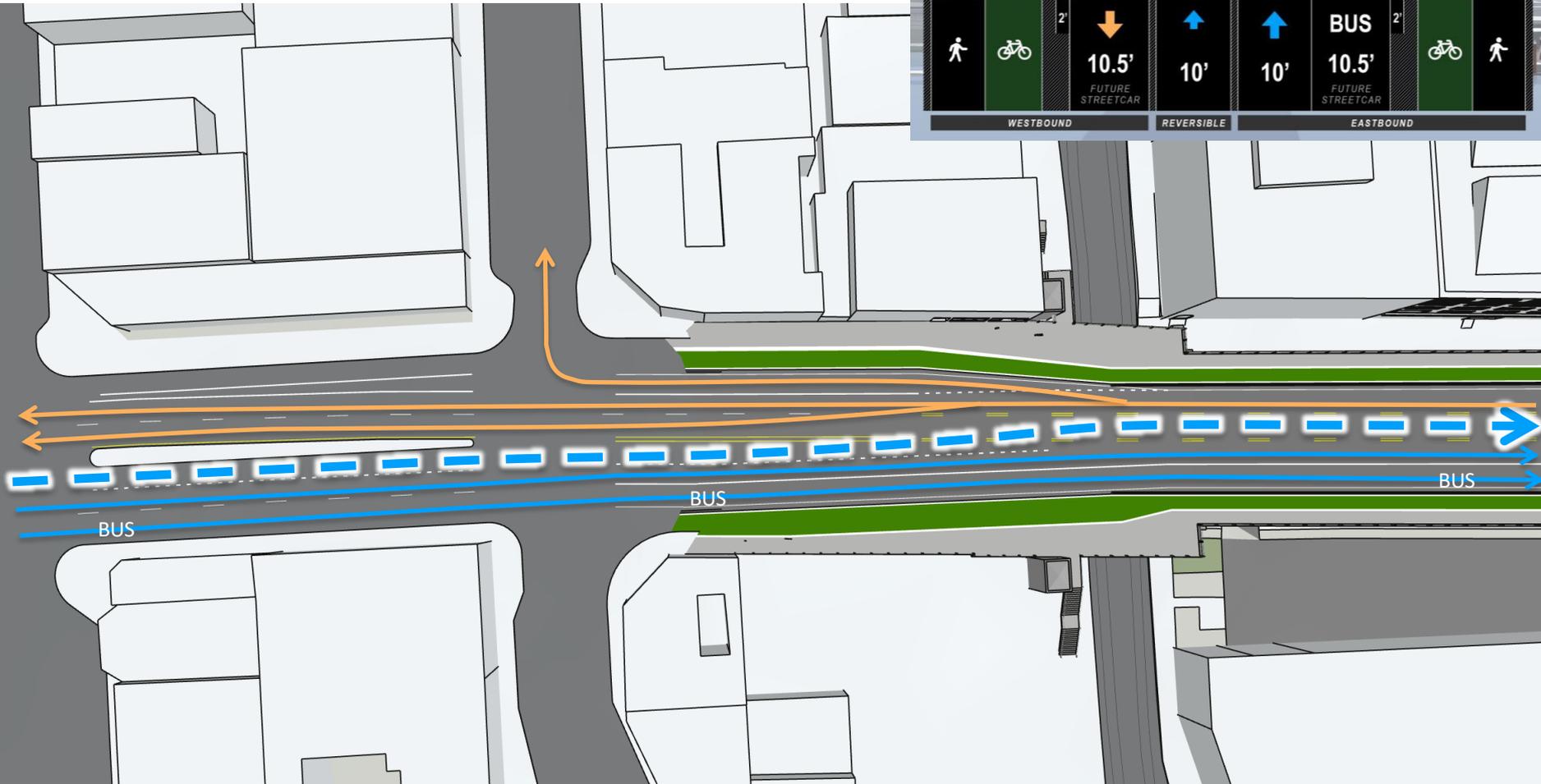
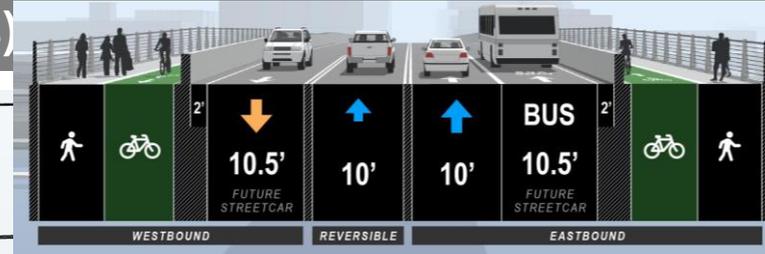
- Lessons Learned from others
- Traffic operations and safety
- Entry treatments



Collins St, Arlington, TX

# ③ Reversible Lane Option

West Side (All times except Morning Rush Hours)



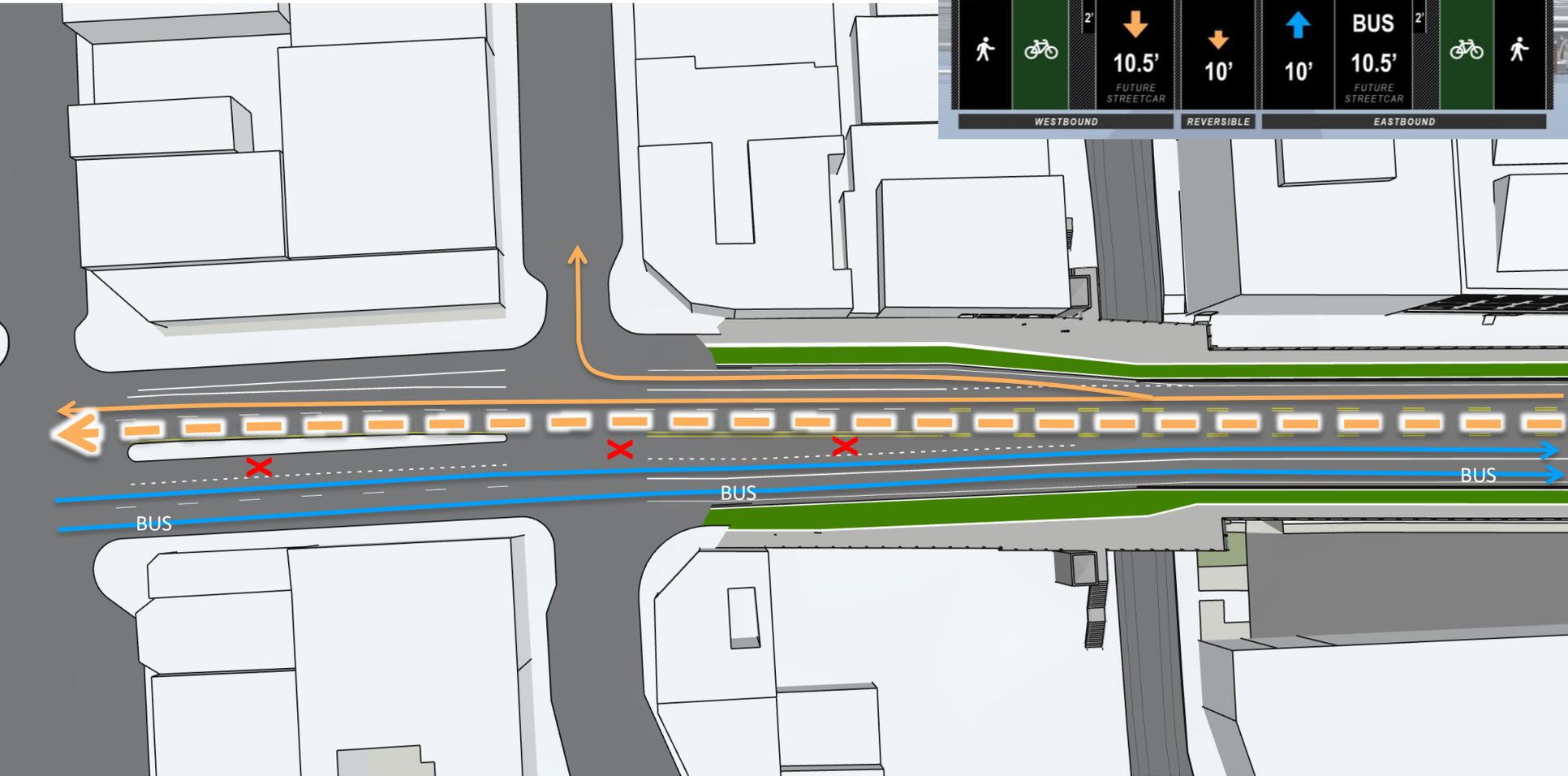
Orange arrows = Westbound

Blue arrows = Eastbound



# ③ Reversible Lane Option

West Side (Morning Rush Hours)



Orange arrows = Westbound

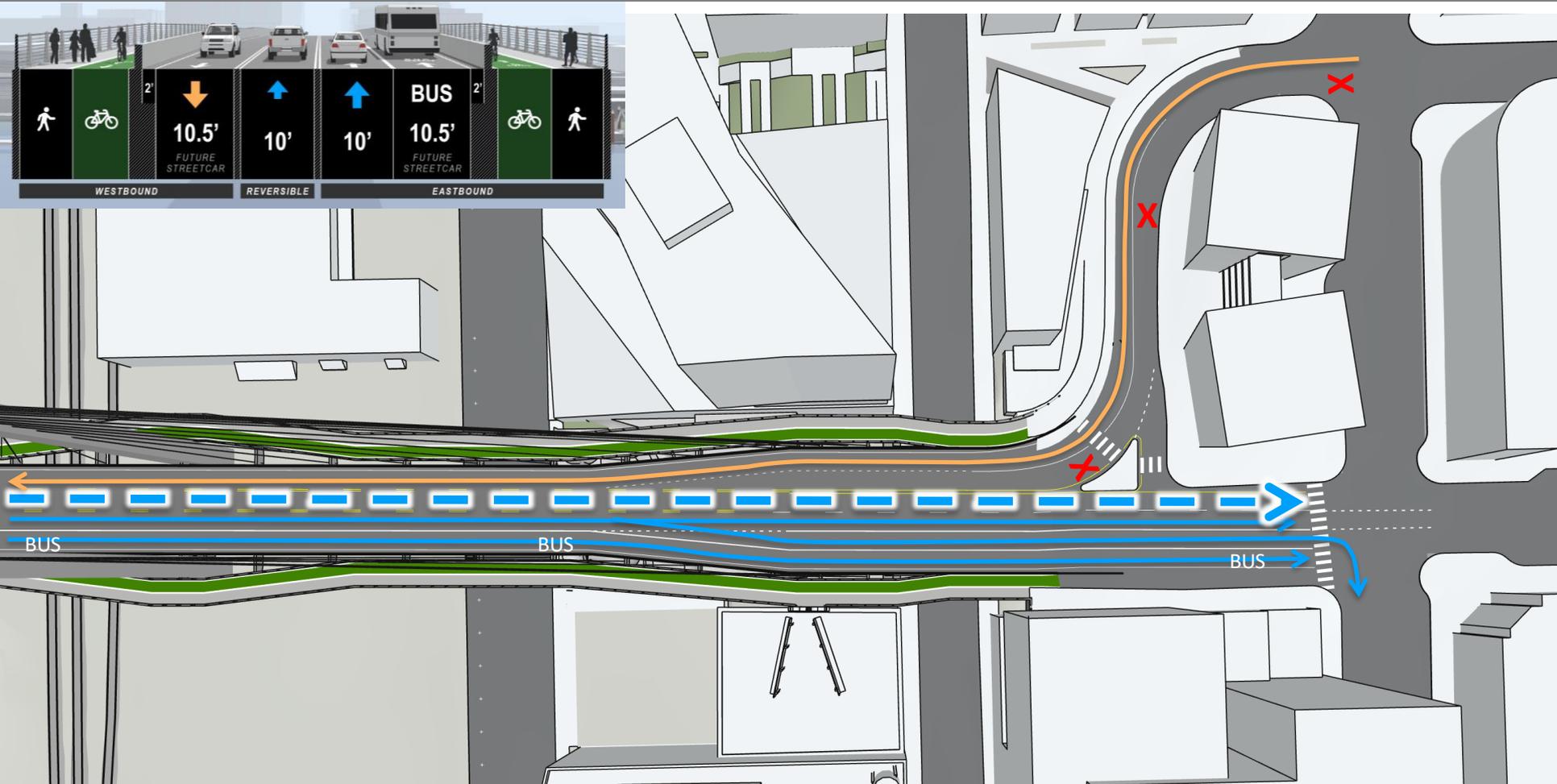
Blue arrows = Eastbound

X = Potential gate



# ③ Reversible Lane Option

East Side (All times except Morning Rush Hours)



Orange arrows = Westbound

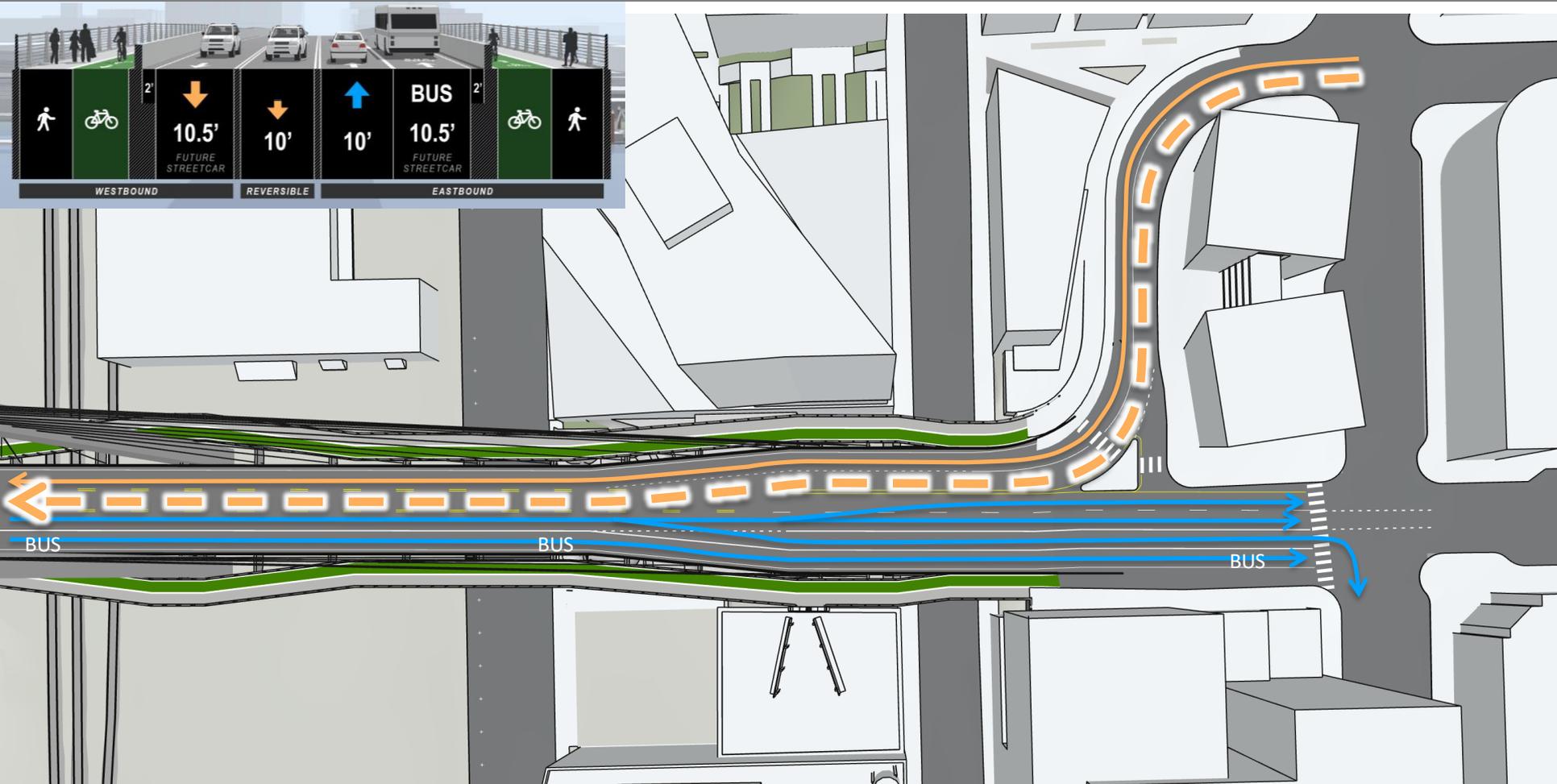
Blue arrows = Eastbound

X = Potential gate



# ③ Reversible Lane Option

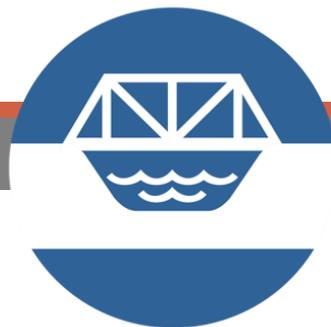
## East Side (Morning Rush Hours)



Orange arrows = Westbound

Blue arrows = Eastbound





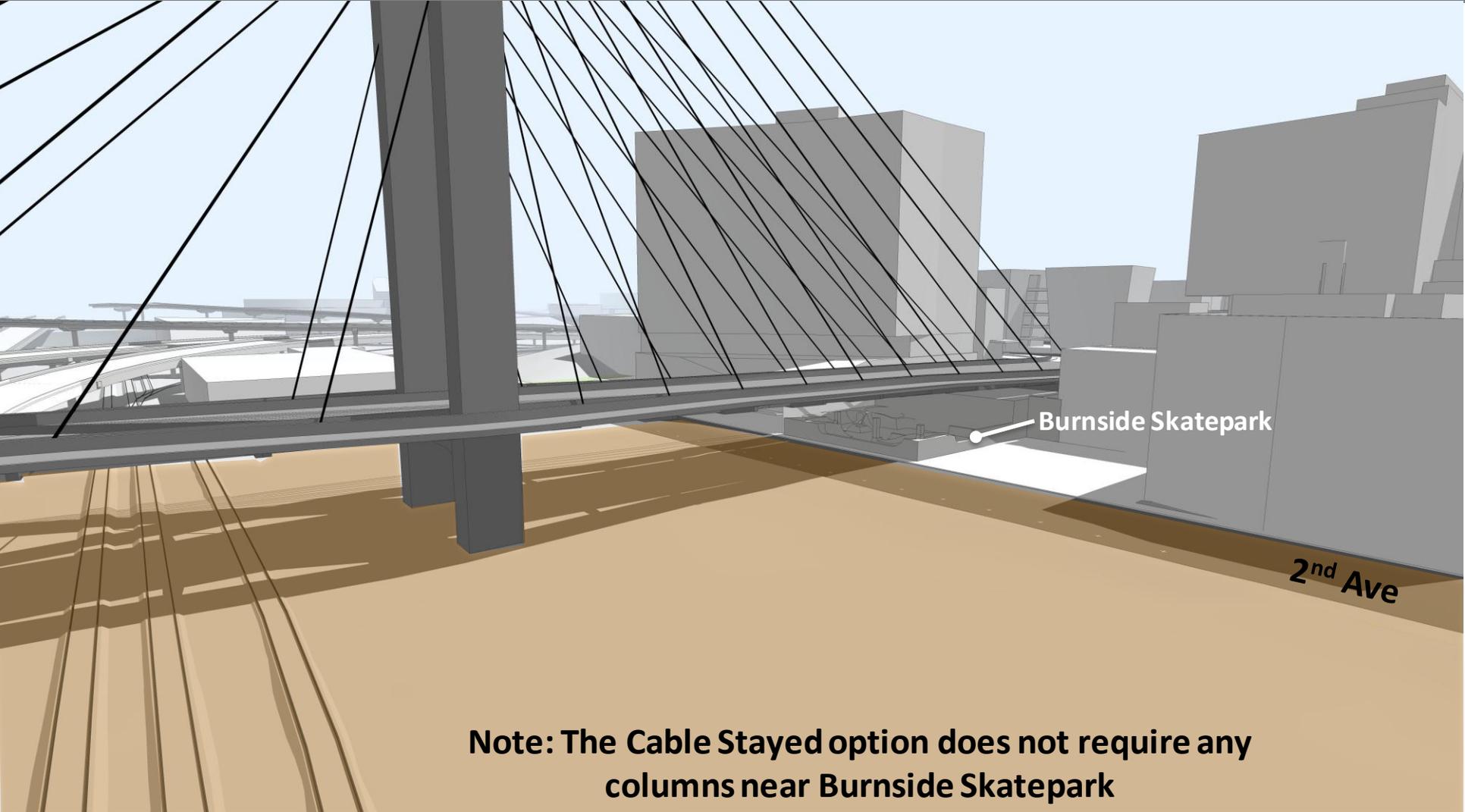
# Bridge Support Locations



# East Approach Support Location



## SDEIS Cable Stayed Option



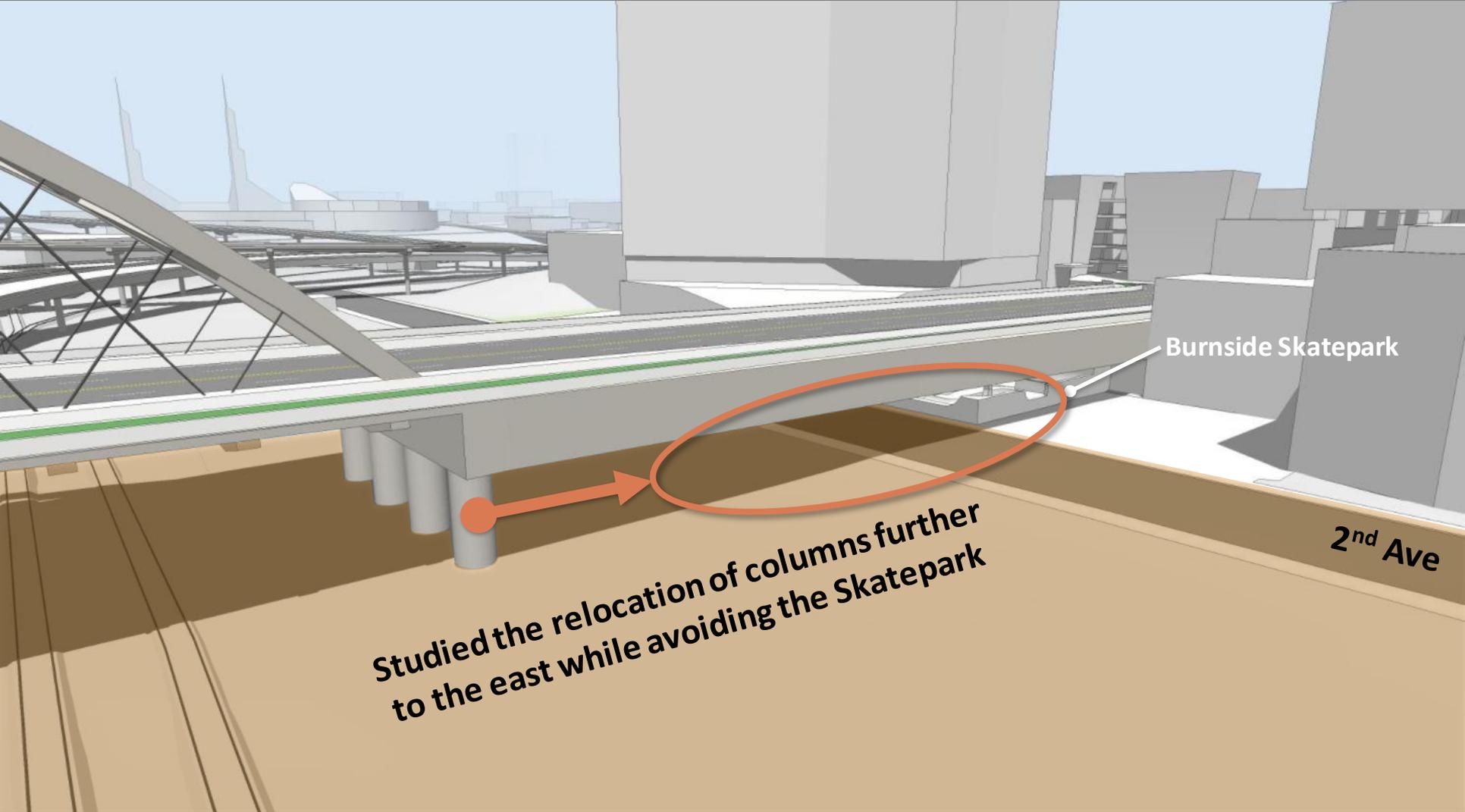
**Note: The Cable Stayed option does not require any columns near Burnside Skatepark**



# East Approach Support Location



## SDEIS Tied Arch Option



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

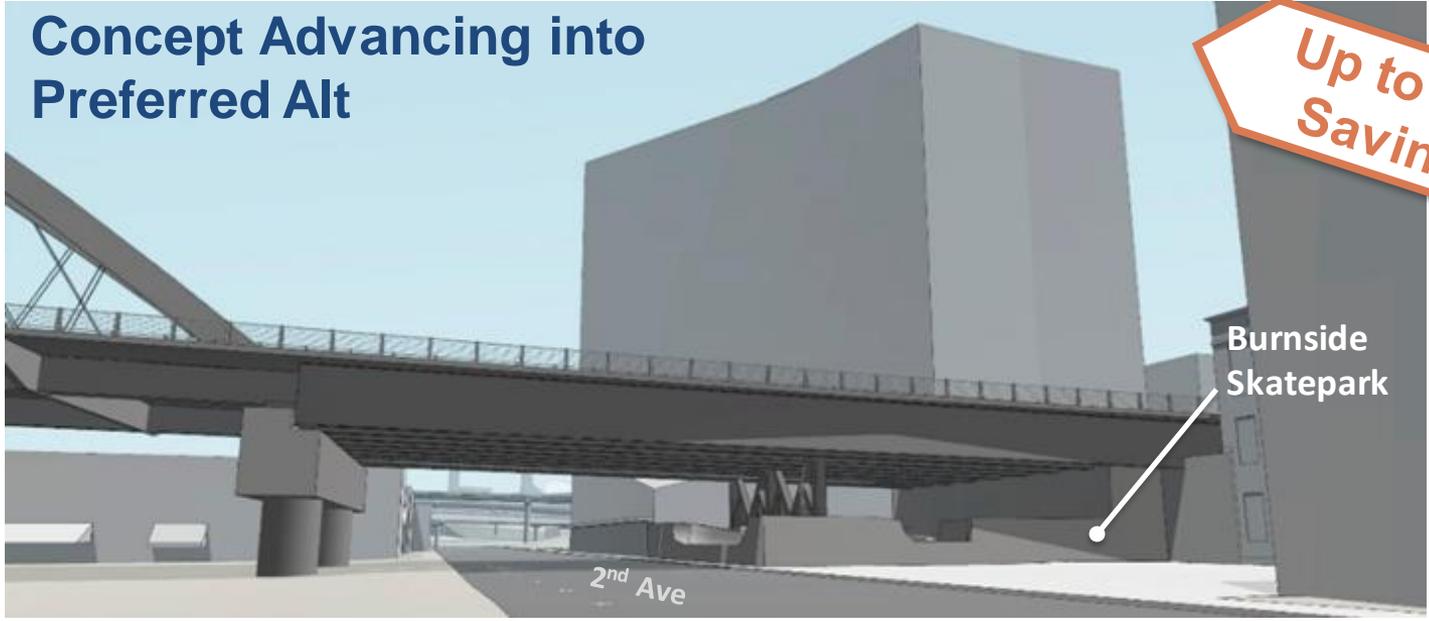


*Does not apply to Cable Stayed bridge type*

# East Approach Support Location

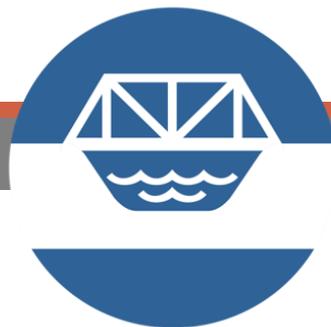
## Tied Arch Alternative

Concept Advancing into Preferred Alt



Concepts Dismissed





# ADA Connections



# Connections to MAX & Esplanade

## Existing Conditions

**North & South Stairs to  
Skidmore Max Station**



*Owner: Multnomah County*

**South Stairs to  
Eastbank Esplanade**

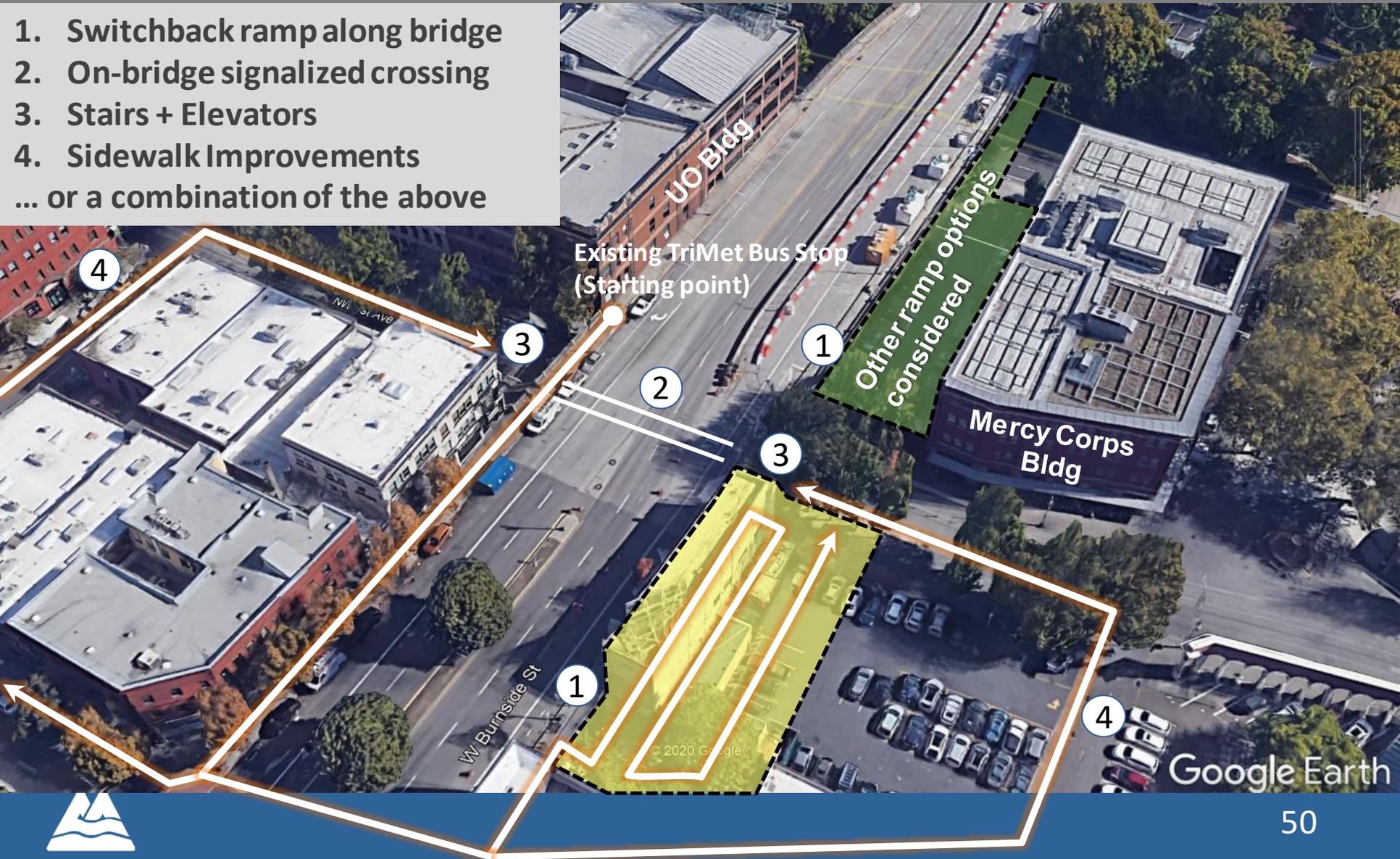


*Owner: City of Portland*

# Connection to Skidmore MAX Station

## Initial Options Discussed

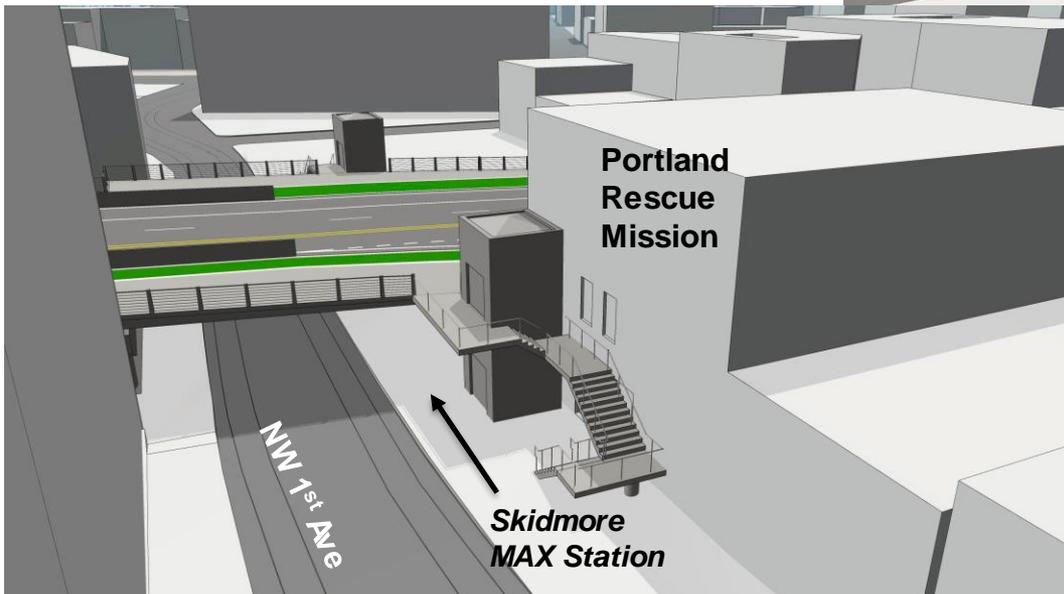
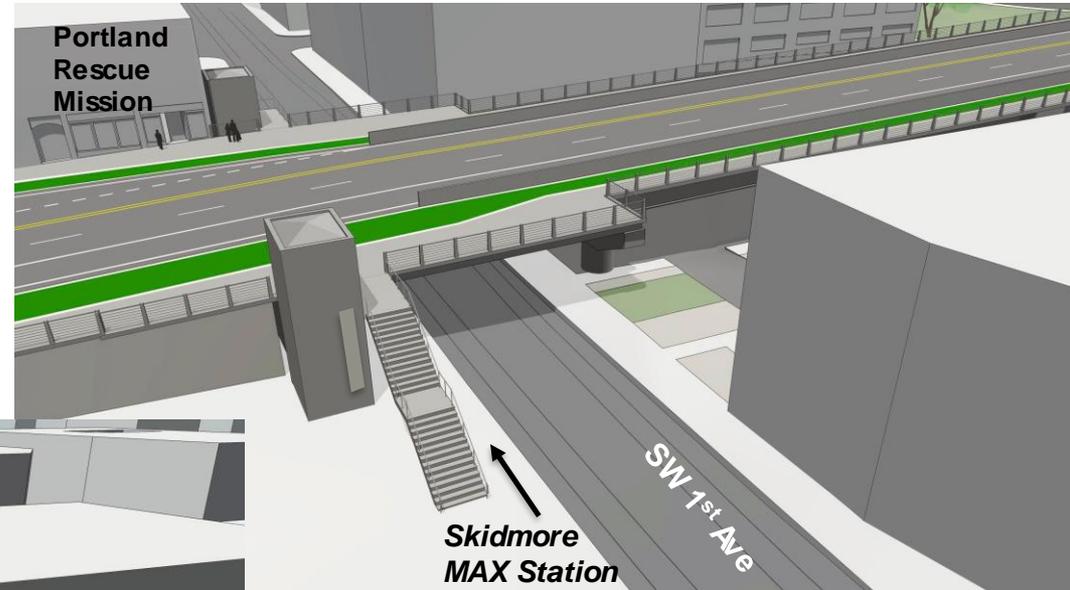
- 1. Switchback ramp along bridge
- 2. On-bridge signalized crossing
- 3. Stairs + Elevators
- 4. Sidewalk Improvements
- ... or a combination of the above



# Connection to Skidmore MAX Station

## County Proposal

- Stairs + Elevators



# Westside Street Network Improvements

## County Proposal

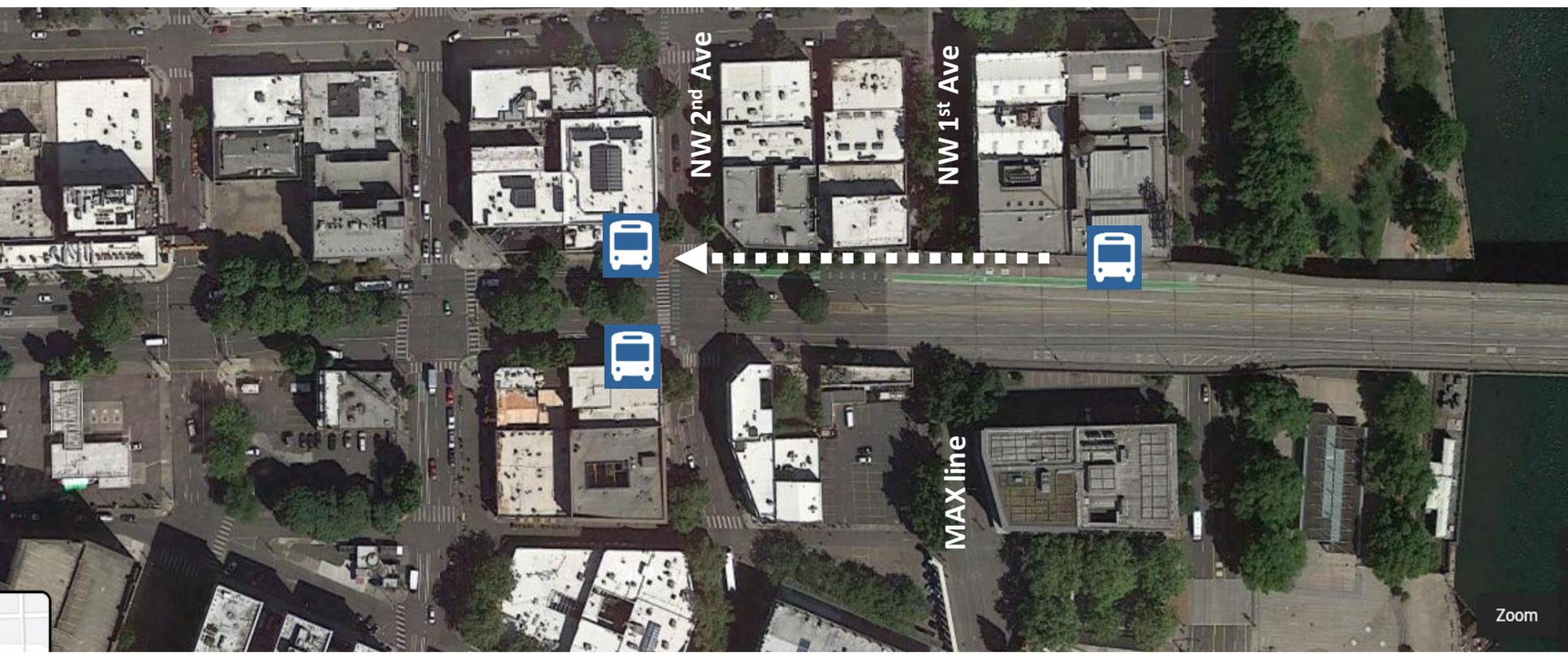
- Street network upgrades to improve routes from bridge to nearest bus/MAX stops on westside



# Connection to Skidmore MAX Station

## New Consideration

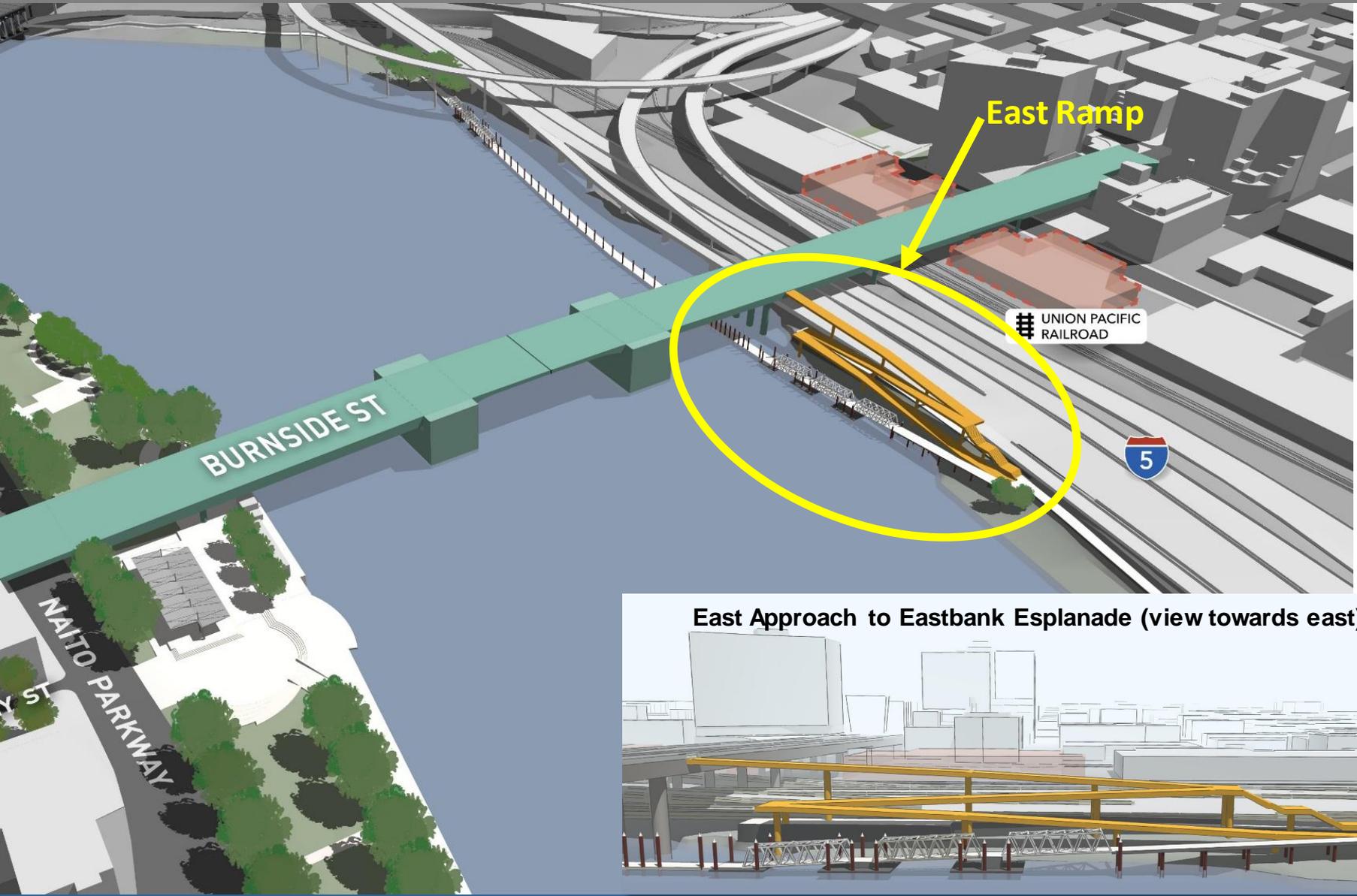
- Potential west approach bus stop relocation to NW 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue
- TriMet to revisit closure of Skidmore MAX station in 2022 after studying ridership



# Connection to Eastbank Esplanade



## Original Concept



# Connection to Eastbank Esplanade

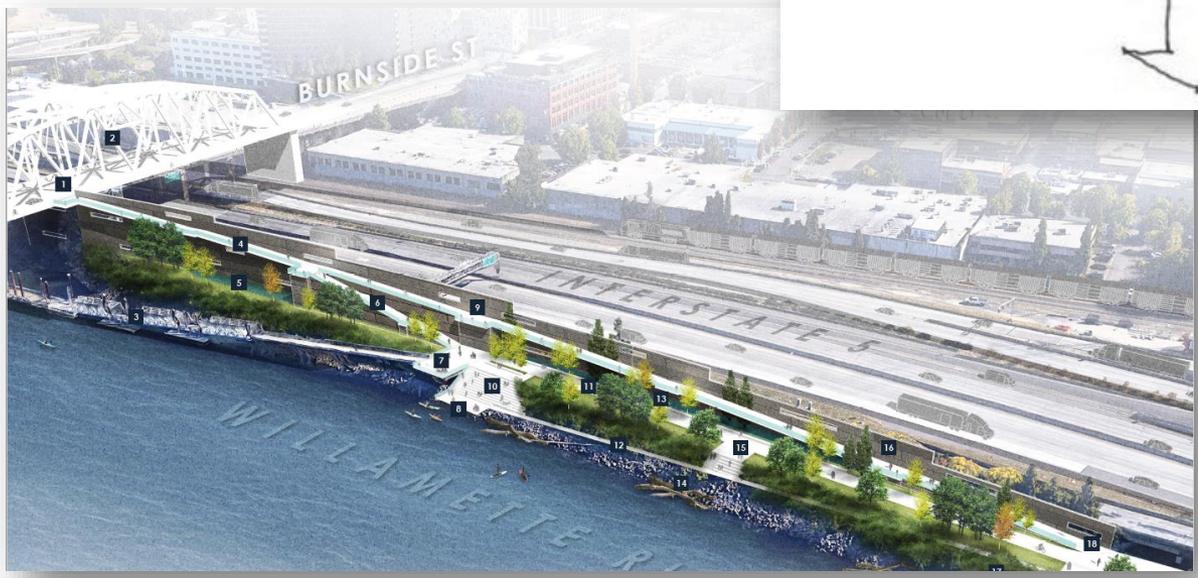
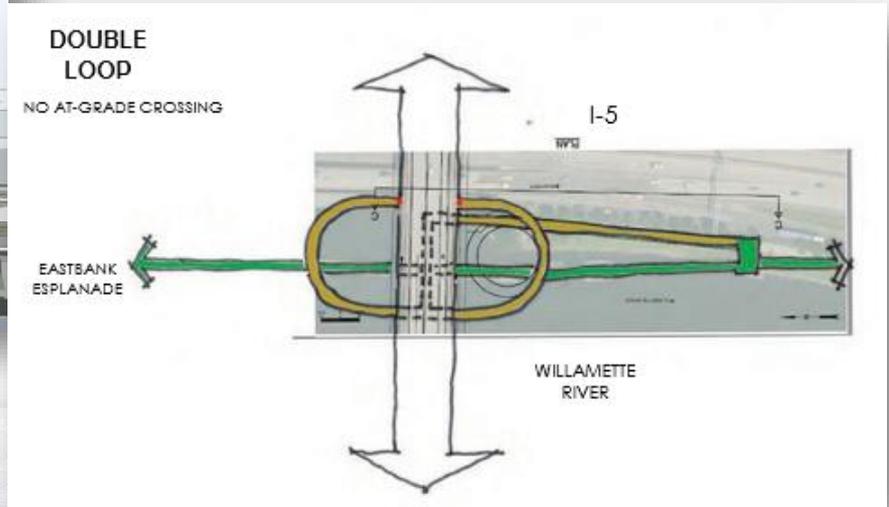
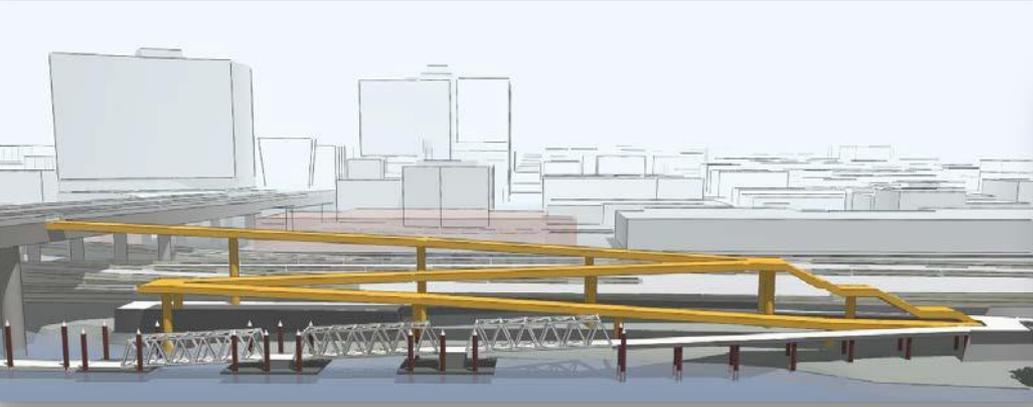
## Range of options considered

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



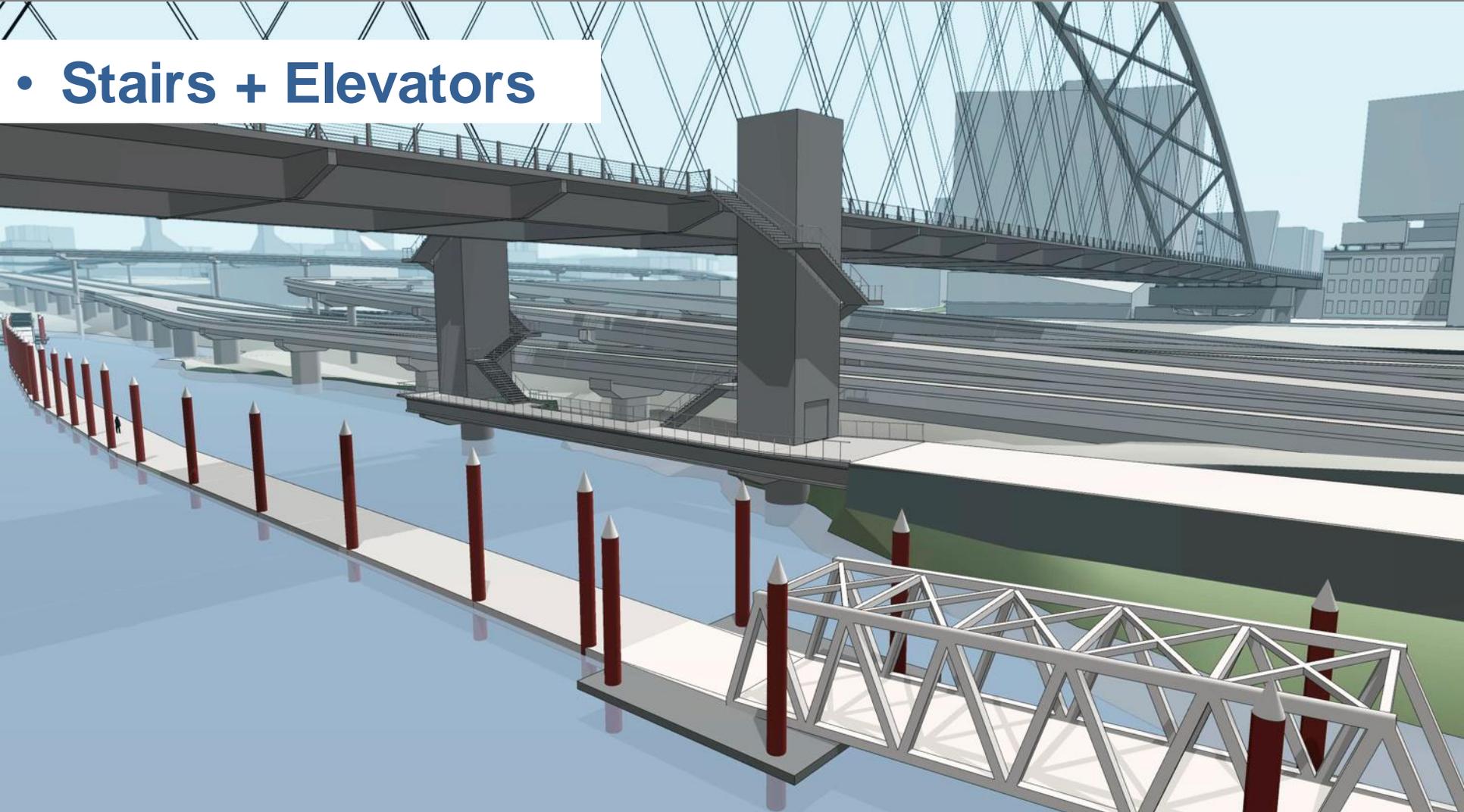
# Connection to Eastbank Esplanade

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



## County Recommendation

- **Stairs + Elevators**



# Preferred Alternative Refinements

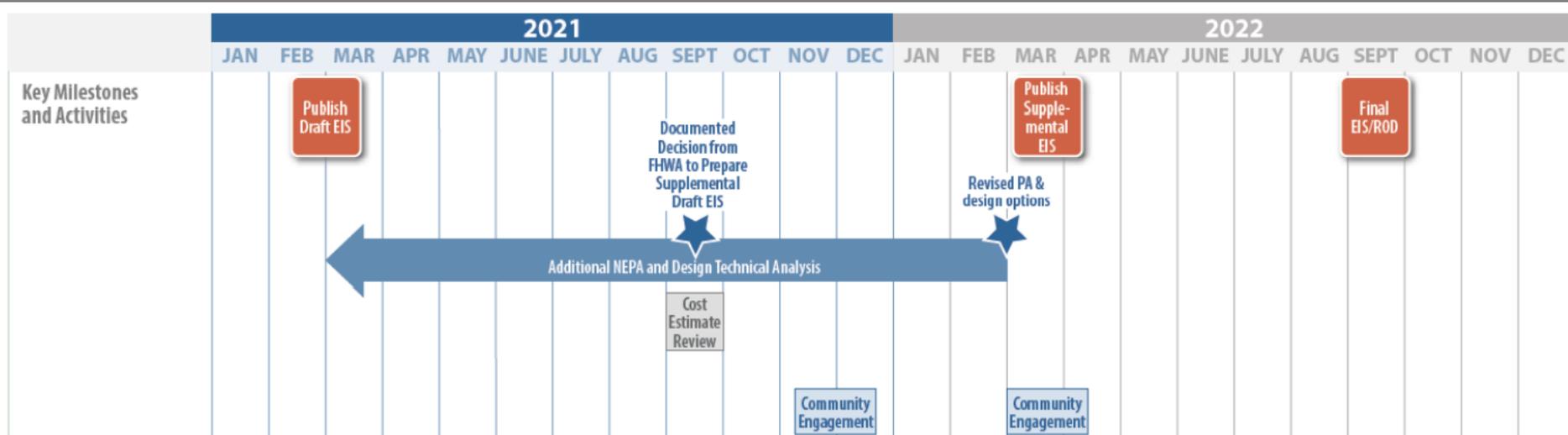
Revised Preferred Alternative Refinements	Why?	Cost Savings
<b>1. Bridge width:</b> Reduced by approx. 26 feet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost savings</li> </ul>	<b>\$140 – 165M</b>
<b>2. Vehicle Lanes:</b> Reduced from 5 to 4 vehicular lanes (4 Lane configurations under consideration)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost savings</li> </ul>	
<b>3. Bike / Ped Space:</b> Reduced from 20' to between 14' - 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>\$20 - 40M</b>
<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>\$25 - 35M</b>
<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>TBD</b>
<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>	<b>\$0 - 5M</b>
<b>ADA Connections to Bridge:</b> Advance stairs and elevators (dismiss Ramps)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost savings</li> </ul>	<b>\$5 -10M</b>





# Workplan Update

# Workplan Update

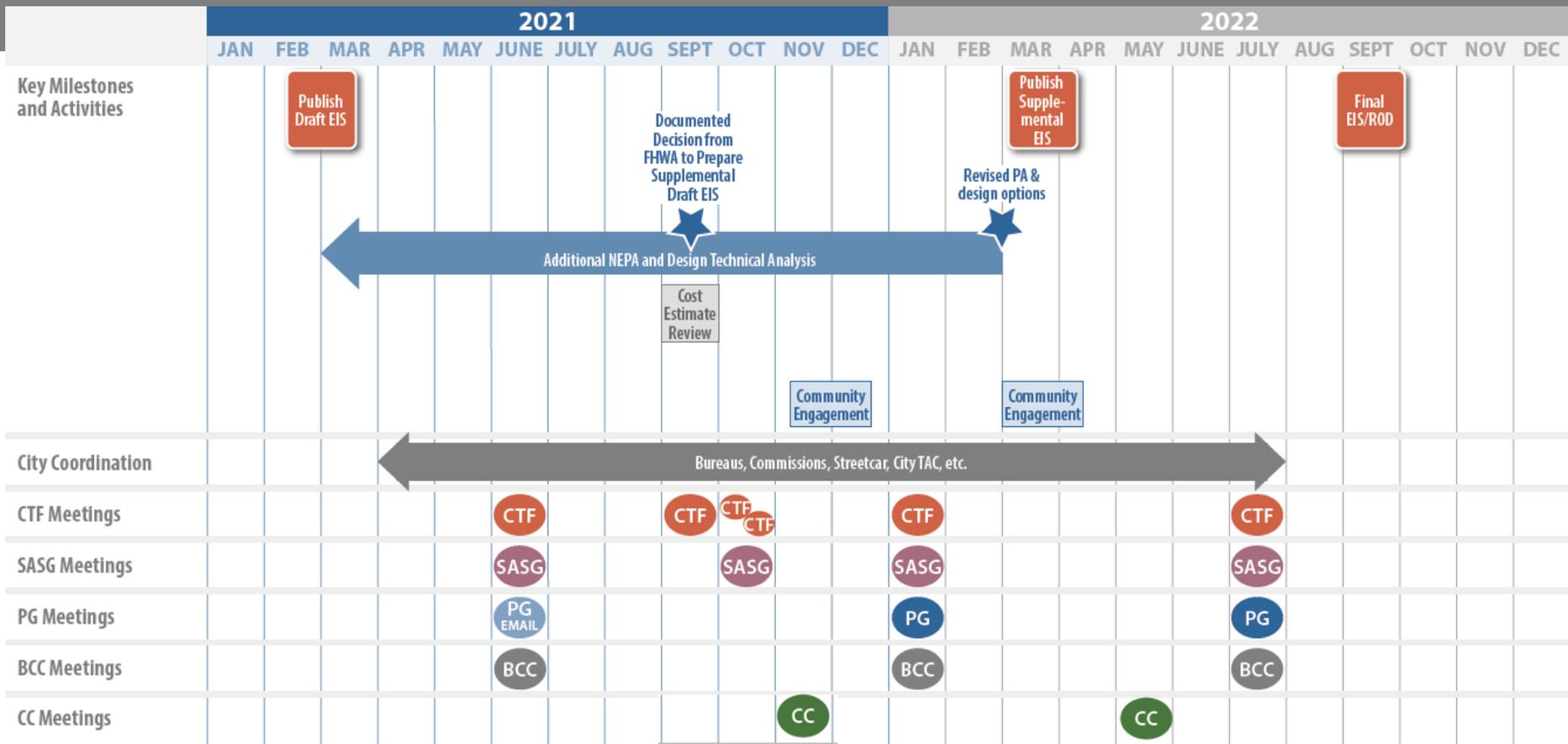


## Upcoming Key Milestones

- **November / December 2022** – Community Engagement
- **January 2022** – Policy Group Approval
- **February 2022** – Mult Co Board of County Commissioners Adoption of Revised Preferred Alt
- **March / April 2022** - SDEIS Publication (45-day public comment period)
- **April 2022** - City Council Adoption for Metro RTP Update
- **August 2022** - Metro RTP Adoption
- **September 2022** – FEIS / ROD
- **Q3 2022** – Final Design Initiated



# Workplan Update



**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



# Workplan Update

## Anticipated METRO RTP Approval Process

	<b>Meetings</b> (Key Assumption: City Preferred Alternative Adoption = April, '22)	<b>Date</b>
<b>Initial discussions and Public Comments</b>	Metro Council Work Session	<b>March '22</b>
	MTAC – Introduce discussion	<b>April '22</b>
	<i>DLCD Form 1 – 35 Days before Metro Council Public Hearing</i>	<b>April '22</b>
	Public Comment period	<b>April - May '22</b>
	TPAC – Introduce discussion	<b>April '22</b>
	MPAC – Introduce discussion	<b>May '22</b>
	JPACT – Introduce discussion	<b>May '22</b>
	Metro Council Meeting – <b>Public hearing</b> as part of public comment period	<b>May '22</b>
<b>LPA Adoption and RTP Amendment</b>	MTAC – Request recommendation to MPAC	<b>June '22</b>
	TPAC – Request recommendation to JPACT	<b>June '22</b>
	MPAC – <b>Public invited to comment.</b> Request recommendation to Metro Council	<b>July '22</b>
	JPACT – <b>Public invited to comment.</b> Request recommendation to Metro Council	<b>July '22</b>
	Metro Council Meeting – <b>Public Hearing</b> / 1st Read of Ordinance	<b>July '22</b>
	Metro Council Meeting – <b>Adoption / Public invited to comment - Council Action</b>	<b>Aug '22</b>



# Community Engagement

Mid-November to Mid-December 2021



**Objective:** Share revisions to the Preferred Alternative and seek community feedback.

## Key Activities:

- Online Open House and Survey
- Virtual Briefings
- Video
- Webinar
- E-newsletters, news releases and social media
- Diverse outreach through the Community Engagement Liaisons program



# Workplan Update

SDEIS Publication and Comment Period: Early March to mid-April 2022

- **Similar format to DEIS but simplified content**
- **Refer to DEIS for information that has not changed:**
  - Purpose and Need
  - Detailed description of DEIS alternatives
  - Relevant Regulations and Affected Environment
  - Long-span impacts and mitigation that don't change
- **Focus on:**
  - Impacts from the refinements that differ from the DEIS Long-span
  - Compare/contrast with DEIS Long-span and No-Build
  - Update any federal regulatory progress (e.g., ESA and Section 106)



# Community Engagement

SDEIS Publication and Comment Period: Early March to mid-April 2022

**Objective:** Share findings of the environmental analysis and allow for public review and comment on the SDEIS. 45-day comment period.



**Key Activities:**

- Online open house
- Briefings
- In-person hearing by appointment
- Voicemail, emails, comment form, snail mail
- E-newsletters, news releases and social media





# Open Discussion

- **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!

