



**City of Portland, Oregon**  
**Bureau of Development Services**  
**Land Use Services**  
FROM CONCEPT TO CONSTRUCTION

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## MEMORANDUM

**Date:** July 7, 2020  
**To:** Portland Design Commission  
**From:** Benjamin Nielsen, Design / Historic Review  
Benjamin.Nielsen@portlandoregon.gov, 503-823-7812  
**Re:** Briefing on SW corridor – Conceptual Design Report  
Design Commission – July 14, 2020

The Southwest Corridor Light Rail Project will extend light rail from Downtown Portland to Bridgeport Village in Tigard. Construction may begin as early as 2021.

Representatives from Trimet, PBOT, and Metro are currently reaching out to stakeholders to discuss the Conceptual Design Report which “presents the goals and preliminary designs of the Southwest Corridor Light Rail Project based on community and partner input from the past several years. It describes and illustrates the overall urban design vision as well as the conceptual designs for stations, major structures, and other key corridor improvements.”

“An environmental review of the project is also underway. A Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) was published in June 2018, initiating a public comment period. Together the DEIS analysis and public comments informed the selection of a Locally Preferred Alternative in November 2018. A Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) – expected to be published in the summer/fall of 2020 – will respond to feedback and define the project scope, impacts, and mitigations.”

On July 14<sup>th</sup>, representatives from Trimet, PBOT, and Metro will brief the Design Commission with the current status of the project, including discussion of the Locally Preferred Alternative which includes the selected route along Barbur, as well as improvements to the SW Naito interchange with the Ross Island Bridge on/off ramps. This briefing takes the place of a briefing that was originally-scheduled to be held on March 19, 2020, but which was postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Please see pages 5-7 for the Executive Summary of the Conceptual Design Report. Stations within the city limits of Portland end at SW 53<sup>rd</sup> Avenue; the Project Scope noted on pages 6-7 describes other aspects of the project that would be of interest to the Commission. Other areas of particular interest to the commission are highlighted in the applicant’s memo, dated March 10, 2020.

*Encl:*

Southwest Corridor Light Rail Project – Conceptual Design Report  
Southwest Corridor Light Rail Project – Conceptual Design Report Memo (dated March 10, 2019)  
Summary from June 11, 2018 Briefing (dated July 3, 2018)