



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

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Briefing

DISCUSSION MEMO

Date: May 25, 2022
To: Portland Design Commission
From: Tim Heron, Design / Historic Review Team
503-823-7726; tim.heron@portlandoregon.gov
Re: Interstate Bridge Replacement Project Briefing – June 2, 2022

Attached is a memo and presentation from Shilpa Mallem, Interstate Bridge Replacement Deputy Design Manager, regarding the upcoming presentation to the Portland Design Commission on the Interstate Bridge Replacement Project.

The Interstate Bridge Replacement (IBR) program would replace the existing Interstate 5 (I-5) bridge across the Columbia River with a modern, seismically resilient, multimodal structure. Current planning work has defined the physical and contextual changes that have occurred in the program area since 2013 and builds upon previous planning efforts accomplished as part of the Columbia River Crossing (CRC) project. To address these changes, the IBR program, in coordination with program partners and the community, developed design options, desired outcomes, and transit investments, in order to identify a Modified Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) to be further studied through a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Statement is estimated to be published by late 2023.

The Portland Design Commission could consider the following topics for discussion:

- Gateway to Oregon and Washington. The successful design of the Interstate Bridge Replacement is critical to the healthy and vibrant development of our region, and it is imperative that the project is well integrated with its surroundings in terms of urban design, land use planning and environmental considerations.
- Design Excellence. The replacement bridge should incorporate sound urban design principles and design excellence. The level of design excellence should reflect the importance of its role as a gateway to the states of Washington and Oregon and the magnificence of its natural setting along the Columbia River. **Please note the attached *May 2011 Design Commission Letter to the Governors of Oregon and Washington for the Columbia River Crossing* and their participation in an Urban Design Advisory Group [UDAG].**
- Historic Interstate Bridge. The current Interstate Bridge is a designated Historic Landmark, and therefore subject to a Type 4 Historic Demolition Review that goes before the Portland Historic Landmarks Commission and then to City Council as the Approval Body. Commissioners may be interested in hearing more about mitigation plans for that review.

Please contact me with any questions.

Att: *IBRP Cover Memo*
IBRP "Read Ahead" PPT
IBRP Design Commission Presentation
May 6, 2011 Portland Design Commission letter to Governors