



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

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Briefing

DISCUSSION MEMO

Date: August 5, 2024
To: Portland Design Commission
From: Tim Heron, Design / Historic Review Team
503-823-7726, tim.heron@portlandoregon.gov
Re: Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge – Bridge Type Selection Process

Attached is a memo and presentation from Megan Neill, Multnomah County – Project Manager, regarding the upcoming presentation to the Design Commission on the Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge [EQRB]. Because the bridge will be constructed in both a Design overlay zone (over the river and on the east side of the Willamette) and within the Skidmore/Old Town Historic District (boundary at the sea wall), coordination will ultimately be among both the Historic Landmarks Commission and the Design Commission.

The project team last visited the Historic Landmarks Commission and the Design Commission on **June 10, 2024, as a Joint Informational Briefing** providing updates on the:

- A bascule lift type has been selected and on the west side the bridge will be constructed using girders. Similar to the current bridge, this form does not have any structure supporting the bridge from above. Thus, it will ensure views of downtown from the east remain unobstructed. This is consistent with the direction from the Commissions in earlier Briefings in 2020 and Joint Design Advice Request 2021.
- For the east side of the bridge, there are several bridge type design options under consideration. The project will be launching a public engagement process in July to get feedback on these options and would like to share a preview with the Commissions.

The intent of this Briefing is to share results of the public survey from July 1 – July 31, 2024, regarding bridge type selection for the East Approach, as well as BEAM Architects to provide a discussion of its evaluation of the various bridge options. The discussion will include:

- General observations of the Tied Arch bridge concepts.
- A ranking of the Tied Arch sub-options by the EQRB bridge architect.
- General observations of the Cable Stayed concepts.
- A ranking of the Cable Stayed bridge sub-options by the EQRB bridge architect.

Please contact me with any questions.

Att:

- 3-31-2021 EA 21-007324 DA + EA_21_007684 DA - Joint HLC + DC DAR Summary Memo
- 8-1-24 Multnomah County Cover Memo
- 8-1-24 Multnomah County PPT Presentation Briefing