

A blue-tinted background image of a drawbridge with the word "Hello" overlaid in white. The bridge is in the process of opening, with its two large sections raised. The scene is set over a body of water with some boats visible in the distance. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern.

# Hello



# Design Commission Briefing

Department of Community Services  
Transportation Division

**August 15, 2024**



# When we last met...

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## DESIGN PHASE

- June 10th, 2024 – Joint [Briefing](#) to Historic Landmark Commission/ Design Commission
  - Provided a project update
  - Reviewed range of east approach bridge types
  - Provided overview of land use application timelines





# Today's Agenda

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- Bridge Architectural Evaluation of East Approach Bridge Types
- Review of Public Survey Results
- Next Steps





The background is a blue-tinted photograph of a city skyline. In the foreground, a bridge with a complex truss structure spans across a body of water. The city buildings in the background are silhouetted against a light sky. The overall mood is professional and academic.

# Architectural Evaluation of Bridge Type



**BEAM** architects

EQRB Project

Design Commission

15<sup>th</sup> August 2024





CS1- Goalpost tower



CS2- V tower



CS3- Inverted-Y tower



TA1-Unbraced vertical arches



TA2-Braced basket-handle arch



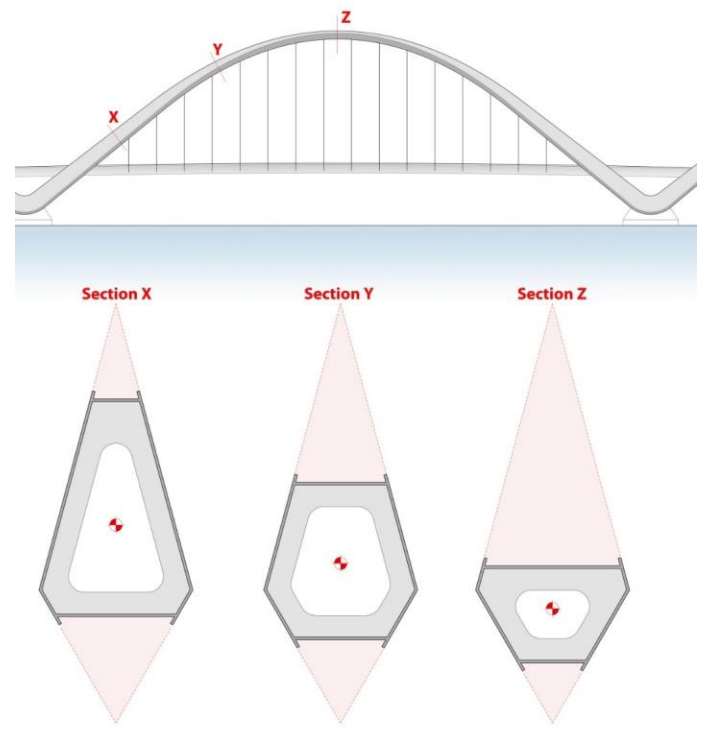
TA3- Braced vertical arches



# Discussion - Tied Arches







Painted Steel, fully welded variable section 6 sided parabolic arches. Sophisticated aesthetic



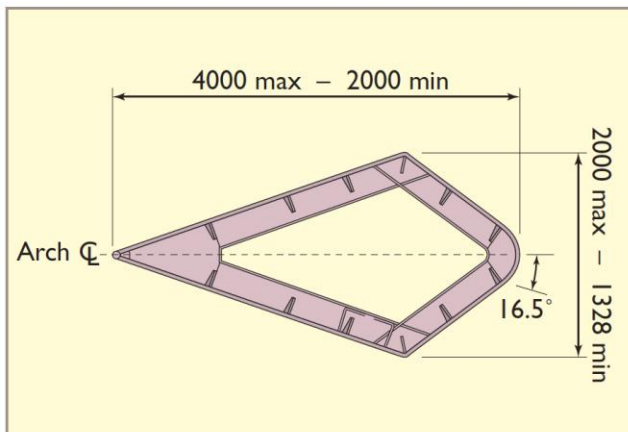


Fig. 6. Cross section of the parabolic steel arch reduces from the roots to the apex (dimensions in mm)



Painted Steel, fully welded variable section 6 sided parabolic arches. Sophisticated aesthetic





Likely EQRB scenario- Weathering steel, bolted/spliced constant section 4 sided box girders- Industrial aesthetic





VERTICAL UNBRACED ARCHES



VERTICAL BRACED ARCHES

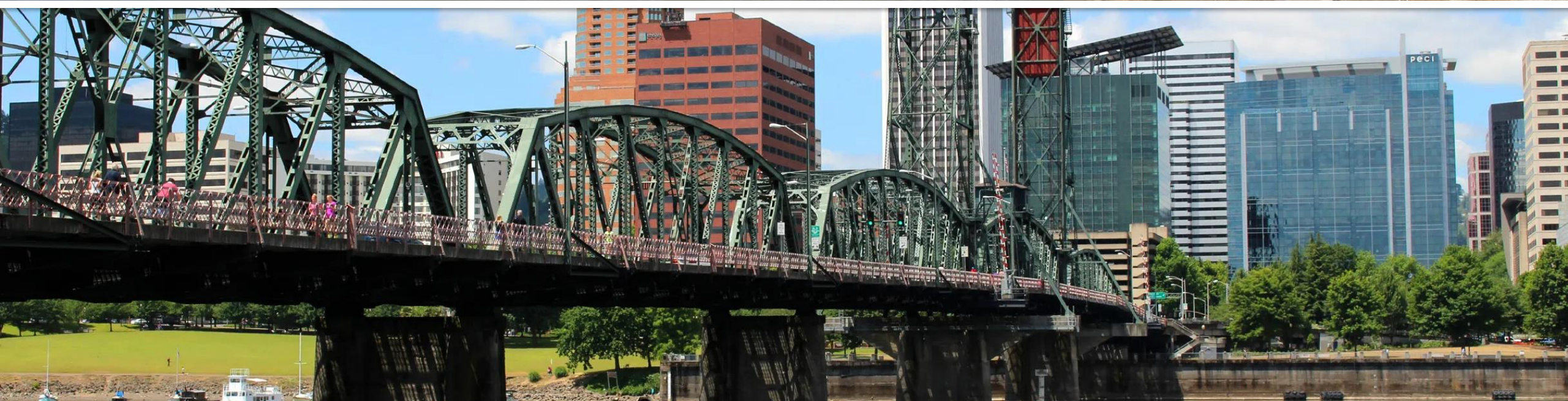


VERTICAL K-BRACED ARCHES



BRACED BASKET HANDLE ARCHES





Portland has several early 20<sup>th</sup> C bridges with an 'industrial aesthetic' – the new Burnside should be more sophisticated for the 21<sup>st</sup> C





Vertical Unbraced Arches





Basket-handle arch



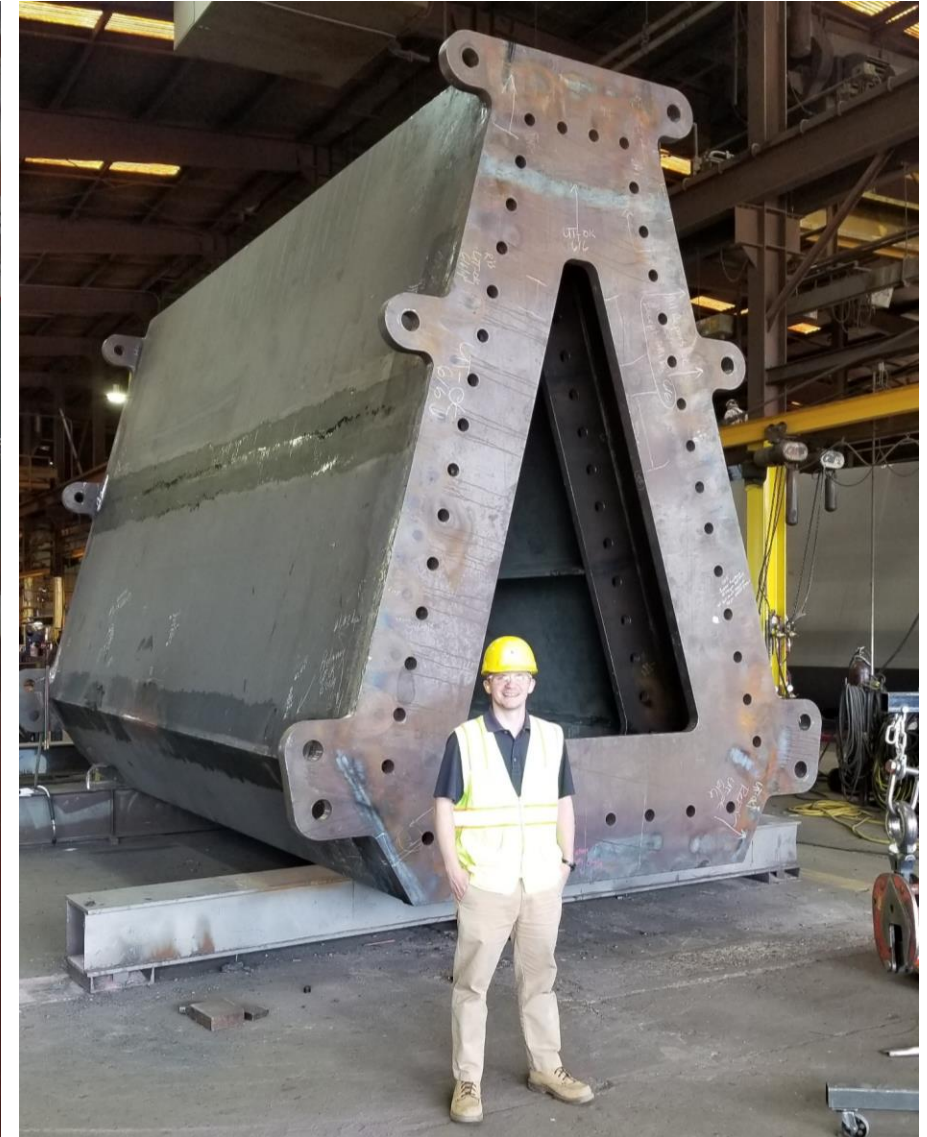
Braced basket- handle arch





Vertical Braced Arches – *it's all about the bracing...*





Box girders or open girders: internal access requirements and structural feasibility





Girder types and bracing types -aesthetic differences.





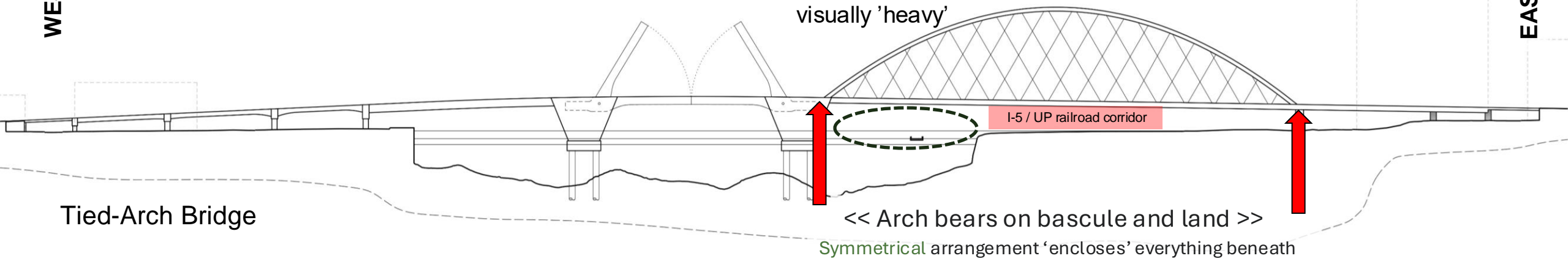
I-5 / railroad corridor

VISUAL RESPONSE TO PROGRAM: The east span bridge is a highway/railroad crossing, but also must span to the east in-river pier

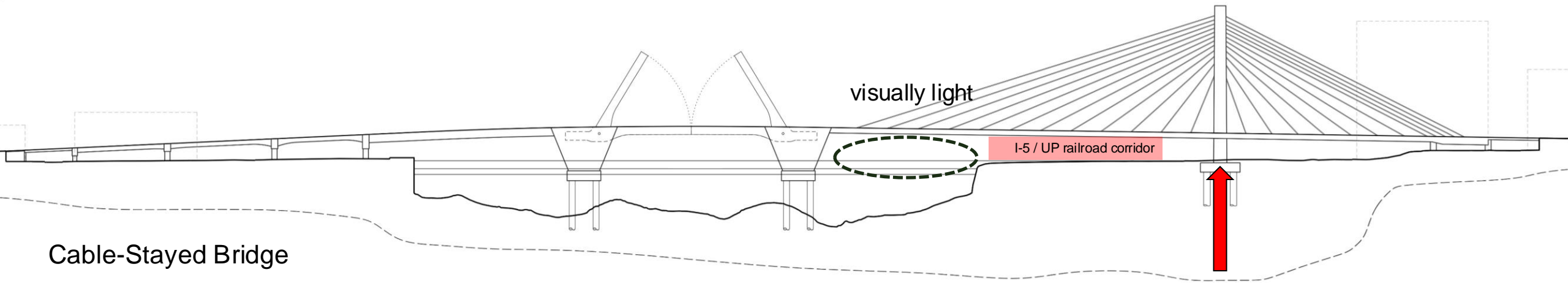


WEST

EAST

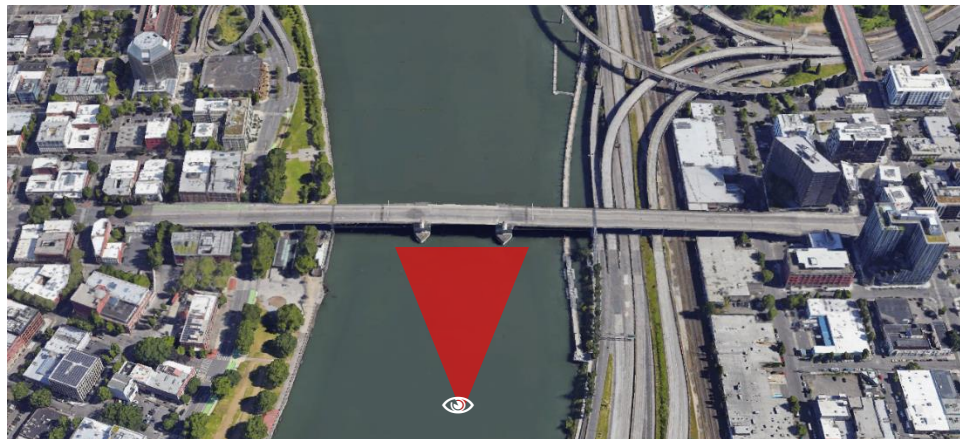


Tied-Arch Bridge



Cable-Stayed Bridge

Asymmetrical arrangement has a more easy-going visual relationship with what is below

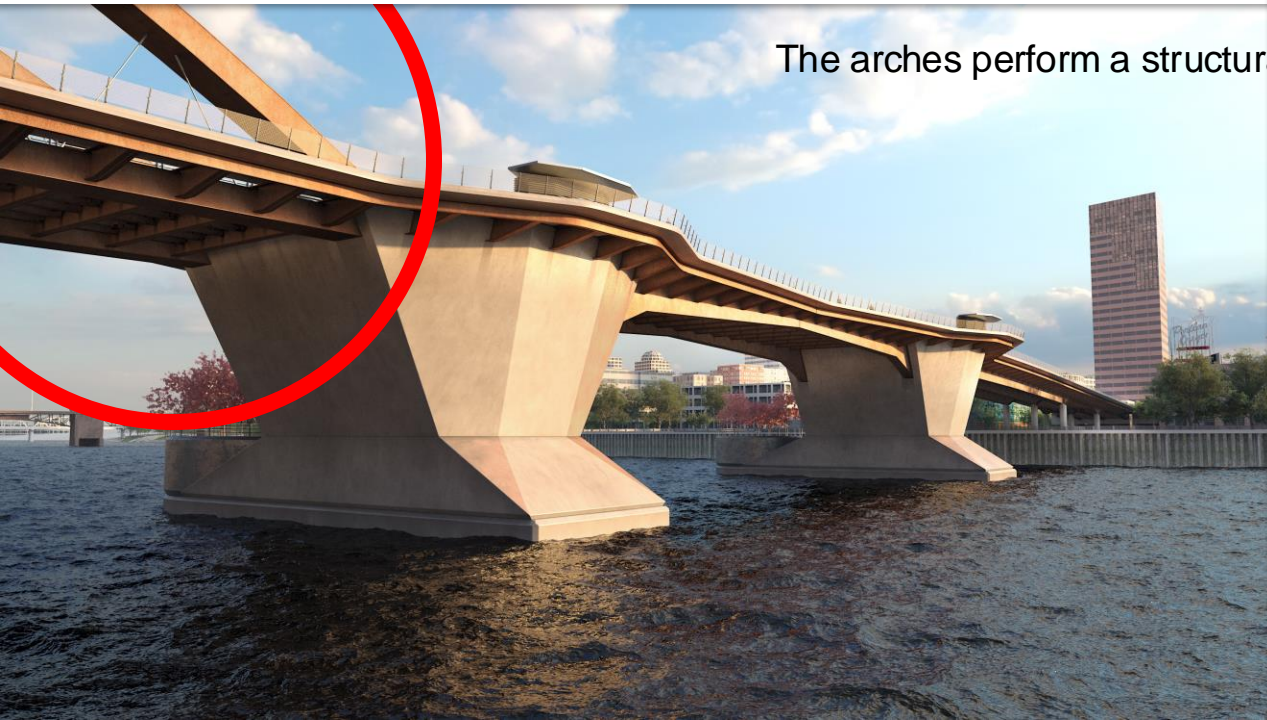


View north on CL of river orthogonal to bridge









The arches perform a structural photobomb on the river!







GRAFFITI REMOVAL



LIGHTING (ABSORBENCY)



CLIMBING RISK

(Weathering Steel) Arches- peripheral issues

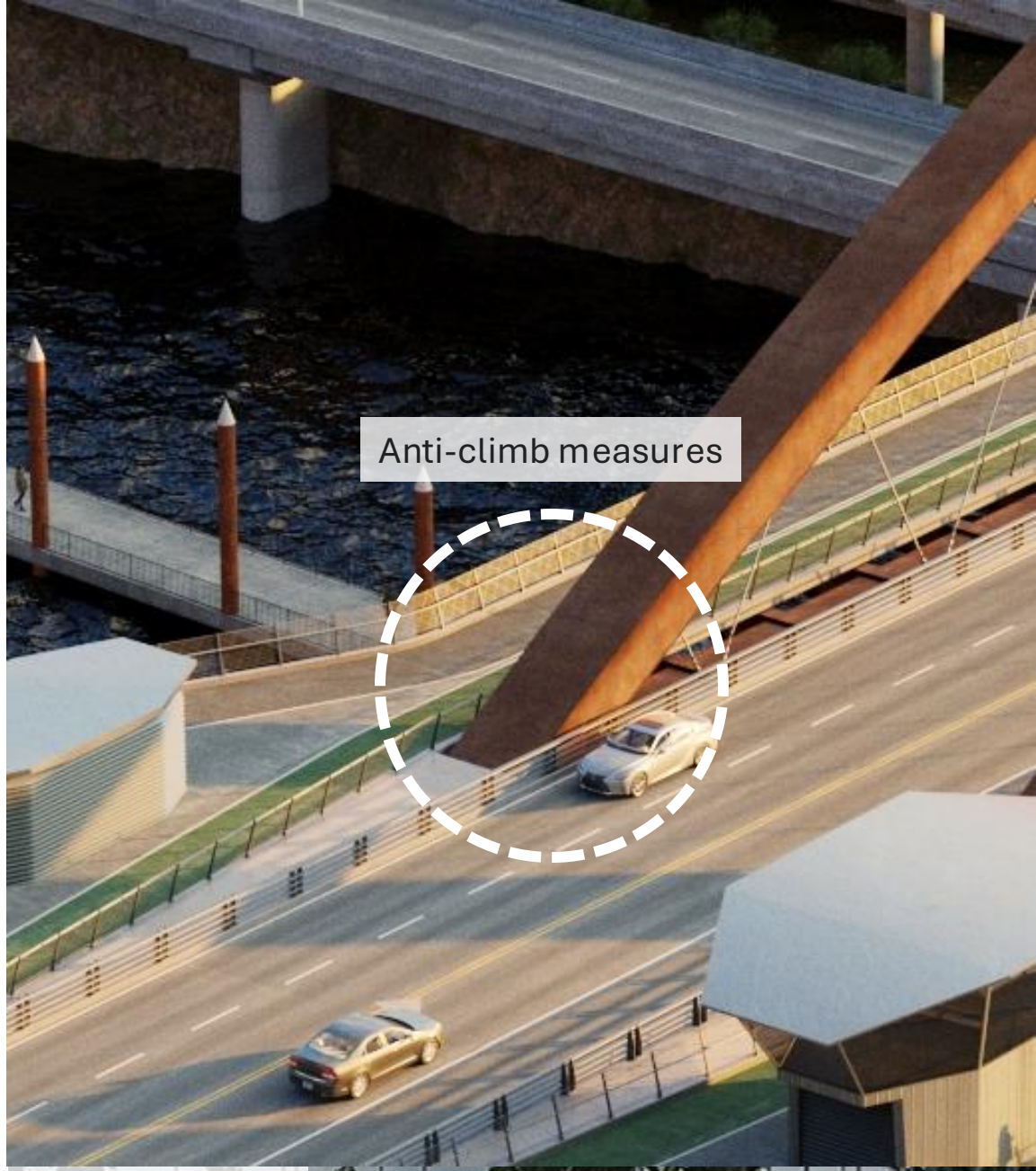




GRAFFITI REMOVAL



LIGHTING (ABSORBENCY)



Anti-climb measures

(Weathering Steel) Arches- peripheral issues





TA1-Unbraced vertical arches

- Clean aesthetic
- Twin entity
- No bracing
- Most costly of arches
- Largest arch section (widest)

order of preference  
(arches only)>>>>> **2**



TA2-Braced basket-handle arch

- Less clean aesthetic
- Single entity
- Bracing (alas)
- Less Typical Form than TA3
- Slimmer arch section

order of preference  
(arches only)>>>>> **2**



TA3- Braced vertical arches

- Railroad aesthetic
- Confused Identity
- Bracing
- 'Typical' form  
(Fremont/Wapato)
- Slimmer arch section

order of preference  
(arches only)>>>>> **5**



Do people inherently 'prefer' arches  
(even if it's not the best solution), and why?



## Arches are generally perceived as:

- Anthropomorphic (i.e. curved!)
- Familiar (ergo least challenging)
- Recognizable (common but not distinctive)
- 'Historic' (but not in respect to context)





But it's not always the right answer





a TA east span would be visually **typical**

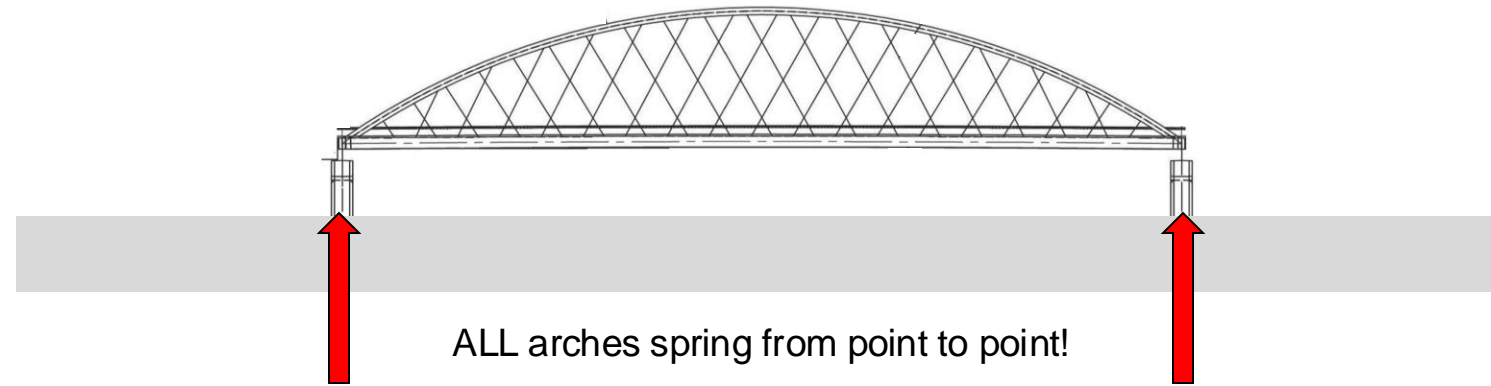
(All arches comprise 2 springing points and an arc)

a CSB east span would be visually **atypical**

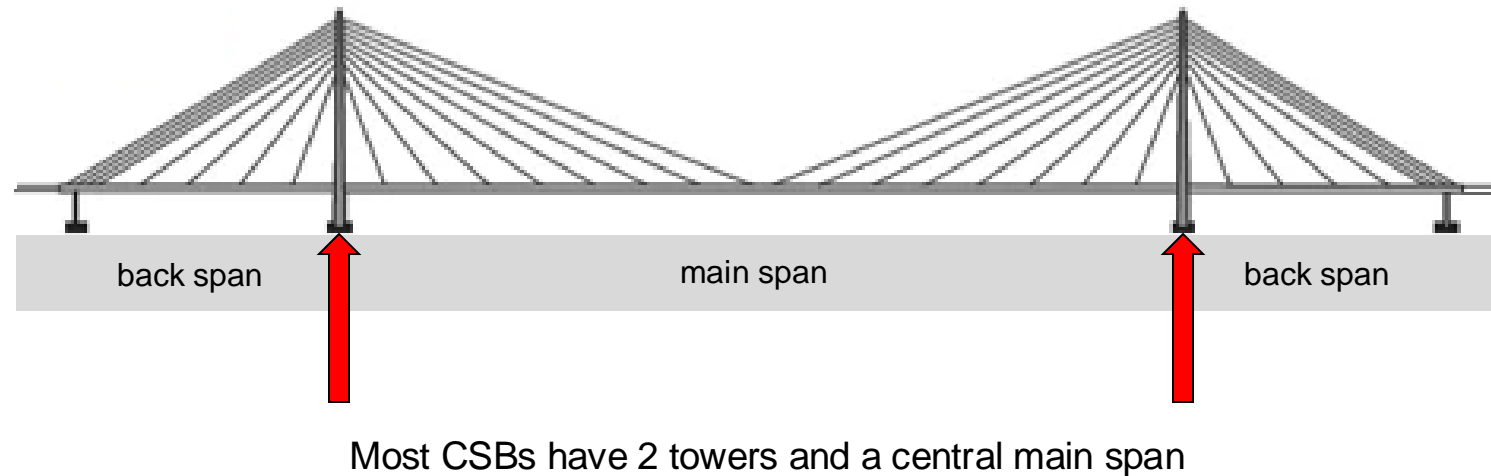
(All arches comprise 2 springing points and an arc)



Typical  
(common)

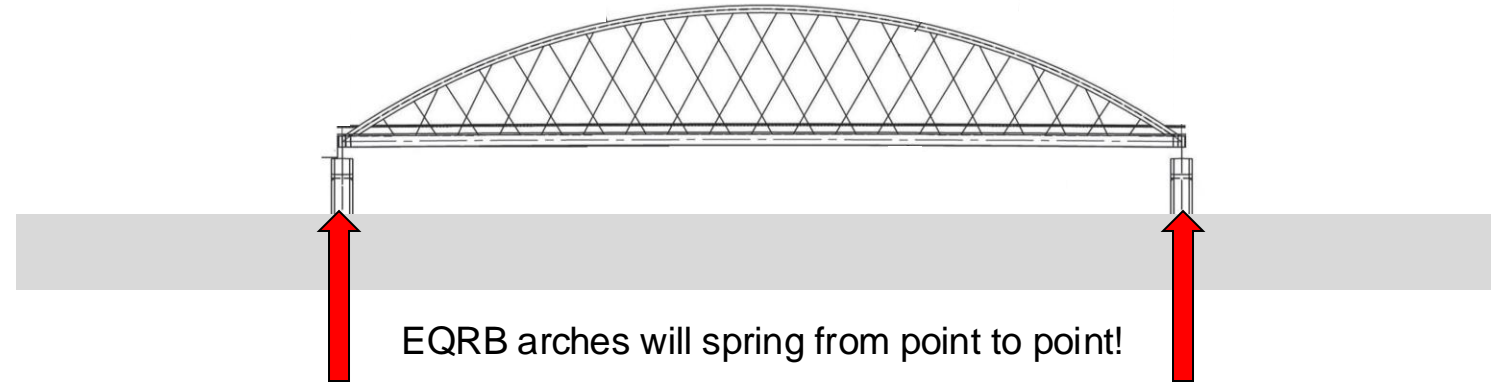


Typical  
(common)

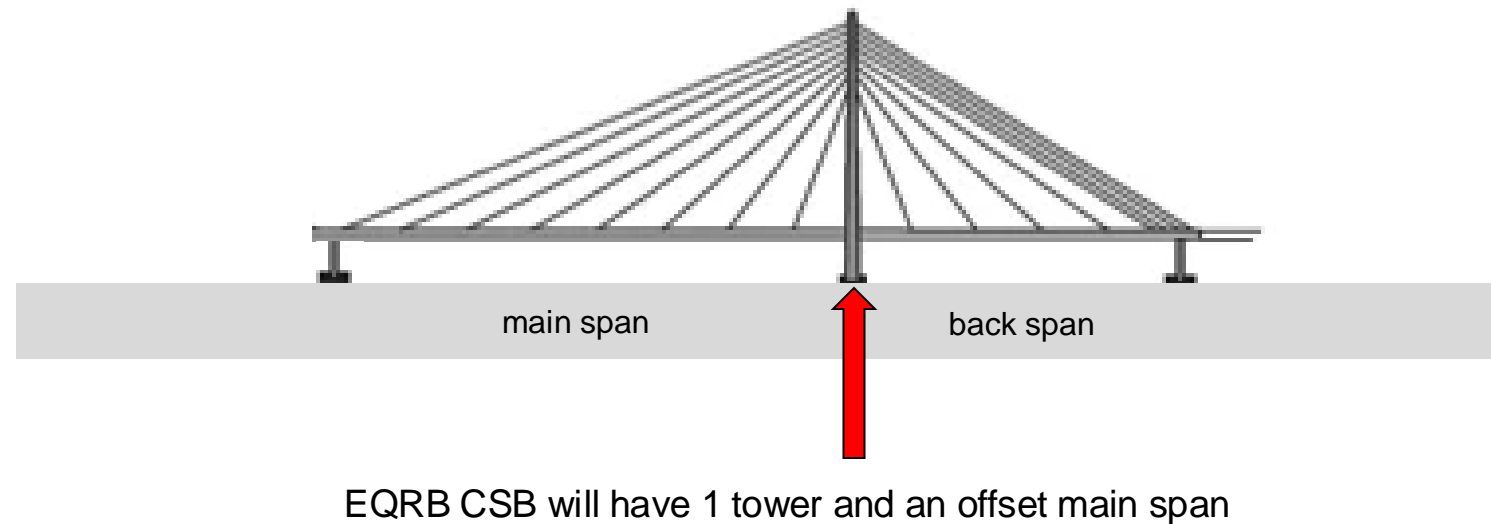




Typical  
(common)



Atypical  
(uncommon)







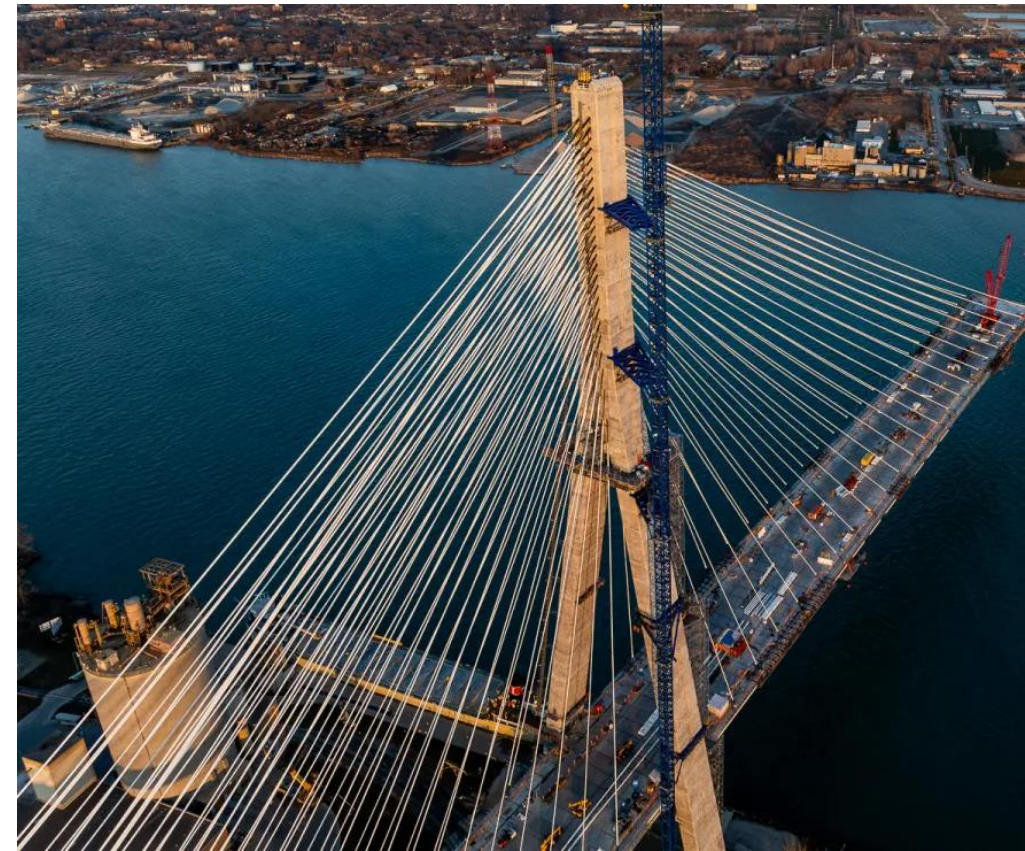
EQRB TA- Typical (common) form



EQRB CSB - Atypical (rare) form



# Discussion - Cable Stayed Bridges







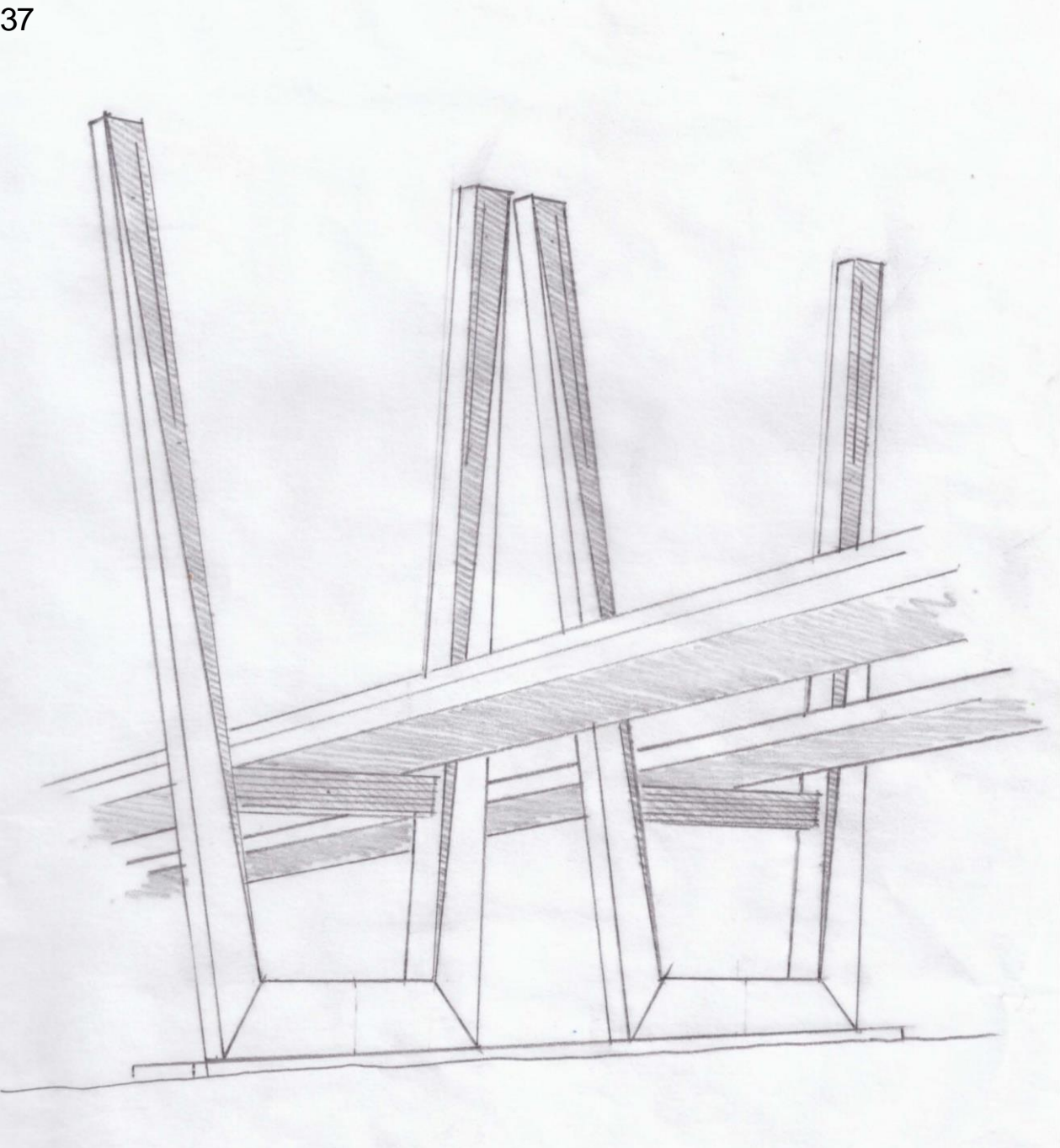
Component shaping – the simpler the form the more the necessity





Component shaping – faceted forms make a significant difference to the perceived slenderness





Component shaping – vertical tapering (migrating seams) make a significant difference to the visual form





Goalposts - increasingly common CSB type most requiring (but infrequently benefitting) from tower shape enhancement



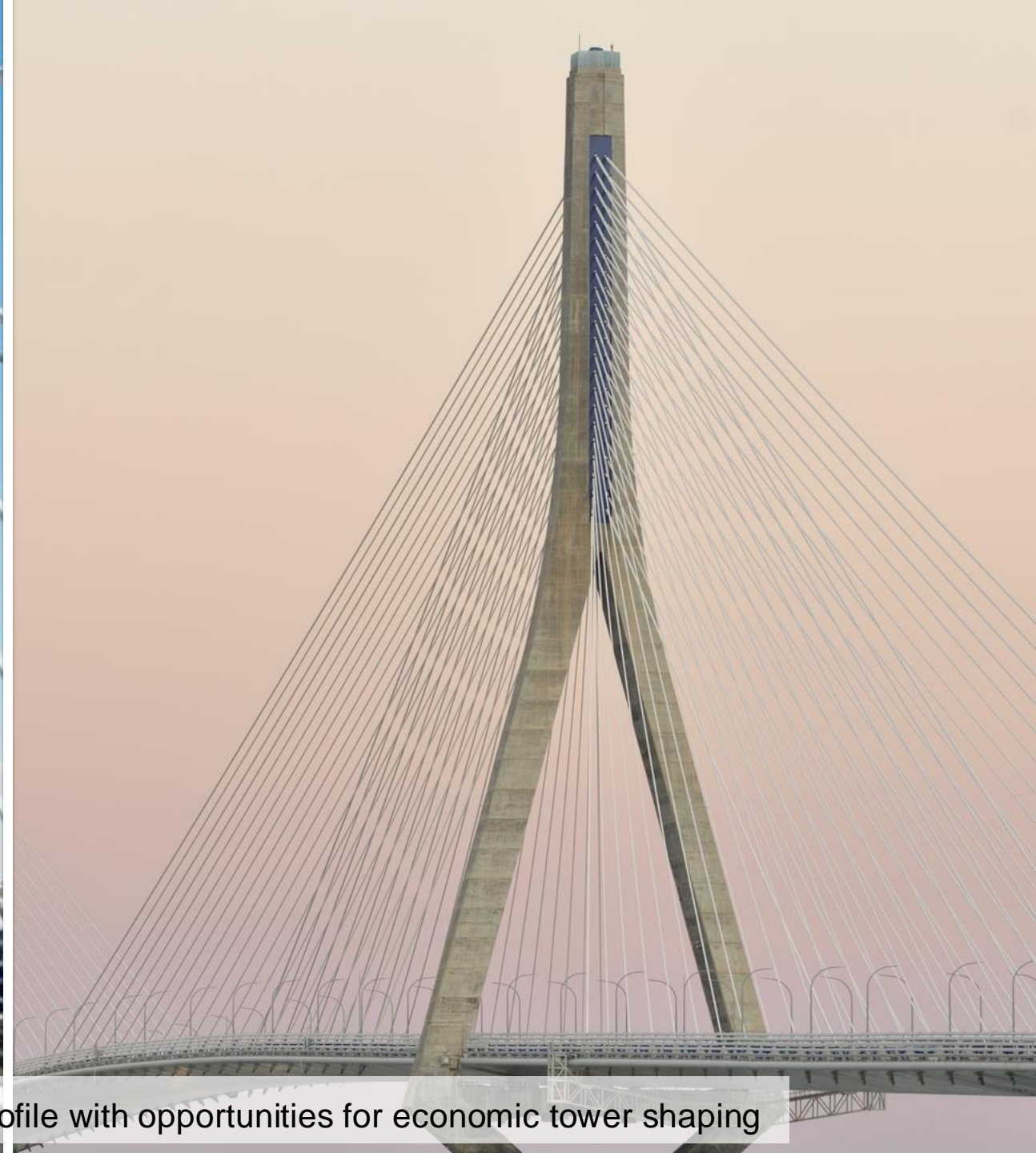


V-Towers - an enhanced silhouette profile over goalposts but a less urban response



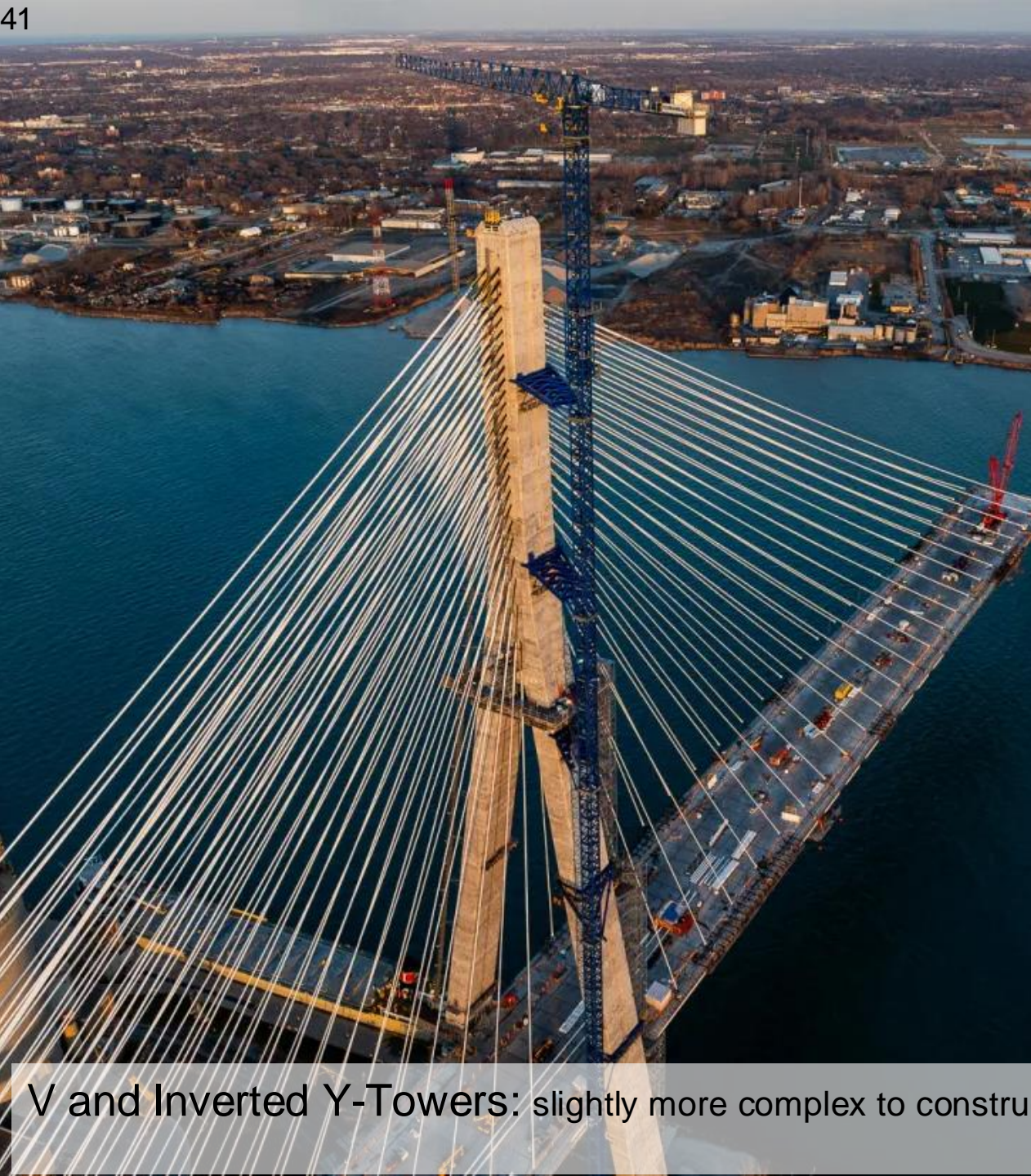


Inverted Y-Towers - a significantly enhanced silhouette profile with opportunities for economic tower shaping



Inverted Y-Towers - a significantly enhanced silhouette profile with opportunities for economic tower shaping





V and Inverted Y-Towers: slightly more complex to construct inclined structure relative to vertical but adds 120 years of significant value!





CS1- Goalpost tower

- Clean aesthetic
- Twin Form
- Needs tower shaping
- (not novel in Portland (Tilikum))
- Boring

order of preference  
(arches only)>>>>>

5



CS2- V tower

- Enhanced aesthetic
- Twin Form
- Needs tower shaping
- novel in Portland
- Not an urban form

order of preference  
(arches only)>>>>>

3



CS3- Inverted-Y tower

- Memorable aesthetic
- Single Entity
- Not reliant on tower shaping
- novel in Portland
- Urban and dynamic

order of preference  
(arches only)>>>>>

1





**Not Preferred**

CS1- Goalpost tower



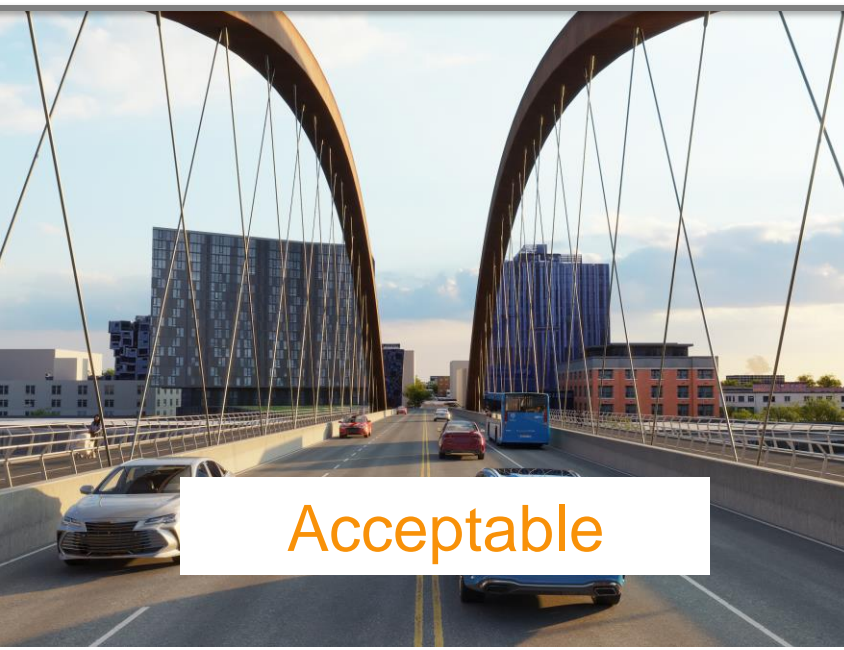
**Acceptable**

CS2- V tower



**Preferred**

CS3- Inverted-Y tower



**Acceptable**

TA1- Unbraced vertical arches



**Acceptable**

TA2- Braced basket-handle arch



**Not Preferred**

TA3- Braced vertical arches



# BEAM Architects East Span Bridge Type Preference: Inverted-Y Cable Stayed Bridge

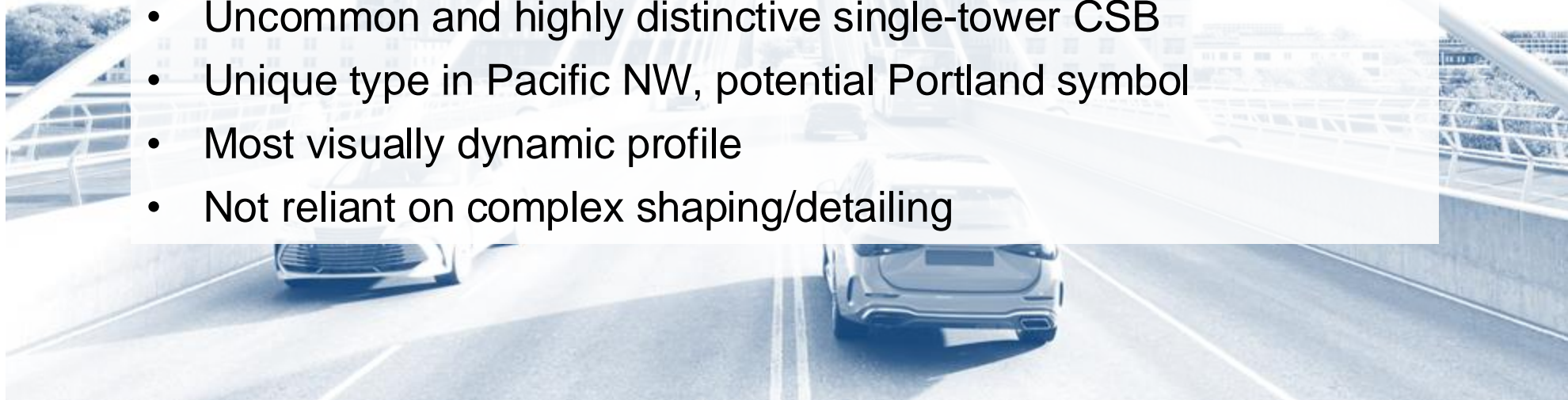




# BEAM Architects East Span Bridge Type Preference: Inverted-Y Cable Stayed Bridge

## WHY?

- Modern, urban and urbane solution
- Non-industrial aesthetic
- Doesn't photobomb the river
- Provides an exciting ride-under and ride-thru' portal on deck
- Uncommon and highly distinctive single-tower CSB
- Unique type in Pacific NW, potential Portland symbol
- Most visually dynamic profile
- Not reliant on complex shaping/detailing





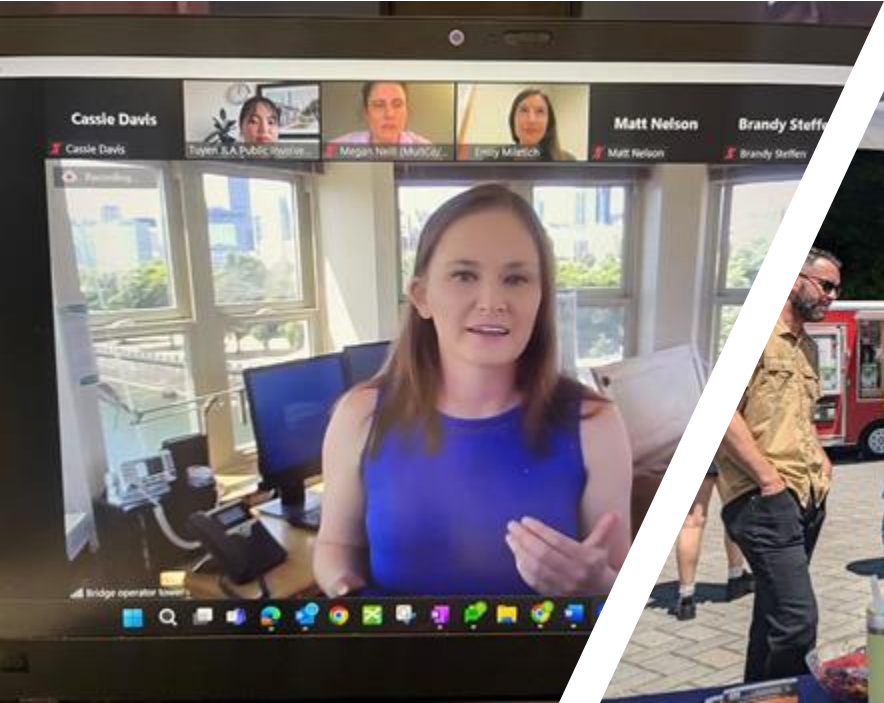




The background is a blue-tinted photograph of a city skyline. In the foreground, a large bridge with a complex steel truss structure spans across a body of water. The city buildings in the background are of various heights and styles, including a prominent building with a dome on the left. The overall scene is captured from a slightly elevated perspective, looking across the water towards the city.

# Review of Public Survey Results







# By the Numbers

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- 119K+** Survey views
- 19K+** Survey responses
- 20** Briefings
- 19** DEI organizations reached
- 50+** Breakfast on the Bridge attendees
- 90+** OMSI panel attendees
- 2** Webinars
- 7** Translations of the online open house & survey
- 26** News releases, newsletters & news articles
- 111K+** Facebook reach
- 8** Videos and animations





# Community Engagement Liaisons Program

CEL's engaged their communities, conducted focus groups and translated materials. CEL Program includes the following community groups:

- Arabic
- Black / African American
- Chinese
- Japanese
- Native American
- Russian
- Ukrainian
- Somali
- Spanish
- Vietnamese





# Overall Survey Stats

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- **SURVEY DATES:** July 1 through July 31
- **TOTAL SITE VIEWS:** 119,781 views
- **TOTAL SURVEYS SUBMITTED:** 19,411
- **TOTAL IN-LANGUAGE SURVEYS SUBMITTED:** 337
- **TOTAL MULTNOMAH COUNTY RESPONDENTS:** 73%

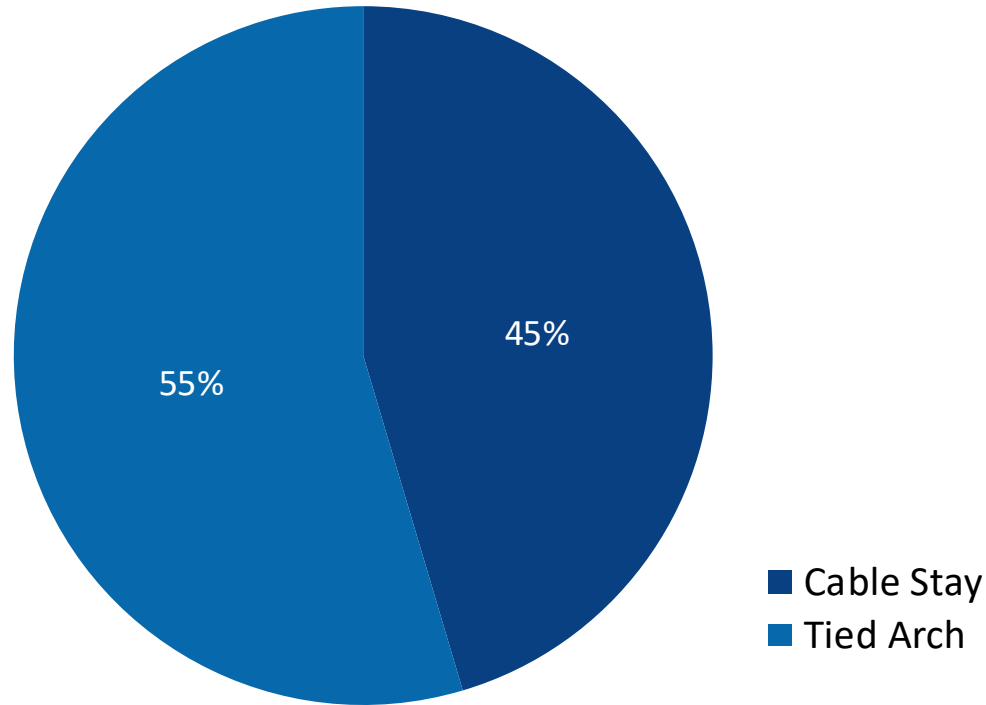




# Survey Results For Each Bridge Type

Respondents were asked to review information through the online open house before taking the survey.

After reviewing the information on the two east span bridge types, which bridge type do you feel would be the best option for our city?"



	Count	Percent
Tied Arch	10,494	54.6%
Cable Stay	8,740	45.4%

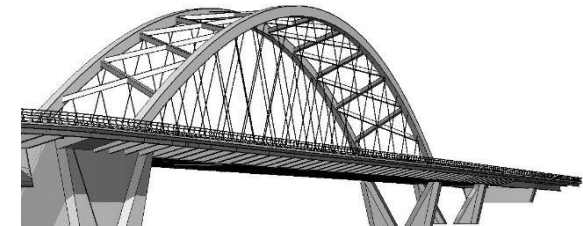
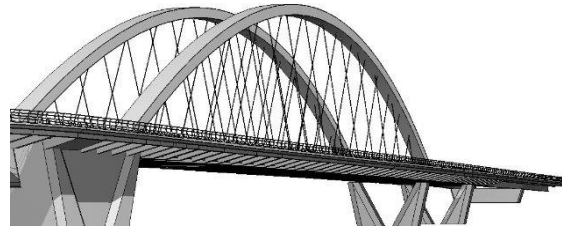
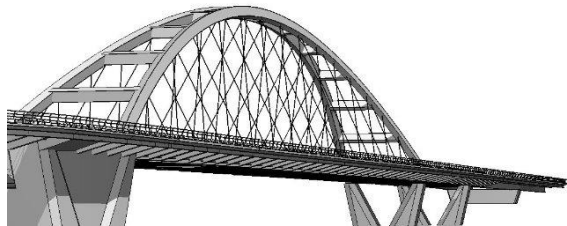
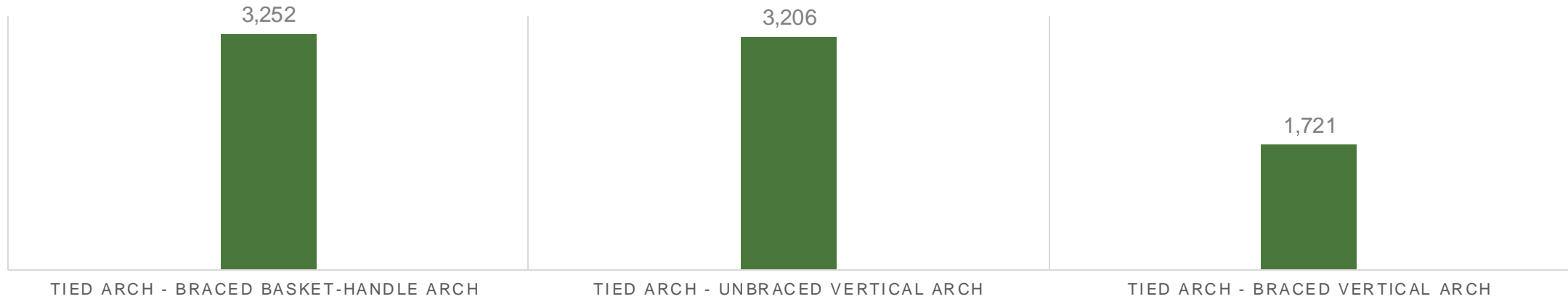
***More than 80% of survey respondents chose to only provide comments about their preferred bridge types***





# Survey – Tied Arch #1 Rankings

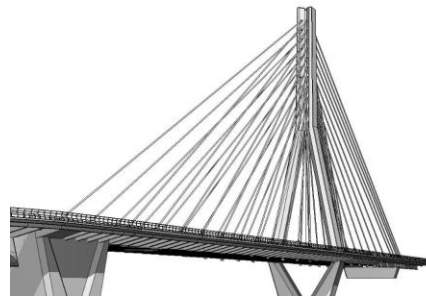
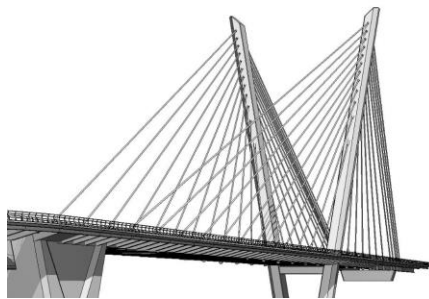
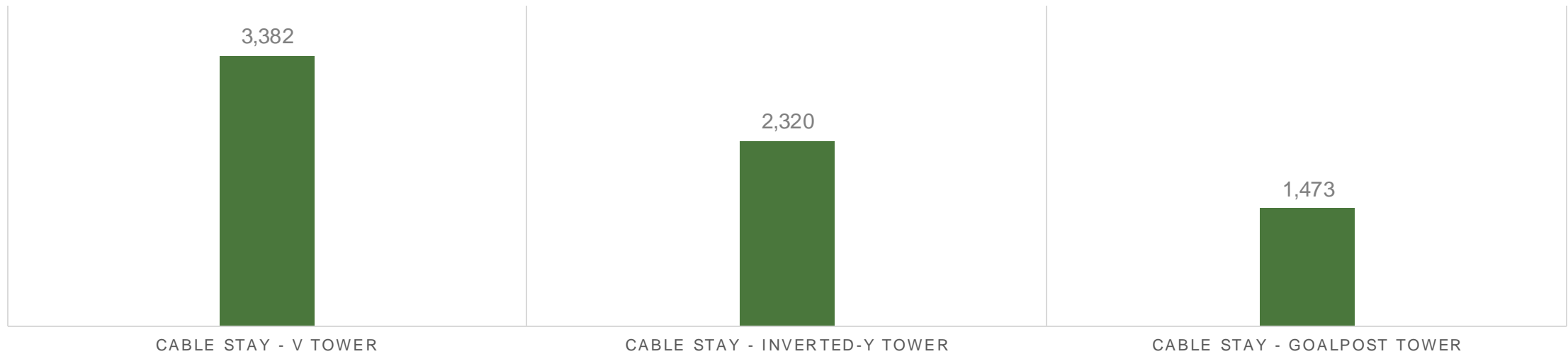
For those that chose tied arch as their preferred option, below are the number of first choice selections for each sub option.





# Survey – Cable Stay #1 Rankings

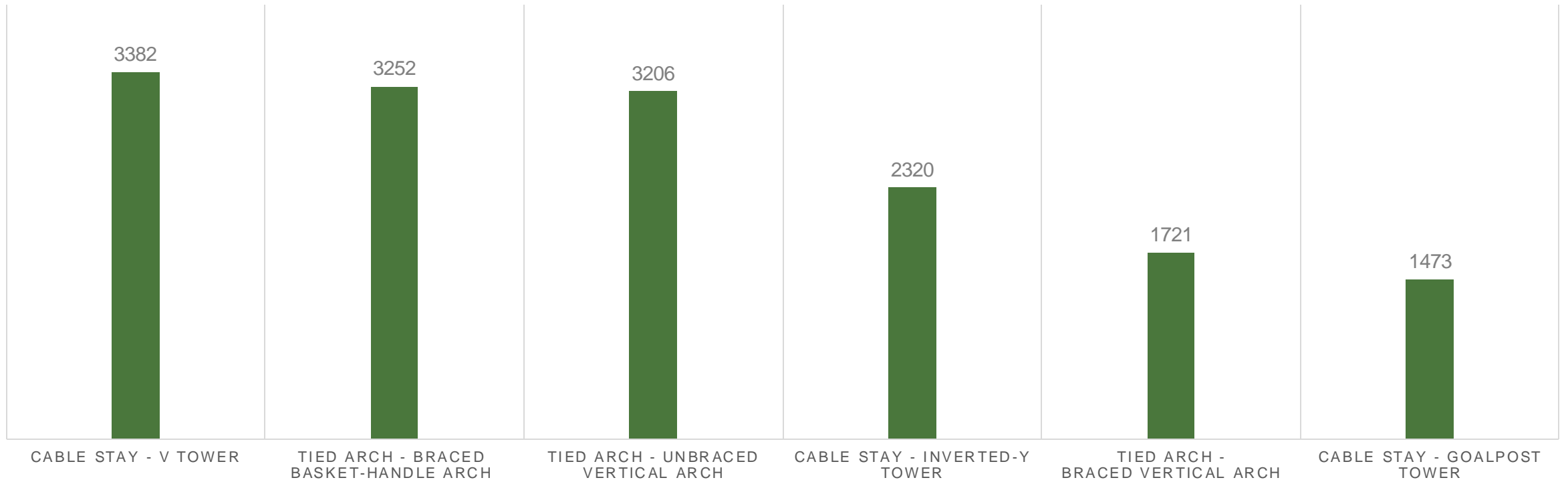
For those that chose cable stay as their preferred option, below are the number of first choice selections for each sub option.





# Survey – Preferred Overall Rankings

Ranking of sub options that were selected as the respondents #1 pick for their **preferred bridge type**





An aerial photograph of a city, featuring a large bridge with a prominent tower in the foreground. The background shows a dense urban skyline with various buildings. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The text "Next Steps" is centered in a large, white, sans-serif font.

# Next Steps



# Next Steps

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## Bridge Type Decision

- August 15th, 2024 - Community Design Advisory Group Recommendation on Bridge Type
- September 2024 – County Board Decision on Bridge Type

## Future Potential Briefings

- Winter 2024 – Status update on design development







# Questions / Discussion





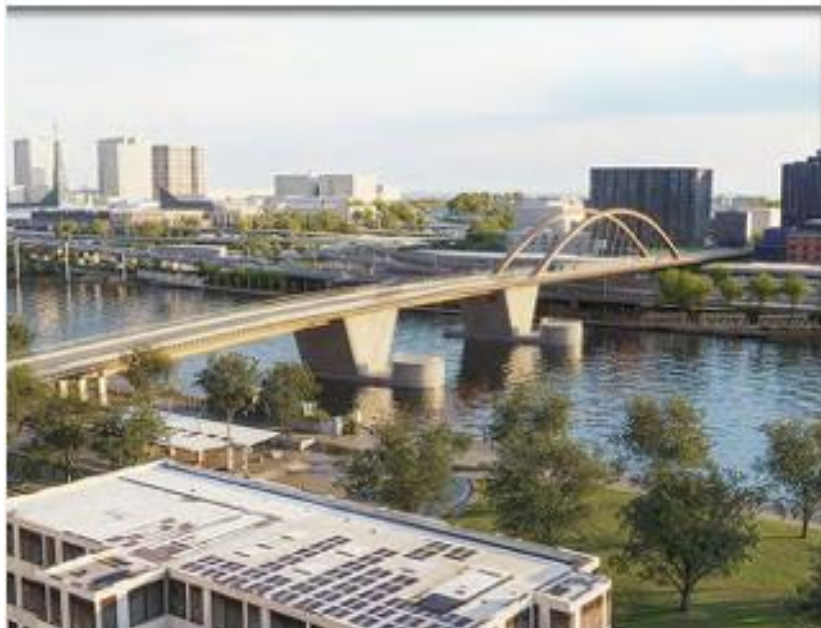
CS1- Goalpost tower



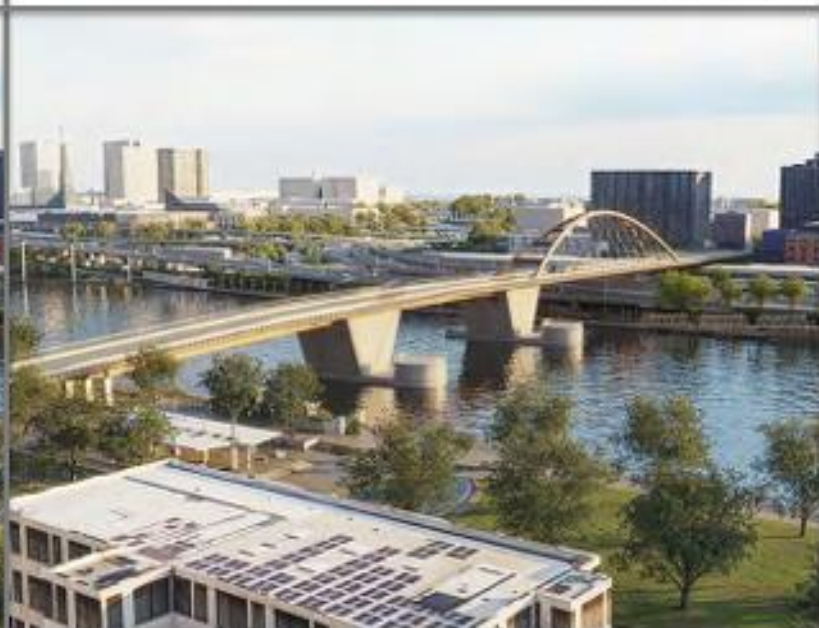
CS2- V tower



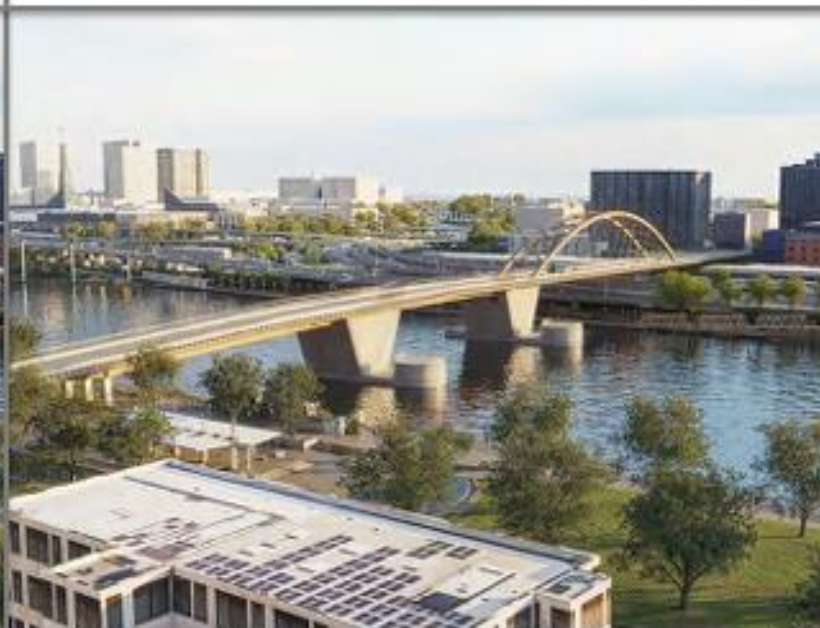
CS3- Inverted-Y tower



TA1-Unbraced vertical arches



TA2-Braced basket-handle arch



TA3- Braced vertical arches



An aerial photograph of a city bridge over a river, with a city skyline in the background. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The text "Thank you" is centered in white.

**Thank you**