



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

Ted Wheeler, Mayor
Rebecca Esau, Director
Phone: (503) 823-7300
Fax: (503) 823-5630
TTY: (503) 823-6868
www.portlandoregon.gov/bds

Briefing

DISCUSSION MEMO

Date: January 15, 2021
To: Historic Landmarks Commission & Design Commission
From: Hillary Adam, Design / Historic Review Team
503-823-8953 | hillary.adam@portlandoregon.gov
Re: Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge – DEIS
Briefing – January 25, 2021

Attached is a memo and presentation from Heather Catron, HDR, regarding the upcoming joint presentation to the Historic Landmarks Commission and Design Commission on the Environmental Review Phase of the Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge project which is at the Preferred Alternative selection phase of the project. The project team last visited both Commissions, separately, in December 2020 to present the Preferred Alternative and preview the Bridge Type Selection phase which will be further discussed in March.

The presentation on January 25, 2021 will provide additional information as to why the Enhanced Seismic Retrofit of the existing historic bridge is not being recommended as the preferred alternative; this explanation was requested by both Commissions in December. The presentation will also provide a preview of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) which will be released in late January. The release of the DEIS begins a 45-day public comment period. Each Commission may choose if they would like to provide official comments on the DEIS before the deadline. As is evident in the project team's memo and presentation, there are a number of different topics addressed in the DEIS for the Commissions to consider.

Commission comments to the DEIS could include:

- geographical or topical areas that require additional attention or analysis;
- flagging potential errors in the information or analysis;
- requesting additional clarification; and/or
- highlighting other considerations such as suggesting opportunities for mitigation for the negative impacts of the project.

Because the DEIS has not yet been released, staff suggests that if there is a desire by one or both of the Commissions to provide official comments, that the Commissions delegate one or two Commissioners to review relevant sections of the DEIS and report back to their respective Commissions. A letter can then be produced from discussion at a later hearing. BDS Staff is able to assist in the review and letter-writing, as needed.

Please note: the project team is expected to return for a joint public meeting with both Commissions for a Design Advice Request on the Bridge Type Selection on March 4, 2021.

Please contact me with any questions.