



# BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT UPDATE

## JUNE 2022 UPDATE



The Hood River-White Salmon Interstate Bridge is a vital transportation link connecting Hood River, Oregon with the communities of White Salmon and Bingen in Washington. Since 2003, the Port of Hood River (Port) has been working to advance the replacement of this bridge that was originally constructed in 1924. Currently, the Port is advancing the design of the replacement bridge, completing environmental review and positioning the project for future funding and construction. A Bi-State Working Group (BSWG) consisting of Mayors and County Commissioners from both Hood River and Klickitat Counties monitors the project and advises the Port on bridge replacement activities.

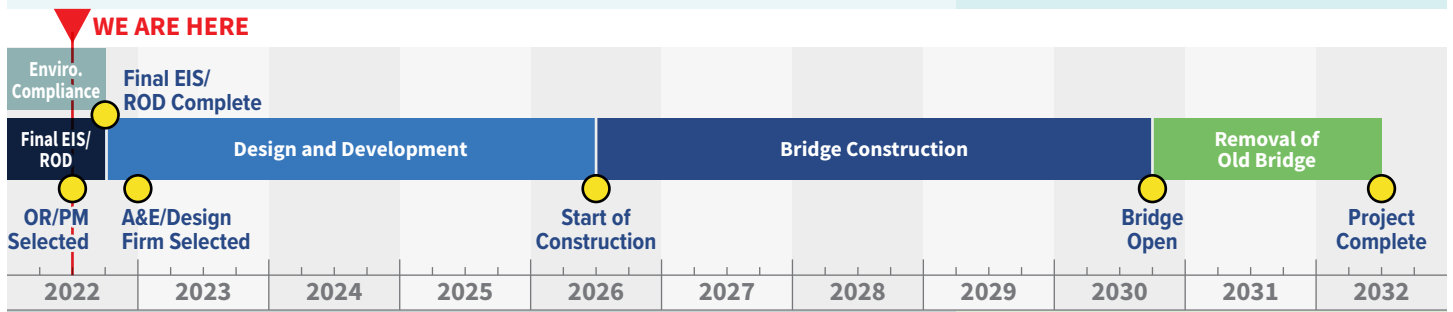
### Current Project Activities:

- **Work continues on tasks necessary to finalize the National Environmental Policy Act review. Current activities include:**
  - Reaching agreement on tribal compensatory agreements for impacts to treaty fishing activities during construction.
  - Completion of the Endangered Species Act consultation with NOAA Fisheries.
  - Finalizing Section 106 process including meeting with consulting parties and completion of the mitigation agreement for impacts to the historic bridge.
- Owners Representative/Project Management procurement nearing completion. Contract negotiations with the selected firm are underway. Project Management contract will represent the Port/Bi-State Working Group for the duration of the replacement project. This is a key contract for providing technical expertise and staff resources to the region as contracts for engineering and construction are pursued and managed.
- Negotiations with FHWA on the BUILD grant agreement continue.
- Project team has completed a highly-competitive federal Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG) grant application for \$195M to fund a portion of the bridge construction costs.
- The BSWG is planning an advocacy trip to Washington D.C. in July.

### How would bridge replacement benefit the Columbia River Gorge communities?

*The Hood River Bridge provides a critical connection for residents and visitors to the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. One of only three bridges spanning the Columbia in this region, the bridge is a critical rural freight network facility for agriculture, forestry, heavy industry and high-tech companies with freight originating throughout the northwest. The existing bridge is nearing the end of its serviceable life and is obsolete for modern vehicles with height, width, and weight restrictions and is also a navigational hazard for marine freight vessels. The bridge has no sidewalks or bicycle lanes for non-motorized travel and would likely not withstand a large earthquake.*

*If project funding is secured, the new bridge would provide a safe and reliable way for everyone to cross or navigate the Columbia River—by car, truck, bus, bicycle, on foot, or on the water. A new bridge would support a thriving economy and livable communities.*



To learn more about the project, please visit us at:  
[www.portofhoodriver.com/bridge](http://www.portofhoodriver.com/bridge)

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