



# EIS UPDATE

## BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

In December 2003, a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) was published as part of a bi-state collaborative effort. This draft EIS was the first step in complying with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Currently, the Port of Hood River (Port) is advancing the project to complete the EIS effort and position the project for future funding and construction.

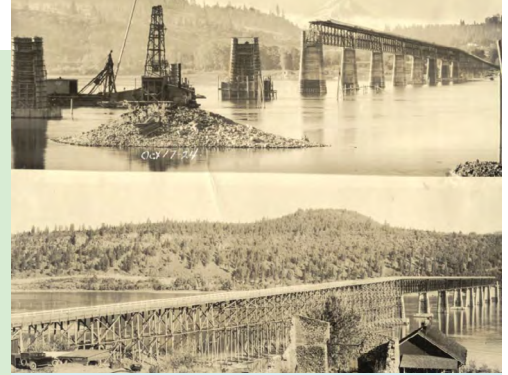
### NEPA Activities:

- Continued work on the Final EIS/Record of Decision and responses to public comments received on the Supplemental Draft EIS. Completion of Final EIS/Record of Decision expected by Fall 2021.
- Cultural resources survey and archaeological testing reports provided to Oregon State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), Washington State Department of Archaeological and Historic Preservation (DAHP) concurrence on effects.
- Continued discussions with the SHPO, DAHP, and other parties and tribes to identify potential mitigation measures for removal of the existing bridge.
- Continue consultation with Native American tribes on cultural resources, access to the Columbia River, fishing activities, treaty rights, and other interests.

### Other Activities:

- Ongoing consultation with the U.S. Department of Transportation to establish agreements for use of Phase 2 funds from the BUILD program.
- Governance legislation currently being researched and reviewed for the formation of a new bi-state bridge authority. The Washington Legislature appropriated \$50,000 to analyze and make recommendations on this topic.
- Federal request through the FAST Act reauthorization was unsuccessful. Team continues to monitor federal infrastructure funding opportunities.
- Team members are currently meeting with members of the Oregon legislature Joint Committee on Ways and Means to advocate for Phase 2 matching funds. Session ends later this June.
- Port has completed Land Use and Recreational Resource impact review for the NEPA process.
- Bi-State Working Group reviewed governance legislation and received an update on federal legislative efforts.
- Draft proposal documents for next phase of engineering shared with Federal Highways and state DOTs for concurrence.

### JULY 2021 UPDATE



### 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.

WE ARE HERE ▼

Agency/Stakeholder Outreach	Environmental Compliance											
	Technical Study Updates				Supplemental Draft EIS				Final EIS/ROD			
	Community Meeting				Community Meeting							
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
	2018		2019				2020				2021	

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

### PROJECT CONTACT

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