

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE WASHINGTON AND OREGON PARTNER JURISDICTIONS FOR FUNDING OF THE
SR-35 FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

This MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING is hereby made and entered into by and between the Washington and Oregon partner jurisdictions concerning the replacement of the Hood River Bridge. The partner jurisdictions include: Skamania County, Klickitat County, Hood River County, City of Bingen, City of Hood River, City of White Salmon, Port of Klickitat, and Port of Hood River. Other participating project agencies include the Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council, the Washington Department of Transportation and the Oregon Department of Transportation.

A. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this MOU is to agree to work cooperatively to secure the necessary funding for completion of the SR-35 Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS).

B. PROBLEM:

The Hood River Bridge was built in 1924 and spans the Columbia River, connecting the cities of White Salmon/Bingen, Washington to Hood River, Oregon. This major transportation route serves as an important link to local communities, the region, and interstate travel. The economic well being of this region is dependent on this Columbia River crossing.

The existing Hood River Bridge is functionally obsolete. Its deficiencies include: narrow travel lanes, lack of pedestrian and bicycle facilities, low load carrying capacity, and substandard river channel span. Given these deficiencies, there is a need to continue the process for the long-term replacement of the existing bridge.


C. SCOPE:

The scope of this MOU is to work with Oregon and Washington State Legislature and Departments of Transportation to secure funding necessary to begin the FEIS by the end of 2008.

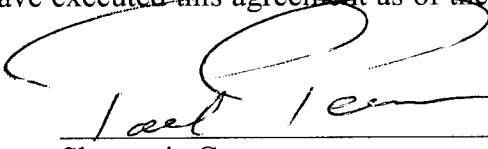
D. IT IS MUTUALLY UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED BY AND BETWEEN THE PARTIES THAT:

1. The Hood River Bridge is vital to the region's transportation network and health of the region's economy.
2. The region should begin now to plan for the future replacement of the existing Hood River Bridge.
3. Where appropriate, all agencies will coordinate and cooperate in support of securing local, state, and federal funding for the SR-35 Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and in particular, work with the Oregon and Washington Legislatures to:
 - a. Include the SR-35 Columbia River Crossing FEIS on priority transportation list.
 - b. Seek state funding for the FEIS.
 - c. Support your bi-state partners in seeking legislative funding with letters of support or other appropriate methods to express support.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this agreement as of the last written date below.

 2/14/08

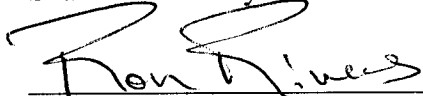
Port of Hood River (Date)

 2/15/07


Skamania County (Date)

 2-13-08


Klickitat County (Date)

 2-4-08

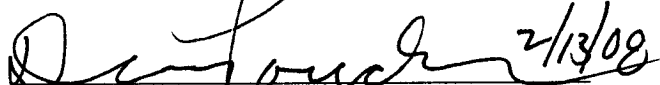
Hood River County (Date)

 2-8-08

City of Bingen (Date)

 -1-23-08

City of Hood River (Date)

 2/13/08

City of White Salmon (Date)

 2-13-08

Port of Klickitat (Date)