



# EIS UPDATE

## BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

**JUNE 2019**

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.

### What's new on the project?

- Held the third Working Group meeting to review roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian connections to the replacement bridge.
- Presented the project at the US Coast Guard Industry Breakfast and continued preparing the navigation impact report.
- Continued meetings with the Gorge Commission and Hood River County to discuss future National Scenic Area permitting considerations for a new bridge.
- Advanced the transportation technical report to gather review comments from Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).
- Publishing a Notice of Intent to prepare a Supplemental Draft EIS in the Federal Register
- Obtaining reviews and comments on the environmental methodology memo from tribes and agencies participating in the NEPA process.
- Initiating government-to-government consultation with federally recognized tribes and arranging individual meetings with tribal leadership and/or staff.
- Continued preparing the environmental technical reports.

### What are the next steps?

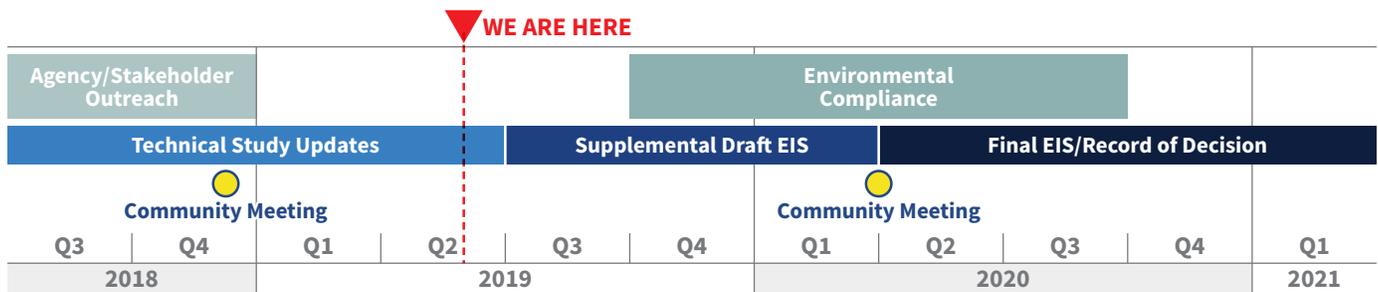
- Submit the navigation impact report to the US Coast Guard for review.
- Prepare a bridge hydraulics study.
- Develop a range of architectural concepts for the replacement bridge.
- Submit environmental technical reports for ODOT and WSDOT review.
- Begin preparing the Supplemental Draft EIS.



### 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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