



HOOD RIVER-WHITE SALMON BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

Project Director Report
February 06, 2023

The following summarizes Replacement Bridge Project activities from January 23, 2023, to February 06, 2023:

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

- *RBMC team is continuing to meet with WSP, ODOT and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) related to the NEPA/FEIS process and Treaty Tribe Memorandum of Agreement (MOA's).*
- *Grant Tracking for WA, ARPA, Build Grants will be on going each quarter.*
- *Continued Legislative Outreach with Oregon, Washington and DC*
- *We are progressing the progressive design build RFP and Contract for a 2023/24 procurement*

COMMUNICATIONS

- *The web site has been launched [Hood River Bridge Replacement Project](#)*
- *One page legislative update sheets have been created for Washington and Oregon (see packet)*

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS UPDATE

- *State Legislative Activities*
 - *Oregon*
 - *Gorge-ous Night is set for Feb 15th in Salem 5:30 to 7:30 PM*
 - *One on one meetings will be scheduled on Feb 15th*
 - *SB 431 requesting \$125 million for the project has been drafted (see packet)*
 - *SB 431 Hearing was set for 5pm Tuesday February 7th in Salem*
 - *Attendees: In-Person/Zoom*
 - *Sen. Bonham*
 - *Rep. Helfrich*
 - *Commissioner Anderson*
 - *Commissioner Fox*
 - *Mayor Keethler*
 - *Mayor Blackburn*
 - *Sheriff English*
 - *Doug Gibson – Mt. Adams Fruit*
 - *PM Mike Shannon*
 - *Working on letters of support from labor unions*
 - *Attendees:*
 - *Mike Fox*
 - *Mike Shannon*

- *Washington*
 - *Gorge-ous Night is set for Feb 8th from 5:30 to 7:30 PM*
 - *Legislative outreach is on Feb 8th in Olympia*
 - *Attendees:*
 - *Jake Anderson*
 - *Marla Keethler*
 - *Mike Fox*
 - *Kevin Greenwood*
 - *Mike Shannon*
 - *Meetings are scheduled on Feb 8th with:*
 - *Sen King 8:30 (Anderson, Keethler, Greenwood, Fox, Shannon)*
 - *Rep Mosbrucker 9:00 (Anderson, Keethler, Greenwood, Fox, Shannon)*
 - *Rep. Waters 10:00 (Anderson, Keethler, Greenwood, Fox, Shannon)*
 - *Rep. Corry 11:00 (Anderson, Keethler, Greenwood, Fox, Shannon)*
 - *Sen Liias 1:00 (Anderson, Keethler, Greenwood, Fox, Shannon)*
 - *Rep Barkis 1:30 (Anderson, Keethler, Greenwood, Fox, Shannon)*
 - *Rep Fey 2:30 (Anderson, Keethler, Greenwood, Fox, Shannon)*
- *Federal Legislative Activities*
 - *Hal will be setting up monthly virtual meetings with key congressional members starting in February. Attendees will be Mike F, Jacob Anderson, Mike Shannon*
 - *We are planning to make two trips per year to DC in support of funding requests*
 - *Looking at the end of April for the first trip*
- *We will be working with Oregon and Washington and Federal lobbyist to update the Legislative Strategy for the next 3 years.*

HOOD RIVER-WHITE SALMON BRIDGE AUTHORITY

- *Primary Place of business (PPB) was finalized as Oregon*
- *Hood River County is updating their existing bylaws, they are targeting February for approval of the process.*
- *Klickitat County completed its legal review of the 3rd draft of the CFA and is progressing with a resolution for approval of their appointment process*
- *The Final Draft of the Commission Formation Agreements (CFA) has been distributed and is included in the packet. Recommend moving forward with obtaining signatures from the 6 parties of the agreement.*
- *HRWSBA Legal Counsel Recommendations for consideration:*
 - *Stacey Lewis at Pacifica Law Group in Seattle, as recommended by Steve Siegel.*

- Eileen G. Eakins, who provided Port Commission training back in 2021 - 5285 Meadows Road, Suite 400, Lake Oswego, OR 97035, (503) 607-0517, eileen@lgl-advisors.com;
- Clark Balfour at Cable Huston, who I have worked with over the years on municipal utility projects: <https://www.cablehuston.com/attorneys/clark-i-balfour/>;
- Anna Cavaleri, Jerry's partner <http://hoodriverlaw.com/attorney-profiles/anna-c-cavaleri/>

FUNDING FINANCE & TOLLING

- *Washington State Transportation Commission (WSTC) T&R Analysis*
 - *HNTB and the PORT continue to coordinate with WSTC*
 - *WSTC next meeting is on February 15-16*
 - *There are no agenda items related to the T&R Study for the Replacement Bridge*
 - *Link to agenda [Meeting Agenda – February 15-16, 2023 – Washington State Transportation Commission](#)*
 - *WSTC team will be updating the Transportation Commission March 13th.*
 - *WSTC will provide an update on the project to the BSWG on March 6th and March 20th.*
 - *Schedule Milestones:*
 - *March 2023 – WSTC approves two refined tolling scenarios for further analysis*
 - *May 2023 – Draft Study findings and recommendations presented to WSTC*
 - *June 2023 – Final Report of findings and recommendations presented to WSTC and submitted to Washington State Legislature*
- *BSWG Tolling Study*
 - *Funding Finance and Tolling team is developing a model that will support the consideration of different tolling scenarios and their impacts on the financial plan to support the construction of a new bridge.*

PENDING GRANT FUNDING UPDATES

- *Raise Planning Grant (2023)*
 - *Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) issued: 11/30/22, Update to NOFO received on 12/14/22*
 - *Application Due: 2/28/23*
 - *For Rural Applications Min \$1M/Max \$25M (\$750M available to the program)*
 - *Our application will focus on a planning grant that will evaluate Bike/Ped connections and Transit services access/connections to the new bridge. With a focus on how the bridge is a vital part of a transportation system.*
 - *Meetings have been held with CAT, MCEDD and ODOT to discuss letters of support and inform the team that is developing the Grant Application*

- *USDOT has released training/informational videos to assist in the development of Grant Application – staff has been reviewing the training/informational material*
- *Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant Program (SS4A)*
 - *Next Opening April 2023*
 - *2023 NOFO Spring 2023*
- *Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG)*
 - *Next Opening - Spring 2023*
 - *2023 NOFO not released*
 - *INFRA (\$8 B available over 4 years FY22 to FY26)*
 - *MEGA (\$5 B available over 4 years FY22 to FY26)*
 - *Rural (\$2 B available over 4 years FY22 to FY26)*
 - *The project was notified that it was not successful in obtaining any 2022 grant funding from the MPDG. A Debrief is being targeted for April 2023 in DC.*
 - *MPDG Comments from USDOT*
 - *C. The project will be cost-effective (49 USC 6701(f))*
 - *D. With respect to related non-Federal financial commitments, 1 or more stable and dependable sources of funding and financing are available to (i) construct, operate, and maintain the project; and (ii) cover cost increases (49 USC 6701(f))*
 - *E. The applicant has, or will have, sufficient legal, financial, and technical capacity to carry out the project (49 USC 6701(f))*
- *Bridge Investment Program (BIP)*
 - *Next Opening – Summer 2023*
 - *2023 NOFO – Summer 2023*

EXCUTED GRANT FUNDING UPDATES

- *Build20*
 - *Grant Awarded 9/23/22*
 - *Funding: \$5M – Federal Share, \$1.25M Local Match (Washington Grant) – Total \$6.25M with an Expenditure Deadline of 12/31/2024*
 - *Total Submitted for Reimbursement: \$0*
 - *Total Reimbursement received to date: \$0*
 - *Remaining Funds: \$5 million*
 - *We have received our certification from FHWA on 12/21/22. We have received access to the RADs quarterly reporting system for FHWA on 1/26/22. Training with FHWA is still pending.*
 - *Q4 2022 reporting has been submitted through RADs to FHWA*
- *ARPA (Oregon Grant)*
 - *Grant Awarded 5/12/22*
 - *Funding: \$5M with an Expenditure Deadline of 12/31/26*
 - *Total Submitted for Reimbursement: \$225,353.30*
 - *Total Reimbursement received to date: \$225,353.30*

- Remaining Funds: \$4,774,646.70
 - 4th Quarter reimbursement submitted on January 10th, 2023.
Next reimbursement submittal April 2023
- WA SB 5165 Grant
 - Grant Awarded 2/2/22
 - Funding: \$5M with an Expenditure Deadlines of 6/30/23 (\$3M) and 6/30/23 (\$2M)
 - Total Submitted for Reimbursement: \$1,341,149.25
 - Total Reimbursement received to date: \$384,693.39
 - Remaining Funds: \$3,658,850.75
 - 4th Quarter reimbursement submitted for \$956,455.86
Next reimbursement submittal will be April 2023.

TREATY TRIBE MOA'S

- A Semi-weekly meeting has been set up with ODOT and FHWA specific to advancing the Treaty Tribe MOA's. A collaboration space has been created on the Project Portal site.
 - **Yakama Nation (YN).**
 - Draft MOA was submitted by Roy Watters to the Yakama Nation on 1/26/23
Next step is anticipated to be a follow up meeting with Yakama Nation and discussion on terms of the MOA.
 - **Nez Perce**
 - The Draft MOA was submitted to ODOT on 1/17/23
 - ODOT approved us to move forward with sending the Draft MOA on 1/24/23.
 - 2/2/23 – Project update call with Amanda Rogers of Nez Perce and Herb Fricke (Project Tribal Coordinator), Roy Watters (ODOT). MOA was sent to Amanda on 2/2/23.
 - Nez Perce we coordinating a project update meeting with them in the next couple months.
 - **Umatilla (CTUIR).**
 - The Draft MOA was submitted to the Umatilla Tribe on 1/25/23
 - Meeting and Presentation were held with CTUIR Fish and Wildlife commission on 1/24/23
 - Topics covered
 - Project Update,
 - Request for Letter of Support – Treaty to a vote and was approved 4/0 to provide a letter of support for the project.
 - Update on CTUIR toll exemption request – exemption is being finalized and will be presented to the Port Commission on Feb 7th for approval. Umatilla tribal members will be at the meeting.

- *Treaty MOA – a hard copy of the Draft MOA was provided to the Tribal legal counsel and a electronic copy supplied also. A follow up meeting is being schedule for the third week in February.*
- *Work Force Development – Follow up meetings are being scheduled the tribes and TERO offices for input into the Work Force Development criteria that will be provided in our RFP.*
- *Attendees: ODOT, FHWA, Commissioner Fox, RBMC*
- *Second meeting has been scheduled for 2/22 with Umatilla*
- *Umatilla Board of Trustees approved a letter of support at their 1/30 meeting. We should be receiving the letter soon.*

- **Warm Springs.**
 - *ODOT managing this relationship. FHWA has sent the G2G letter to Warm Springs requesting Govt. to Govt. consultation on the MOA on 12/27/22*
 - *The Draft MOA was submitted to ODOT on 1/17/23, ODOT responded that they cannot submit the MOA until FHWA receives a response to the G2G request.*
 - *Our team has made contact with Warm Springs and a meeting is being coordinated.*

RBMC

PROGRESSIVE DESIGN BUILD RFQ/RFP

- *Sub-schedule has been developed for the procurement of the Progressive Design Build Team (See Packet) – opportunities to advance the schedule are being reviewed.*
- *RMBC internal Kick-off meeting was held on 1/18/23 for the Progressive DB, Bi-weekly meetings have been scheduled to advance the development of the RFP and procurement documents*
- *Meetings are being schedule with WSDOT and ODOT staff to coordinate their involvement in the PDB development, procurement, and project.*
 - *Coordination meeting with ODOT has been set for 2/10.*

KEY STAKE HOLDERS

RAILROAD

- *Kickoff/Update meeting was held with BNSF on 1/25/23, they indicated the new bridge should accommodate a future triple track and a 30' vertical clearance. At this time these are not seen as major impacts to the project.*
- *Coordination of work activities over the track will be critical do to the high volume of usage.*
- *BNSF did not anticipate long review periods given their current workload, they indicated that they had adequate capacity to support the coordination needed on this project.*

GEOTECHNICAL

- *The two Oregon on land borings will begin Feb 6th and a coordination meeting was held with Port staff to review the logistics of boing in the parking lot.*
- *The cultural resource monitoring has been coordinated with ODOT and the team is scheduled for the Feb 6th.*
- *Coordination with the tribes will work through ODOT but it is likely the PORT will be asked to fund the tribal monitoring costs.*

SURVEY

- *A sub-schedule for survey activities has been developed and attached. The activities will include development of a base map, verifying and setting control points, identification and mapping of exiting utilities, identification of jurisdictional ownership lines for ODOT, WSDOT and local agencies, location and mapping of Geotechnical Borings.*
- ***Week of January 23:*** *Field crew began search for right of way monuments and began topographic mapping on Washington side downstream of current bridge, between SR14 and the BNSR right of way. WSDOT RW maps requested from SW Region Surveyor.*
- ***Week of January 30:*** *Field crew will perform mapping checks on Oregon portion and search for RW monumentation on Oregon side of the bridge.*
- *Survey team is also developing a map that will show the jurisdictional boundaries for WSDOT and ODOT*

RIGHT OF WAY

- *Coordination has begun with WSDOT and ODOT to define the jurisdictional limits for both agencies.*
- *Our right of way team is coordinating with the two property owners in Washington that will need to provide Right of Entry for the geotechnical borings. The two owners are a private owner and Klickitat County. We have received the ROE letters from both.*
- *The SDEIS preferred alternative does indicate a potential whole take of the private landowner and we will need to coordinate with the BSWG and PORT on when to move forward with discussion with the landowner on this action.*

PERMITTING

- ***SHPO Permit for Upland Work in Oregon*** – *This permit was issued on 1/19/23. CTOGR included some standard stipulations in their permit comments. The Oregon UPLAND boring work can proceed and is scheduled for next week.*
- ***USACE Permit*** – *USACE issued a provisional permit in late December. They will finalize the permit once DEQ provides the 401 C water quality certification. All SHPO/tribal coordination for the in-water and WA. borings has been completed by USACE.*

- **DEQ Permit** – The permit application was submitted to DEQ on 1/13/23. Expect DEQ to issue the 401 C in the next 2-3 months. As noted above, once DEQ issues their permit USACE will issued their final permit verification. USACE is just waiting on DEQ.
- **DSL Short Term Access Agreement** – This approval was issued in September 2022.
- **DSL No Permit Needed Letter** – This letter was issued January 18, 2023 confirming the work does not require a DSL Removal-Fill Permit.
- **WDFW Hydraulic Permit Approval** – The original HPA was modified with new project information and schedule on January 11th. The HPA includes several standard BMPs and notification requirements. Notification must be made at least three days prior to in-water work on WA. side.
- **City of White Salmon SEPA and SMP Exemption Letter** – The final letter from City confirming geotech work is except from SEPA and SMP was issued on January 23, 2023.
- **WDNR Aquatic Lands ROE Permit** – We received the requisite signatures from Klickitat Co. and Shin Jin Ko on February 2, 2023. We will submit the application (JARPA) to WDNR by COB February 3, 2023. Expect two months for DNR to issues the ROE permit.
- **NMFS Slopes V Compliance** - The USACE has determined that the work as proposed will result in No Effect on listed fish based on the standard BMPs to be included (SLOPES V BMPs) and the short duration, confined nature of the work. We were able to avoid getting NMFS involved.

When USACE issues the verification, it will also include the necessary ESA/NMFS compliance. The provisional verification discusses this and application of SLOPES V. So this task/compliance need will get completed when USACE issues the permit (without NMFS involvement), which will happen once the DEQ permit lands.

- All permits are in hand except for the three approvals highlighted above. The DEQ permit application was submitted to DEQ on 1/13/23 after they issue their permit USACE will immediately take the “provisional” moniker off of the provisional verification. Once submitted WDNR should be able to turn around the permit within two months. There is a \$25 fee for this permit.

FINAL EIS/RECORD OF DECISION

- Environmental Impact Statement technical reports are available at <https://cdxapps.epa.gov/cdx-enepa-ll/public/action/eis/details?eislid=314171>
- 11/30 Update from Carol Sneed with ODOT indicated that ODOT has moved the completion date to the end of Dec from the starting expectation of Mid October. Stating they have been

impacted by activities on the Abernathy Bridge project that is under construction and training.

- 1/4 Update – ODOT has experienced recent impacts to existing bridge projects within ODOT has led to them having to increase environmental impacts post NEPA which has impacted cost and schedule significantly on these projects. These lessons learned have led to ODOT asking for an increased factor of safety on our project that will minimize the chance of our project needing an increased area. We are updating the project information to address these concerns and have a follow up meeting with ODOT on 1/13.*
- A coordination meeting was held with ODOT on 1/13, where the NEPA and RBMC teams provided revised data to ODOT for the Biological Opinion. ODOT has updated the team that a meeting was held with FHWA on 1/19/23 but not update on the outcome of that meeting has been shared. Based on the outcome of the meeting on 1/19 ODOT will direct the NEPA team on how to proceed or if a follow up meeting is needed with FHWA. The outcome of these meetings will define how ODOT will move forward with the Biological Opinion. We will follow up with ODOT next week and have scheduled for them to attend the Feb 6th BSWG meeting and provide an update.*
- ODOT held a coordination meeting with FHWA the week of 1/23 and will be scheduling a follow up meeting for the week of 1/30 with FHWA to discuss the material needed to advance the BO. WSP will provide the material for this meeting with FHWA on 1/30. Once this is complete ODOT can continue with the development of the BO. No schedule was provided on the completion of the BO.*
- All BA modifications were provided to ODOT on 2/1. A meeting has been scheduled for 2/7 with FHWA and ODOT to determine the next steps.*
- ODOT will be attend our Feb 6th BSWG meeting to update us on the schedule for the BA and FEIS and ROD.*

OTHER ITEMS

KEY MEETINGS

Date:	Subject:
1/24	<i>Meeting with Umatilla Fish and Wildlife commission.</i>



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