



HOOD RIVER-WHITE SALMON BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

Project Director Report
March 20, 2023

The following summarizes Replacement Bridge Project activities from March 06, 2023 to March 20, 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).*
- *RBMC team is meeting with ODOT, WSDOT and FHWA on the RFP for the Progressive Design Build Procurement.*
- *Grant Tracking for WA, ARPA, Build Grants will be on going each quarter.*
- *Legislative Outreach is continuing with Oregon, Washington and DC*

COMMUNICATIONS

- *The web site has been launched www.hoodriverbridge.org and is seeing regular updates*
- *Social media accounts are now active and we're building followers.*

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS UPDATE

- *State Legislative Activities*
 - *Oregon*
 - *Responses were provided to our lobbyist about the timing of the funding from Washington State.*
 - *Washington*
 - *Meetings were held with Sen. Liias and Sen. King in Olympia. Both were very positive on the project seeing funding this year with recuring funding over next few years. It is expected that the draft budgets will be coming out in Washington over the next couple weeks.*
 - *Both Sen. Liias and Sen. King asked about the progress of the Hood River White Salmon Bridge Authority and tolling to support local funding. They were updated that both were progressing forward and that the Port signed the CFA and it was anticipated that the remaining agencies would be signing in March and April.*
- *Federal Legislative Activities*
 - *CDS Appropriations requests have been sent for both Washington and Oregon for a total funding request of \$8M.*
 - *Kevin G will be traveling to DC March 20-24 with PNWA Event and is coordinating a number of meetings while he is there. (See attached schedule of meetings)*
 - *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*

HOOD RIVER-WHITE SALMON BRIDGE AUTHORITY

- *The Final Draft of the Commission Formation Agreements (CFA) has been distributed to the BSWG with a recommendation to move forward with obtaining signatures from the 6 parties of the agreement.*
- *Port of Hood River signed CFA on 2/7/23, anticipate other members signing in March and April*
- *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 held their meeting on March 14th – 15th*
 - *They discussed the two scenarios and received approval on moving them forward. (PDF of presentation is attached and summary of meeting)*
 - *Link to agenda <https://wstc.wa.gov/news/2023/02/27/meeting-agenda-march-14-15-2023>*
 - *WSTC will provide an update on the two scenarios to the Port Comm on March 21st*
 - *Schedule Milestones:*
 - *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 Submitted: 2/28/23*
 - *Requested amount of funding: \$3.6M*

- *Our application focused 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.*
- *Over 20 Letters of Support were included with our application*
- *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*
- *CDS Appropriation*
 - *Requests is being submitted for a total of \$8M between the delegations for Preliminary Engineering/Design, Right of Way Acquisition, Mitigation identified as part of the NEPA process.*
 - *Murray request was submitted on 2/28/23*
 - *Merkley/Wyden request was submitted on 3/3/23*
 - *Cantwell and Newhouse request were submitted on 3/10/23*
 - *Blumenauer request was submitted on 3/17/23*

EXECUTED 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*
 - *A meeting to discuss the Section 106 MOA and Treaty Fishing MOA was held on 2/28/23. Meeting was positive and they were very appreciative of the work that was done in the draft Treaty MOA. Yakama Nation will review the draft MOA with a tentative date to provide responses in two weeks. Tribal members agreed that ODOT could move forward with the next steps in the 106 MOA process (summary attached)*
 - **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.*
 - *We are coordinating a project update meeting with them in the next couple months.*
 - *Port attorney is coordinating with Nez Perce tribe as they requested*

- **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*
 - *2nd Meeting with Umatilla has been scheduled for 3/23/23*
 - *We have received a letter of support for the bridge project from CTUIR.*
- **Warm Springs.**
 - *A meeting has been scheduled with the Warm Springs Tribe for 3/22/23.*

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.*
- *A meeting was held with ODOT on 3/7 with Region 1 staff and Headquarters Procurement staff to discuss their role on the upcoming PDB Procurement. Robert Wattman will be our point of contact and backed by Sam Hunaidi. A number ODOT technical staff were also at the meeting and provided input into how to move forward. WSDOT also attend this meeting.*
- *A meeting was held with FHWA on 2/16 to discuss their role on the upcoming PDB Procurement and a monthly recurring meeting has been set up.*
- *A meeting was held with WSDOT on 2/23. WSDOT has provided a point of contact for the PDB team to work with on the RFP development.*

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 were completed on Feb 6th and the report is being developed. Cultural Resource monitoring was done and no cultural resources were found.*
- *Coordination with the tribes will work through ODOT but it is likely the PORT will be asked to fund the tribal monitoring costs.*
- *Underwater drilling is scheduled to start June 19th and last 5 weeks.*

SURVEY

Completed work

- *Additional right of way research and calculations completed*
- *APS locating underground utilities on Oregon side*

Upcoming work

- *Complete right of way calculations in OR and WA*
- *Coordinate private utility locates in WA*
- *Map locates in OR and WA*

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 Teotech work is exempt 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 issue 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.

- 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?eisId=314171>
- ODOT provided additional comments to the BA/BO on 3/15. Comments were reviewed with ODOT and WSP on 3/16. Additional coordination through email with FHWA was held on 3/16. Pending ODOT’s concurrence with FHWA by 3/17. WSP will have revised documents returned to ODOT by 3/24.
- ODOT could not clarify what % of the BA still required ODOT review or what sections were remaining to be reviewed.

OTHER ITEMS

KEY MEETINGS

Date:	Subject:
3/6	Weekly check in with WSP
	RBMC weekly check in with Port Director
3/7	Port Staff meeting
	ODOT Coordination meeting on PDB RFP

	<i>ODOT Coordination meeting on Treaty Tribe MOA's</i>
<i>3/13 – 3/15</i>	<i>Design Build Institute of America Annual Conference – PDB Specific Track</i>
<i>3/16</i>	<i>Meeting with Sen. King</i>
	<i>Meeting with Sen. Liias</i>