



HOOD RIVER–WHITE SALMON BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

Project Director Report

May 01, 2023

The following summarizes Replacement Bridge Project activities from April 03, 2023, to May 01, 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*
- *We are developing stories for the finalization of the CFA and Funding from the Washington.*
- *We are also moving forward with implementation of communication plan in response to the PORT resolution on a tolling.*

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS UPDATE

- *State Legislative Activities*
 - *Oregon*
 - *Washington*
 - *Washington legislative session ends April 23.*
 - *Washington legislatures have proposed to fund \$15M in the 23-25 Biennium, \$30M in the 25-27 Biennium, \$30M in the 27-29 Biennium and \$44M as Future Funding. (See Packet)*
- *Federal Legislative Activities*
 - *CDS Appropriations requests have been sent for both Washington and Oregon for a total funding request of \$8M.*
 - *Rep. Blumenauer, Rep. Newhouse, Sen. Wyden, Sen. Merkley and Sen. Cantwell submitted requests in support of the project. We are not expecting this to finalized until the end of this year.*
 - *We are planning to make two trips per year to DC in support of funding requests*
 - *Hal is scheduling meetings for the week of May 22nd.*
 - *Commissioner Fox, Commissioner Anderson, Mayor Keethler, and Mike Shannon will be attending with Hal.*

HOOD RIVER-WHITE SALMON BRIDGE AUTHORITY (HRWSBA)

- *The Final Draft of the Commission Formation Agreements (CFA) was distributed to the BSWG with a recommendation to move forward with obtaining signatures from the 6 parties of the agreement.*
 - *All 6 members have signed the CFA's*
- *Hood River County and Klickitat County will now begin the process of taking nominations and appointing the 6 directors for the new Hood River White Salmon Bridge Authority (HRWSBA).*
- *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 meetings is on April 18th, 19th*
 - *WSTC approved moving forward with the final two tolling scenarios summarized in their presentation (See Packet).*
 - *WSTC next meeting is scheduled for May 16th and 17th (See Packet for Agenda)*
 - *The WSTC staff will be presenting the Final T&R Study Results and presenting the draft final report. Kevin G has been asked to attend this meeting and present to the Commission.*
 - *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*
 - *RBMC provided an overview to members of the BSWG on the Benefit Cost Analysis and key areas of focus for this year's grant applications.*
 - *RBMC will be moving forward supporting the implementation of Resolution 2022-23-13 from the April Port Commission Meeting (See Packet)*

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)*
 - *2023 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) released on 3/30/23*
 - *Application Due: 7/10/23 @ 5pm EDT*
 - *Available funding total: \$1.177B*
 - *Planning & Demonstration Grants - Min – Max award \$100,000 to \$10M*
 - *Implementation Grants – Min – Max award \$2.5M to \$25M*
- *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)*
- *Bridge Investment Program (BIP)*
 - *Next Opening – Summer 2023*
 - *2023 NOFO – Summer 2023*
- *DOL Building Pathways to Infrastructure Jobs Grant Program*
 - *Posted: 4/5/23*
 - *Closing: 7/7/23*
 - *Program Funding: \$80M*
 - *Max Award: \$5M Min Award: \$500K*

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: \$313,413.78*
 - *Total Reimbursement received to date: \$313.413.78*

- *Remaining Funds: \$4,686,586.22*
 - Next reimbursement submittal July 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: \$2,205,900.80*
 - *Total Reimbursement received to date: \$384,693.39*
 - *Remaining Funds: \$2,794,090.20*
 - *1st Quarter 23 reimbursement submitted for \$864,760.55*
 - Next reimbursement submittal will be July 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.*
 - *Yakama Nation provided an email update on 3/20/23 that the MOA has been circulated for internal review. We are awaiting their comments and to set up a follow up meeting.*
 - ***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 – MOA was sent to Amanda with Nez Perce on 2/2/23.*
 - *On 4/18/23 the Tribe's Cultural Resource and Fisheries departments were able to fully brief Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee's (NPTEC) Natural Resource Subcommittee on the project and the key terms in the draft MOA.*
 - *A second meeting has been scheduled for 6/6/23 at the Nez Perce Tribal Headquarters in Lapwai, ID. The project team, ODOT and FHWA will be presenting to the Natural Resources subcommittee on the MOA.*
 - *At the suggestion of the Tribe, the team also submitted a form to the Nez Perce Tribes requesting permission to use their logo in support of the project. This request will be heard at the May 16, 2023, Natural Resources Subcommittee agenda for action.*
 - ***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*
 - *The team received comments from CTUIR on the first draft of the MOA on 4/3/23.*
 - *A 2nd Meeting was held with CTUIR on 4/5/2023 to review the comments and discuss ideas on how to determine and quantify mitigation measures within the Treat MOA. The meeting was very positive and follow up meeting is being schedule for mid-May.*
 - *The 2nd draft of the CTUIR MOA was sent to Umatilla on 4/25/2023.*
 - *We are coordinating our next meeting with Umatilla.*
- **Warm Springs.**
 - *The project team met with Warm Springs Natural Resources group on 4/11/23 and presented a project update and introduced the Draft Treaty MOA to the group.*
 - *The project team also meet with the Warm Springs Council on 4/12/23 to update them on the project.*
 - *A request to use the tribe's logo and to obtain a letter of support for the project was also requested of the tribe. They are considering the request. Sample letters of support were provided to them for reference.*
 - *The project team is working on setting up a 2nd meeting with the tribe to advance discussion around the Treaty Tribe MOA.*

RBMC

PROGRESSIVE DESIGN BUILD RFQ/RFP

- *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 ODOT procurement and alternative delivery team on 4/4/23. The ODOT team informed us they do not use Oregon Buys for their procurements. Our team is looking at doing our own procurement following FHWA and State procurement regulations.*
- *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.*
- *Preliminary drafts of the RFP/RFQ sections are being assembled and task lead meetings are being held to coordinate the development of the RFP/RFQ. The team is also drafting the evaluation criteria for the procurement.*

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 draft report is in review. 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.*
- *The drilling team has visited the site and coordination has begun with the Port on access from the boat ramp.*
- *Notifications are being developed to keep Marina users informed of the work that will be going on.*

SURVEY

Completed work

- *Additional right of way research and calculations completed*
- *140+ RW documents received from ODOT and are being reviewed*
- *APS locating underground utilities on Washington side*
- *Washington utility locates mapped and added to basemap*

Upcoming work

- *Complete right of way calculations 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. DEQ has until April 25th to issue the certification or request more review time from USACE. All SHPO/tribal coordination for the in-water and WA. Borings has been completed by USACE with support from ODOT. Archaeological monitoring will be required for the single upland boring on the WA. side of the river
- **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. DEQ has until April 25th to issue the certification or request more review time from USACE.
- **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 7eotech 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. We have coordinated recently with WDNR regarding insurance certifications for the Port and drilling contractor and they have told us the application is complete and we should see the ROE permit in the next few weeks.
- **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>
- Responses were provided on 3/28/23 to ODOT for the from ODOT Liaisons related to the Biological Assessment and their writing of the Biological Opinion. (See Packet)
- Email from Cindy Callahan at FHWA on 3/28 re-establishing the communication process that should be followed until the signing of the Biological Opinion. (See Packet)
- A coordination meeting was held with the Project Team, NOAA and FHWA on 3/29/23. NOAA indicated that once the liaison receives the updated BA anticipated to be in the next two weeks and all comments are closed that it would take 90 Days to complete the BO and then an additional 45 Days for NOAA’s full review including their legal review. This would set the new anticipated date to receive the signed BO around Sept 1, 2023.
- A monthly recurring coordination meeting has been set up with Cindy Callahan – Senior Biologist (FHWA) and Rod Thompson – State Environmental Engineer (ODOT)
- FHWA provide two additional questions from the ODOT liaison. One involving the engineering review being done by ODOT region 1 and a second around Southern Resident Killer Whales (SRKW’s) and their critical habitat. There is a new requirement since the original BA submittal to provide a short analysis of the effects on SRKW’s. Response has been provided to FHWA.
- Email from ODOT indicated the BA update is being circulated through region one for engineering review. We have resolved all comments/questions from the ODOT engineering review.

OTHER ITEMS

KEY MEETINGS

Date:	Subject:
4/4, 4/18, 4/25	Port Staff Meeting
4/4	Coordination with ODOT Alt Delivery Team
4/4	Port Spring Planning Session
4/4, 4/18	Port Commission Meeting
4/5	CTUIR Coordination Meeting

4/5	<i>RBMC/ODOT/FHWA Biological Opinion Coord</i>
4/6	<i>ARDOT PDB Coordination</i>
4/7	<i>Geotech Boring Coordination with PORT</i>
4/10	<i>RBMC Monthly Task Lead Coordination</i>
4/10, 4/17, 4/24	<i>Weekly WSP Coordination</i>
4/10	<i>Weekly RBMC Director Update</i>
4/10	<i>CRGC Coordination Meeting on NSA Management Plan</i>
4/11	<i>Warm Springs Tribe Coordination</i>
4/12	<i>Warm Springs Council Meeting</i>
4/12, 4/19, 4/25	<i>HRWSBR Communication Coord</i>
4/12, 4/27	<i>WSP/ODOT/FHWA Cultural Resources NEPA Coordination</i>
4/17	<i>HRWSBR – BSWG Working Session</i>
4/18	<i>WSTC Commission</i>
4/20	<i>HRWSBR – FHWA PDB Coordination</i>