



# HOOD RIVER–WHITE SALMON BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

## BRIDGE AESTHETICS COMMITTEE PURPOSE AND SCOPE

### Introduction

Bridges are long lasting, highly visible, and often important landmarks with strong character. In this spirit, the Hood River-White Salmon Bridge Aesthetics Committee (BAC) will have the opportunity to generate ideas and concepts for new bridge aesthetic treatments that will be compiled into an Aesthetics Guidance Memorandum. The bridge design team will use the memorandum as a guide as they make choices that affect the appearance of the bridge, ensuring that the design expresses the region’s unique cultural identity and reflects the exceptional natural beauty of the Columbia Gorge.

### Committee Purpose

The purpose is to convene a broadly representative aesthetics committee to support the subsequent phase of land-use permitting. The BAC will provide input on potential aesthetic elements of the non-structural bridge components and adjacent areas.

The role of the BAC is to:

- Gather and articulate design ideas and concepts, relating to:
  - materials, railings, traffic barriers, overlooks, lighting, furnishings, protective screening, and interpretive/wayfinding content and concepts, sign appearance;
  - bridge colors, reviewed for harmony with the landscape setting;
  - user experience on and viewing the bridge; and
  - consideration of safety, durability, and cost.
- Collect and provide information for community outreach on aesthetic considerations for the bridge.
- Provide input on the locations for potential reuse of salvaged bridge parts at suitable locations. (In coordination with Sections 104 and 106 and other NEPA-based mitigation efforts.)

## Vision, Guiding Principles, and Goals

The primary goal for the BAC is to ensure that all relevant input is cohesively integrated into this project so that it is aesthetically and experientially successful. Defining the characteristics that could make the bridge enjoyable to drive, bike, and walk across and view from land and water will assist in setting the BAC's direction.

- **Aesthetics Guidance Memorandum**

Once the Aesthetics Guidance Memorandum is finalized, it will be given to the Progressive Design-Build team so it can be used as a tool for making design decisions. The memorandum in this way will influence aesthetic design themes that will integrate into final designs for the bridge.

- **Aesthetic Theme**

Aesthetic theme(s) may be informed by referencing policy documents such as the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Management Plan, ODOT I-84 Corridor Strategy Plan, Historic Columbia River Highway State Trail Guidelines, and input from the local Tribes.

- **Community Involvement Input**

The BAC may contribute to an ongoing coordinated outreach effort. Outreach may inform and involve the community as outside ideas are welcomed. Carefully shaping that community participation can help produce the most tangible ideas for the BAC's consideration.