



MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 3, 2023

TO: Chair Ramos and Transportation and Mobility Commission members

CC: Rebecca Kennedy, Deputy Director, Community Development; Katherine Kelly, Senior Policy Advisor, City of Vancouver

FROM: Shilpa Mallem, Design Manager, Interstate Bridge Replacement Program

RE: **Interstate Bridge Replacement Program Update**

Introduction

Staff of the Interstate Bridge Replacement (IBR) program will discuss investments being studied in the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) that includes the Modified Locally Preferred Alternative (MLPA) endorsed in 2022.

Overview/Preview

IBR staff will present an aerial view map of the proposed transportation investments that are currently being studied in the environmental review process, including various design options within certain areas. The map includes a replacement bridge over the Columbia River, interchange and roadway enhancements, and new and improved transit and active transportation facilities in Vancouver and Portland. The area shown on the maps represents what is being studied for potential impacts and benefits to the environment and community in the Draft SEIS, but does not reflect a final decision about what will ultimately be built. The presentation will focus primarily on program elements in Vancouver.

Background

On August 1, 2023, IBR staff provided the TMC with a brief update on the status of the program, noting that a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) is scheduled to be released in late 2023/early 2024, followed by a 60-day public comment period. The aerial roll map that will be presented for discussion at this meeting is intended to provide TMC members with more information about what to anticipate with release of the Draft SEIS.

Action, Timeline, Next Steps

No action is requested with this presentation, it is informational. Following release of the Draft SEIS there will be a 60-day public comment period. The environmental analysis comprises over 20 technical areas that consider impacts and benefits to the natural environment (e.g., wetlands, ecosystems, climate) and the community (e.g., noise, air quality, neighborhoods, transportation).

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Narrowing of design options will be based on data provided in the environmental analysis and public input gathered during the public comment period. Following the public comment period, refinements will be made to address comments, identify mitigation, and confirm a corridor-wide alternative that best addresses the transportation problems to ensure a safe and effective multimodal corridor. This will be documented a Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS), currently planned for late 2024/early 2025.

City staff representing the City in the IBR program will continue to keep the TMC updated, with a particular focus on impacts to local roadways, multimodal infrastructure, key community connections, and placemaking elements.

Staff Contact:

Katherine Kelly, Senior Policy Advisor, Community Development Department

Email: Katherine.Kelly@cityofvancouver.us; Cell: (360) 644-4446

Attachment(s): None.