



MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 6, 2022

TO: Chair Ramos and Transportation and Mobility Commission members
CC: Rebecca Kennedy, Deputy Director, Community Development Department

FROM: Casey Liles, Design Manager, Interstate Bridge Replacement Program
Shilpa Mallem, Deputy Design Manager, Interstate Bridge Replacement Program
Bryan Stebbins, Communications, Interstate Bridge Replacement Program

RE: **Interstate Bridge Replacement (IBR) Program Overview**

Introduction

Staff of the Interstate Bridge Replacement (IBR) program will provide a brief history, status update, and discuss next steps for the program.

Overview/Preview

IBR staff will provide members of the City of Vancouver's Transportation and Mobility Commission (TMC) with a brief overview of the IBR program's history, the endorsed Modified Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA), the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement process, and next steps.

Background

With support from the Executive Steering Group (ESG), a Modified LPA went before local partner agency boards, councils, and commissions for discussion and consideration. The guiding bodies of each of the eight local partner agencies met between June 22, 2022 and July 14, 2022 to consider the program's Modified LPA. These boards, councils, and commissions each voted in support of endorsing the program's Modified LPA through their own agency's resolution.

After all local partner agencies conducted their votes of endorsement, ESG was asked to consider a consensus adoption of the recommended Modified LPA to move forward into the federal environmental review process. On July 21, the ESG reached a unanimous recommendation to move the program's Modified LPA into the federal environmental review process for further study – the next steps in addressing replacement of the Interstate Bridge between Oregon and Washington. Later that day, the bi-state legislative committee met to discuss ESG's unanimous endorsement of the Modified LPA and acknowledged moving the program forward into the next phase of work.

Achieving regional alignment around the Modified LPA is a significant milestone demonstrating that our region is committed to getting a replacement bridge built. The endorsement of the Modified LPA by the eight local partner agencies is a crucial step toward completing a Supplemental Draft

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Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) and helps the program's competitiveness when applying for federal funding opportunities.

Action, Timeline, Next Steps

No action is requested with this presentation; this presentation is informational and will provide the TMC with an update on IBR program work and activities and an overview of the Modified LPA. The Modified LPA is now undergoing detailed evaluation to be documented in a SDEIS. Additional analysis completed over the next several months will help us better understand the benefits, impacts, and tradeoffs of the Modified LPA and associated proposed program improvements. This additional work and analysis will culminate in the publishing of the SDEIS, which will summarize environmental review findings and proposed mitigations for adverse impacts. The program anticipates publishing the SDEIS for further review and public comment in summer 2023.

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.