



MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 17, 2024

TO: Chair Adigweme and Planning Commission members

FROM: Casey Liles, Delivery Manager, Interstate Bridge Replacement Program

RE: **Interstate Bridge Replacement Program Update**

CC: Katherine Kelly, Senior Policy Advisor; Lori Severino, Senior Planner; Rebecca Kennedy, Community Development Department

Introduction

The City of Vancouver is one of eight local partner agencies engaged in the Interstate Bridge Replacement (IBR) program, which covers a five-mile corridor and seven freeway interchanges in addition to replacement of the bridge structure. At this meeting, IBR staff will provide a general program overview and conduct a walkthrough of the preliminary map of the proposed program investments currently being evaluated in the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS).

Overview/Preview

The proposed program investments associated with the Modified Locally Preferred Alternative (MLPA) approved in 2022 include a replacement bridge over the Columbia River, interchange and roadway improvements, extension of light rail service with two stations in Downtown Vancouver, enhanced bus services and connections, and new pedestrian/bicycle facilities such as a shared use path over the river. The presentation will focus primarily on the proposed program investments in Vancouver.

Background

The IBR team is preparing to release the Draft SEIS for a 60-day public comment period later in 2024. All comments received during this time will be compiled into a Final SEIS, along with responses to the comments. Based on public feedback and additional analysis, the IBR team in coordination with program partners will narrow down the design options into a single solution for moving forward into construction. The environmental review process will result in an Amended Record of Decision (ROD),

which is currently anticipated to occur in 2025. The Amended ROD allows the IBR program to begin using funds for construction.

Action, Timeline, Next Steps

No action is requested with this presentation. The information presented at this meeting is intended to increase awareness of the IBR program and prepare Commission members for the upcoming Draft SEIS public comment period and subsequent steps. City staff working on the IBR program will continue to keep the Commission updated. For detailed information, please refer to: <https://www.interstatebridge.org>.

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Attachment(s): None.