# Why now?

Interstate 5 provides a critical connection between Oregon and Washington that supports local jobs and families, and is a vital trade route for regional, national and international economies. However, bridge users are impacted by heavy congestion, safety issues, limited public transit options, and inadequate active transportation facilities. Through the passage of a historic federal infrastructure package, our region has a once in a generation opportunity to receive an infusion of potentially billions of federal grant funds distributed through the construction of the IBR program. These funds are highly competitive and, if not spent in our region, will go to other infrastructure projects in the United States.

**Tens of thousands of jobs across multiple industries will be generated during the construction period** – benefiting workers, local businesses, and families. Replacing the bridge with a modern, earthquake resilient, multimodal structure will improve safety and keep people – and our economy – moving into the future.

## The Cost of Doing Nothing

- Over \$132 million in freight commodity value crossed the Interstate Bridge daily in 2020. Congestion and bridge lifts slow down freight carrying goods along I-5.
- The existing bridge costs \$1.2 million per year to operate and maintain and will require an estimated \$270 million in capital maintenance by 2040. This does not include the cost of a seismic retrofit.
- Every year that we wait to fix the bridge, the costs increase. Inflation alone has caused a substantial cost increase since previous replacement efforts.



\*Partner agencies confirmed their support for foundational program investments identified in the Modified LPA (Locally Preferred Alternative) to advance for further study in Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS).

\*\* The public comment period will extend for 60 days. Following public review of the Draft SEIS, refinements will be made to address comments and a corridor-wide alternative for analysis in the Final SEIS will be confirmed.





## Cost & Funding

- This cost estimate accounts for inflation, cost escalation risks, and current market conditions.
- Washington State has committed \$1 billion through the 2022 Move Ahead Washington package.
- Oregon has committed \$1 billion through House Bill 5005 in 2023.
- Having all non-federal matching funds in place demonstrates regional commitment and increases competitiveness in federal grant applications.
- The program is pursuing approximately \$2.5 billion in federal grants. One portion of federal funding was awarded through a \$600 million MEGA grant.
- Tolling may being as soon as early 2026. The program will conduct studies to analyze toll scenarios, discounts, and exemptions including consideration of a low-income toll program, to inform toll rate recommendations. The Oregon and Washington Transportation Commissions will set toll rates.

# Community Engagement 🞇

- Nearly 40,000 engagements with community members
- 19 mini-grants awarded to community based organizations to assist with equitable outreach
- Equity Framework created in collaboration with the Equity Advisory Group
- Community values and priorities established in collaboration with the Community Advisory Group
- 4 steering and advisory groups providing feedback to inform program work

### Next Steps

The program will continue to pursue grant opportunities and complete the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement, to better understand benefits and impacts. The document will be available for review and comment. Refinements to address feedback will result in a Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and Amended Record of Decision. Construction is anticipated to begin in late 2025 or early 2026.

Stay engaged with us: www.interstatebridge.org to learn more, sign up for our e-newsletter, or submit a comment.





#### OREGON

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#### WASHINGTON

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