An aerial photograph of the Astoria-Megler Bridge, a large steel truss bridge spanning a wide river. The bridge is painted green and features several tall, dark steel towers. Construction equipment and materials are visible on the bridge deck. In the background, a town and distant hills are visible under a hazy sky.

# Interstate Bridge Replacement Program

*Update on  
Program Activities*

December 15, 2020



Oregon  
Department  
of Transportation



Washington State  
Department of Transportation

**Greg Johnson**  
Program Administrator  
*Interstate Bridge  
Replacement Program*

# Program Update – Recent Activity



- **Legislative Milestone Dec. 1, 2020:**
  - Conceptual Finance Plan (submitted)
  - 2020 Progress Report (submitted)
- **Executive Steering Group** (Part 2 kickoff meeting Nov. 30)
  - Passed Charter
  - Approved Community Advisory Group and Equity Advisory Group recruitment process and framework

# Advisory Group Recruitment

## Community Advisory Group and Equity Advisory Group Recruitment

- Broad public notification including media release, social media, advertisements, mailers and direct outreach
- Information sessions for non-English speaking interested community members
  - Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese, Korean, Somali and Chinese
- Applications for at-large seats close on December 18
- Review and selection of candidates late December – early January
- Notification of invitation to serve on EAG / CAG mid January
- Goal for both committees to meet in late January

# Community Voices

**“I have never been asked to get involved.**

**I didn’t have a voice.**

**This feels very different.”**

*Information session attendee, participating  
in Russian speaking breakout room*

# Three Distinct Consensus Groups

## Executive Steering Group

**Who:** 12 members representing our bi-state partner agencies and CAG co-chairs

**What:** Will provide regional leadership recommendations representing the interests of their agencies

**How:** Monthly meetings

## Community Advisory Group

**Who:** 30 members made up of organizations and individual community representatives balanced between OR and WA

**What:** Will provide input and feedback reflective of the community's needs, issues and concerns to influence program outcomes

**How:** Monthly meetings.  
Co-chairs serve as members on ESG and provide input to ESG

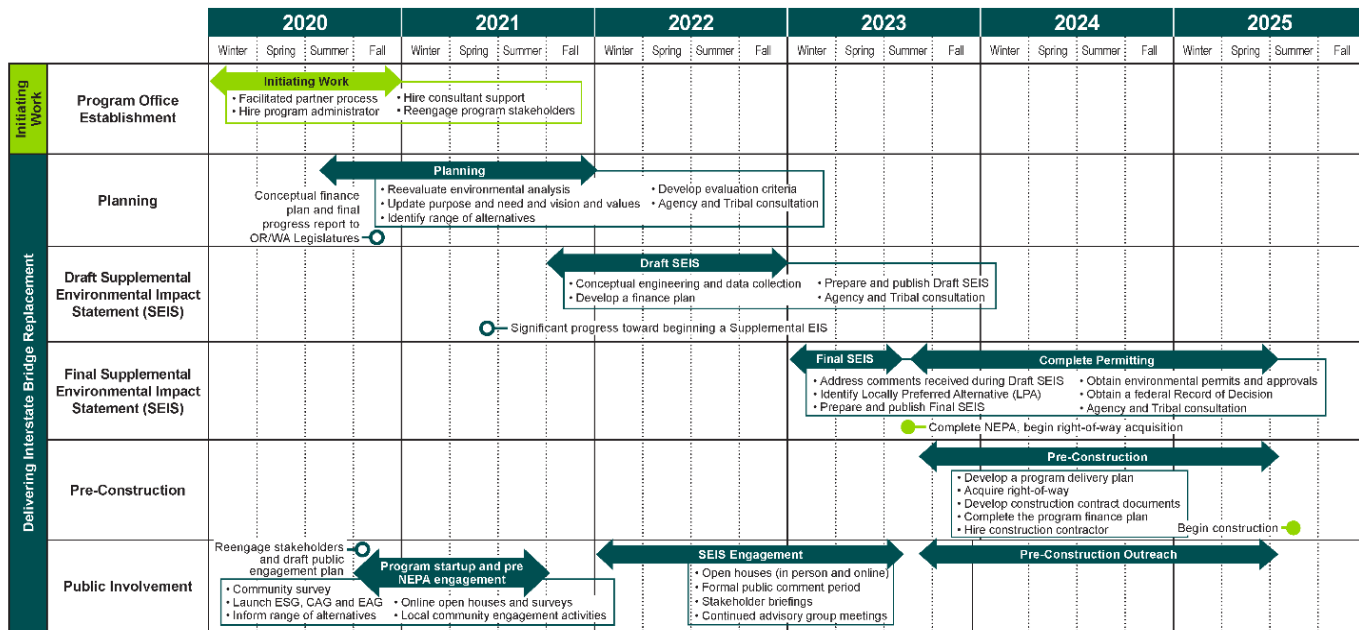
## Equity Advisory Group

**Who:** 30 members with equity expertise and/or lived experience

**What:** Will provide insight and input on the program's processes, approaches, and decisions that may affect historically underserved and underrepresented communities

**How:** Monthly meetings

# Progress Report – Draft IBR Program Timeline



**KEY** ○ Legislative Milestone ● Milestone Submitted to FHWA

**NOTE:** All milestones shown are contingent upon funding and bi-state agreement. FHWA milestones were submitted by ODOT/ WSDOT as part of the 2019 federal repayment extension request. FHWA granted the states an extension until September 30, 2024 to begin right-of-way acquisition or start the construction phase.

## OREGON

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## WASHINGTON

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[wsdot.wa.gov/projects/i5/interstate-bridge/home](https://wsdot.wa.gov/projects/i5/interstate-bridge/home)  
[oregon.gov/odot/projects/pages/project-details.aspx?project=21570](https://oregon.gov/odot/projects/pages/project-details.aspx?project=21570)



# Progress Report – 2021 Activities

## Next phase of program development work: getting ready for NEPA

- Launching community engagement with a wide range of stakeholders
- Updating technical data and approaches
- Defining equity for the program
- Updating purpose and need
  - Includes assessing what has/has not changed
- Establishing community vision and values
- Developing criteria to screen alternatives
- Defining and refining alternatives to move into the SEIS process in 2022
- Studying possible governance structures (e.g. bi-state agreement, bridge authority, interstate compact, etc.)

*An iterative  
process:  
community  
engagement and  
technical analysis*

# Digging into the Details

- Pro-active approach to address commonly asked questions, suggestions, or clarifying information
  - FAQs
  - White papers on specific issues that need more in-depth data analysis and explanation as program work progresses
  - Examples:
    - FHWA repayment considerations
    - Immersed tube tunnel analysis







# Discussion and Feedback

- When we provide an update to you in the spring, what are you hoping to hear from the program team?