



June 28, 2022

Senator Lee Beyer and Representative Susan McLain  
Joint Interim Committee on the Interstate 5 Bridge  
Oregon State Legislature  
900 Court Street, NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chair Beyer and Co-Chair McLain,

As Chair of the Washington County Board of Commissioners, I am expressing our Board's support for the proposed Modified Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) for the Interstate Bridge Replacement Project. The IBR Team's proposal is a balanced approach that successfully addresses many longstanding and complex issues regarding the bridge design, transit, bike and pedestrian access, Hayden Island access and incorporates equity and climate goals.

Washington County residents, employees and businesses depend on a functional multimodal regional transportation system to enhance their economic, social and community well-being. The I-5 Interstate Bridge is a critical part of the interstate, state and region's transportation system. The bridge has demonstrated seismic, safety, multimodal and capacity needs that must be addressed. Traffic back-ups on the Interstate Bridge impact access between the County and Washington State, the region, the and the larger supply chain.

Endorsement of the modified LPA is a major step forward in a long process. Reaching bi-state agreement will allow the project to move forward to seek significant financial commitments and legislative actions. It will also allow work to continue to refine the Interstate Bridge Project through the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement process to create a functional, multimodal transportation system for the future long-term needs of the region.

We have a unique opportunity to position our region for federal funding to improve the interstate bridge and we encourage your support for the proposed modified LPA to keep us moving forward on this important project.

Sincerely,



Chair Kathryn Harrington

Cc: Joint Interim Committee on the Interstate 5 Bridge members:

Sen. Boquist  
Sen. Findley  
Sen. Frederick  
Rep. Smith  
Rep. Boshart Davis  
Rep. Pham