

Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge House Interim Committee

Veterans & Emergency Management

**Department of Community Services
Transportation Division**

December 8, 2022

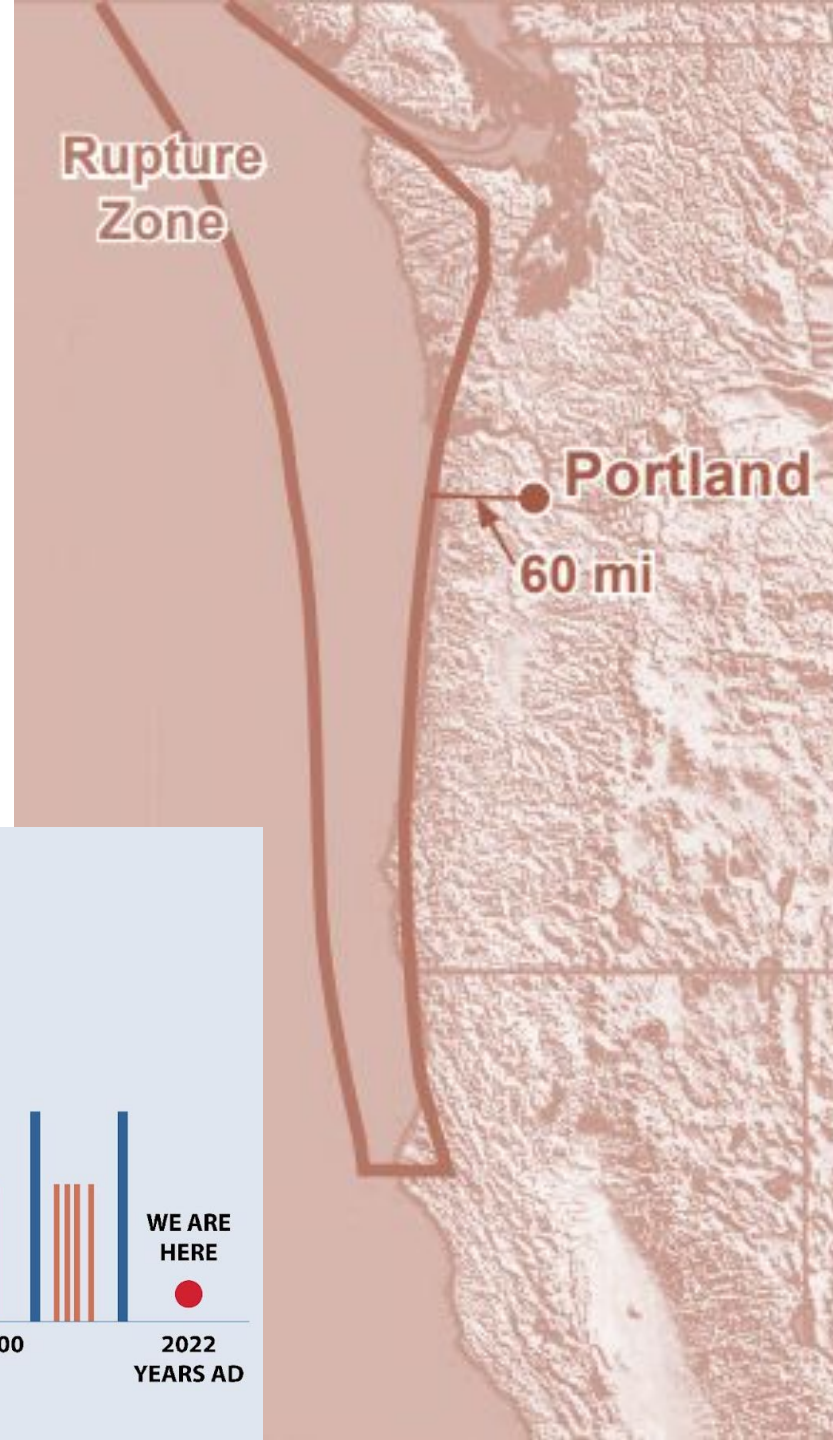
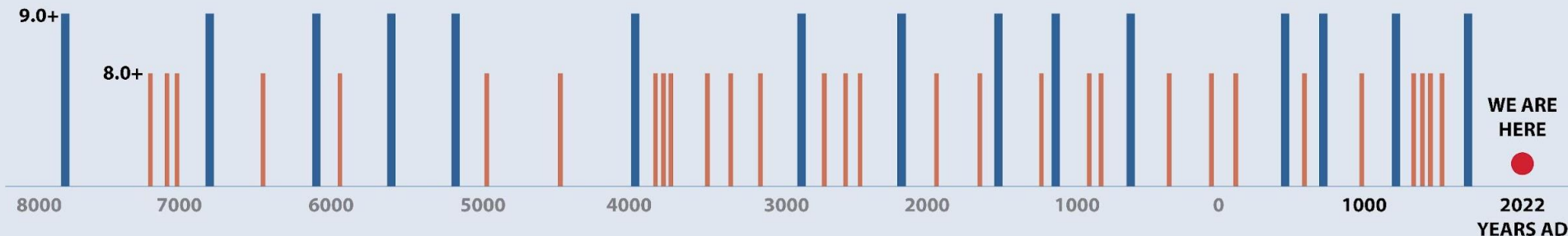


Why is there a need for a seismically resilient Willamette River Crossing?

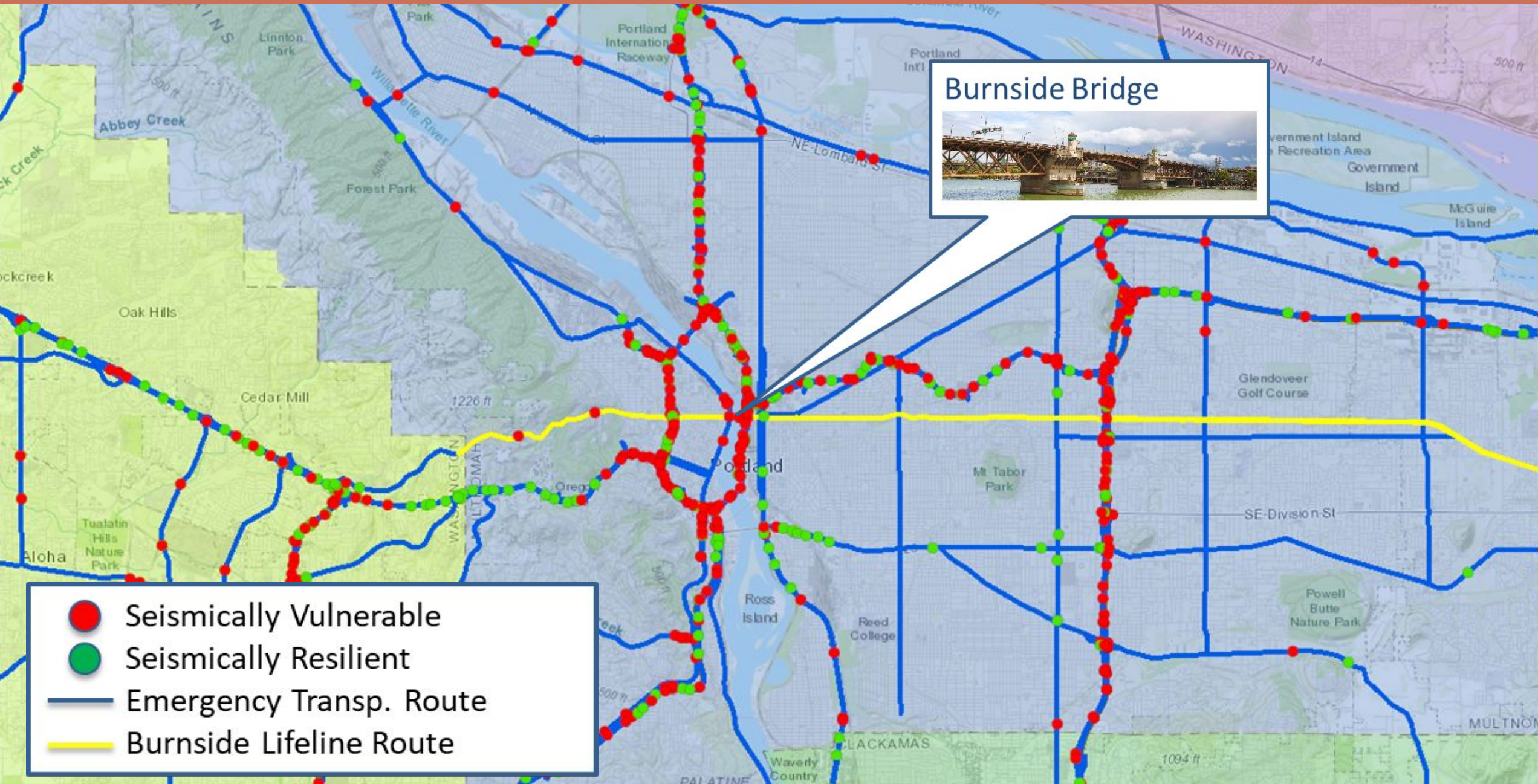
- ⚠ Regional earthquake risk
- ⚠ 1 in 3 chance of a magnitude 8+ earthquake occurring within 50 years

CASCADIA SUBDUCTION ZONE (CSZ) EARTHQUAKE

Last major quake in Oregon occurred 322 years ago, a timespan that exceeds 75% of the intervals between the major quakes to hit Oregon over the last 10,000 years.



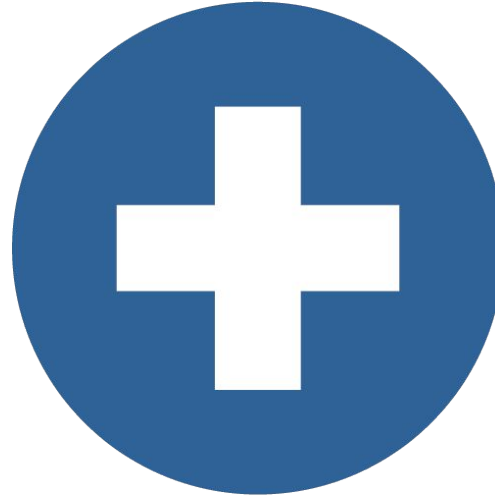
Burnside Bridge is Critical to Regional Emergency Response and Recovery



EQRB Purpose



**Seismic Resiliency
and Emergency
Response**



**Regional Recovery
and Rebuilding**



**Long-term
Multi-modal Use**

If the earthquake strikes today...



Thousands of Oregonians would die, and **economic losses** would be at least **\$32 billion**.



Roughly 70% of businesses are likely to be forced into temporary closure, affecting over **750,000 jobs**.



Each month businesses are closed, will result in over **\$4.3 billion in lost income** in the region.



Video: [Simulation of Burnside Bridge collapse](#)



NYTimes: [Damage from 2011 earthquake in Christchurch, NZ](#)

A resilient Burnside Bridge will provide...



The **only immediately usable route across the Willamette River in downtown Portland** for emergency response & evacuation.



A **critical resource for regional recovery**, including debris hauling and rebuilding.



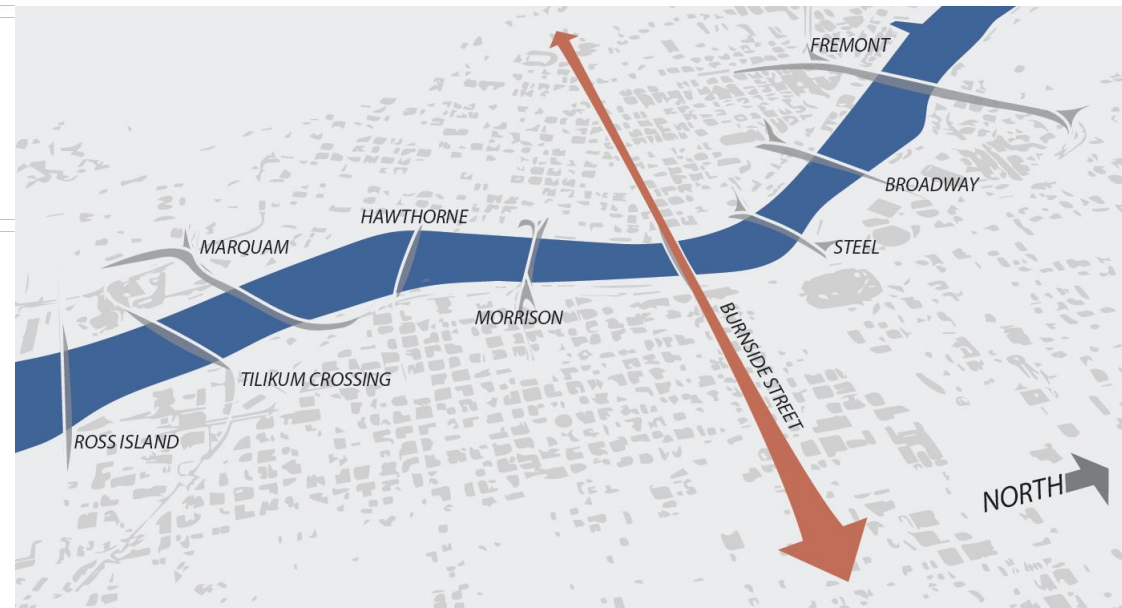
A **reduction of \$240M in business income loss** by having a resilient bridge after the earthquake.



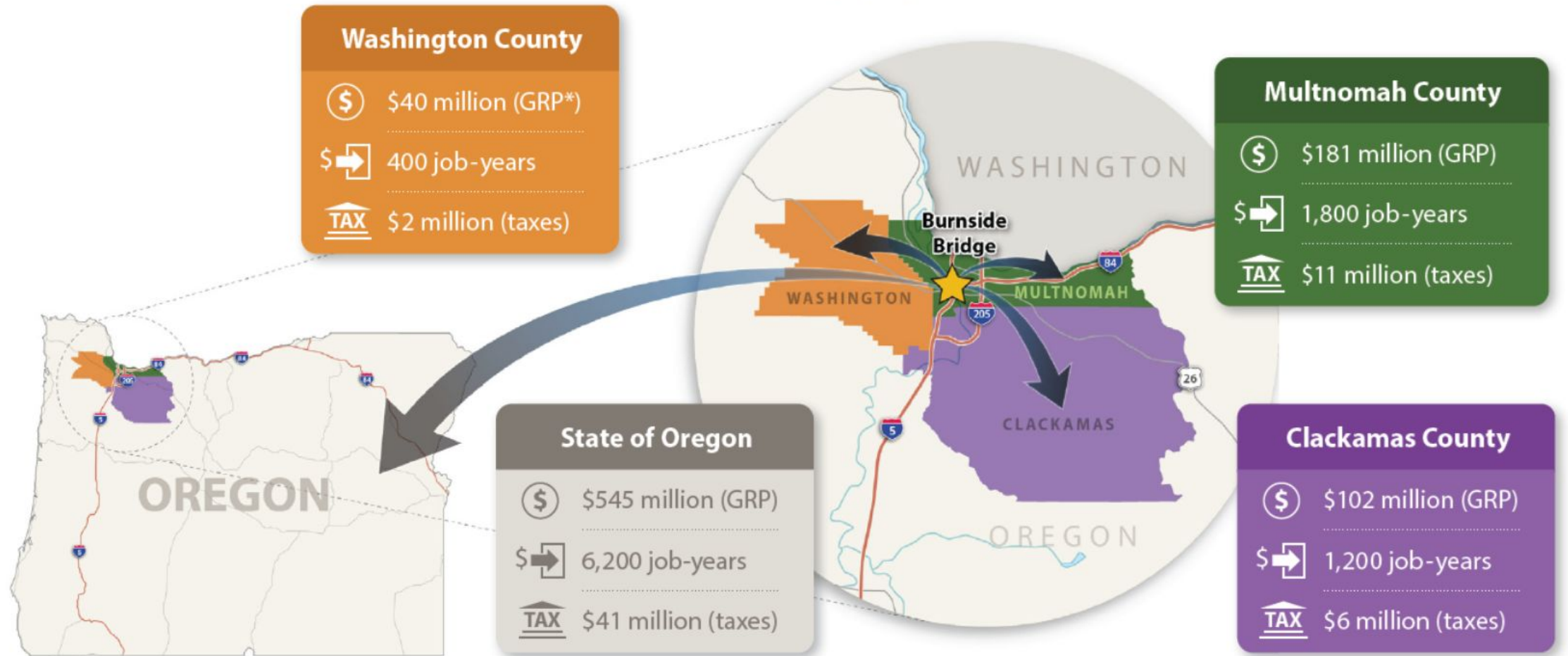
Replacing the bridge now will **save over \$460M** from recurring maintenance, and repairs over the next fifty years.



Video: [Supporting resiliency: the Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge Project](#)

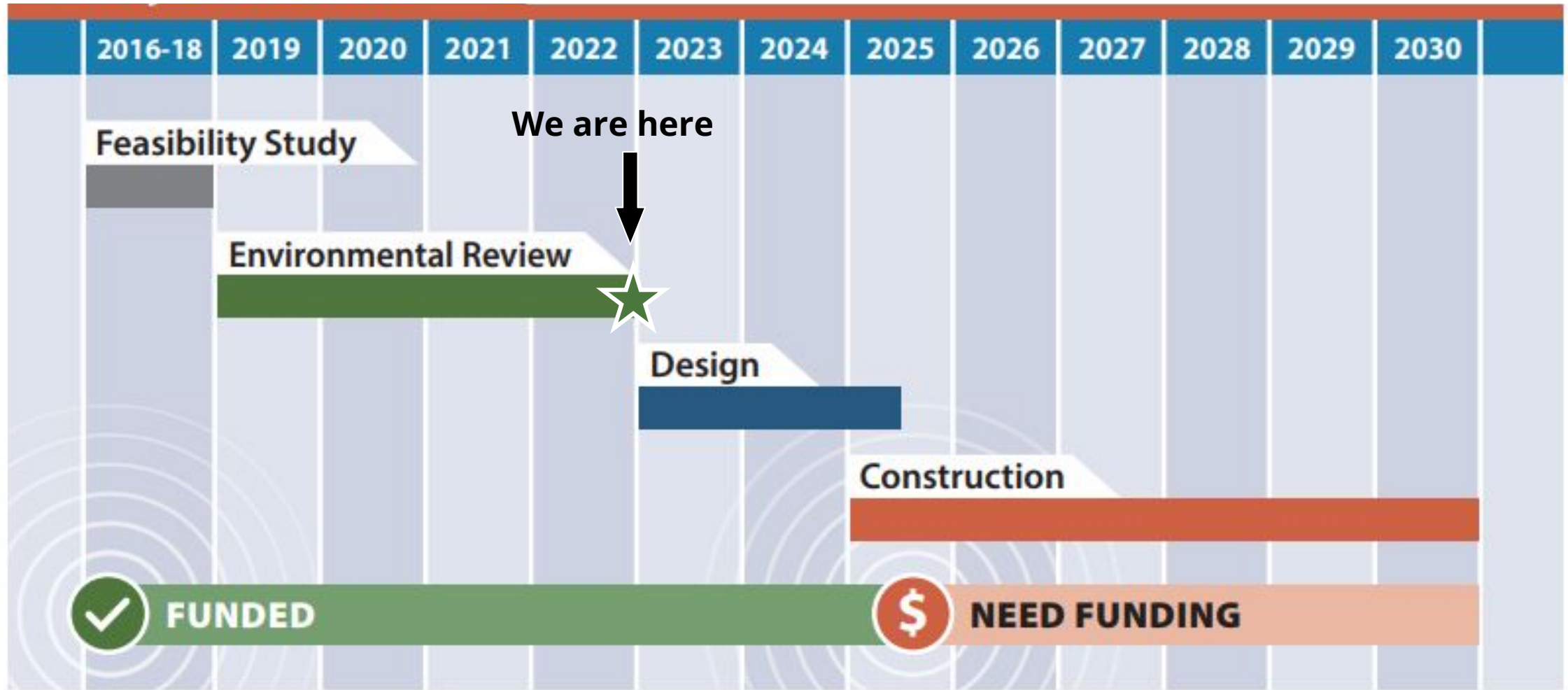


Equitable Jobs and Economic Stimulus

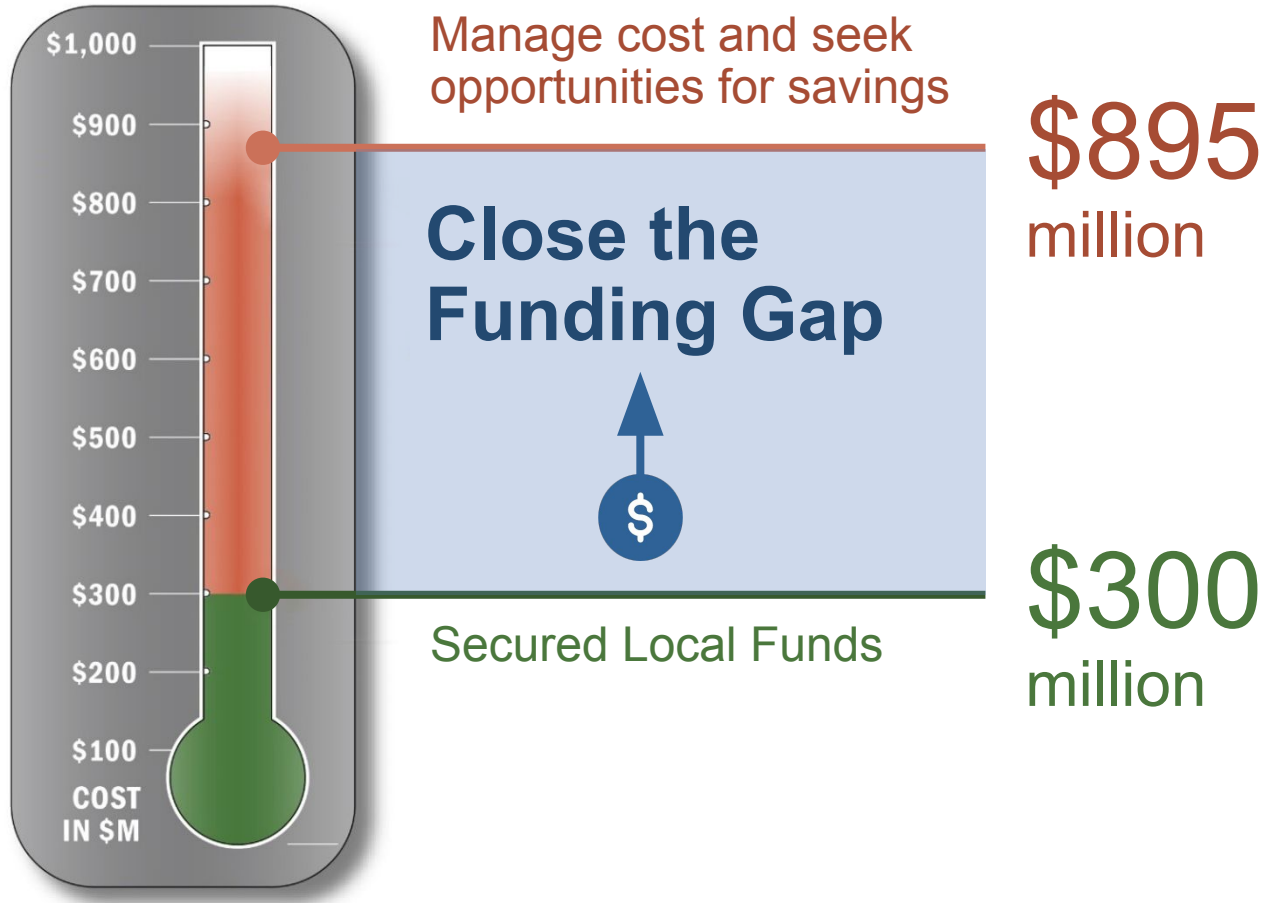


Data: Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge IMPLAN Analysis, 2022

Project Timeline



Funding Status



\$895 M Estimated project cost

✓ **\$300 M** Multnomah County funded

\$595 M Funding need

Federal Grant Requests

- ✓ **Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)**
Awarded \$5 million for planning
- \$ **Multimodal Projects Discretionary Grant (MPDG)**
\$535 million for construction
- \$ **Bridge Investment Program:**
\$447 million for construction

Regional Resiliency takes Collaboration



Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization

The RDPO is a partnership of government agencies, and other stakeholders in the Portland Metropolitan Region collaborating to increase the region's resilience to disasters.

What we learned while planning for distributing emergency drinking water to households within 48 hours of Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake:

- RDPO worked closely with federal, state, regional, county, municipal emergency planners as well as water-providers
- **Island effect:** More than fifteen islands in Multnomah County alone.
- **Getting water to households in the immediate aftermath is required to save lives.**
- Having an earthquake resilient Burnside Bridge ensuring a 19-mile continuous route on both sides of the river will play a vital role in getting us prepared as a region and **saving lives following a substantial earthquake.**

Regional Emergency Transportation Routes

- In 2019-2021 the RDPO and Metro partnered to update the designated **Regional Emergency Transportation Routes (RETRs)** for the five-county Portland-Vancouver metropolitan region, which includes Clackamas, Columbia, Multnomah and Washington counties in Oregon and Clark County in Washington.
- Work on prioritizing these routes will be renewed in 2023-2024



RDPO

Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization

Unified. Prepared. Resilient.

Thank You

