

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Item 40: Department of Transportation Interstate 5 Bridge Replacement

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee
Carrier: Representative Gomberg

The Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee recommends that the Joint Interim Committee on Ways and Means approve, retroactively, the submission of a federal grant application to the U.S. Department of Transportation in the amount of \$600 million to fund a portion of costs related to the Interstate Bridge Replacement program.

If awarded, the grant would be distributed over the course of six years. ODOT's application is one of three federal revenue sources that comprise \$2.6 billion of estimated resources in the Interstate Bridge Replacement Program's financial plan. The project is currently working through federal environmental review. Bridge designs will be modified after public comment and review of the draft supplemental environmental impact statement on the locally preferred alternative bridge design. Once the final environmental impact statement is approved, the program can apply for permits, update cost estimates, and establish contracts, in anticipation of construction beginning in 2026.

The grant application was due August 21st. Matching funds will be provided through Oregon's commitment of \$1 billion toward the project, the first installment of which consisted of \$250 million in general obligation bonds approved during the 2023 legislative session.

The Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee recommends approval.