

HB 3323 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Transportation

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 3/23

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Appropriates \$300 million from the General Fund to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services for distribution to Multnomah County for the Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge Project. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2023.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Burnside Bridge, constructed in 1926, connects east and west Portland over the Willamette River, carrying approximately 45,000 vehicles, 2,000 pedestrians, 4,000 bicyclists, and 7,000 transit riders daily on five vehicle lanes and two bicycle lanes. The bridge is designated as an official emergency transportation route, the only non-freeway crossing with that designation. The bridge includes a drawbridge span designed by Joseph Strauss, who went on to design the Golden Gate Bridge 11 years later.

Because of the bridge's important lifeline role, Multnomah County has embarked on the Earthquake Ready Burnside Project to ensure that the bridge survives a major seismic event and to extend its life span. The project is currently in design and expected to go to construction as early as 2025.

House Bill 3323 appropriates \$300 million from the General Fund to the Earthquake Ready Burnside Project.