



NEWS RELEASE

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Sellwood Bridge meeting will review task force recommendation

The Community Task Force for the Sellwood Bridge Project will meet with a group of elected and appointed leaders known as the Policy Advisory Group on Monday, January 26 at 5:30 pm at OMSI, 1945 SE Water Avenue. The agenda includes a task force presentation on their preferred alternative for the Sellwood Bridge. The purpose of the joint meeting is for members of the two groups to have a dialog about the task force recommendation prior to the Policy Group's selection of a preferred alternative on February 6.

On January 19, the task force recommended that the preferred alternative include a new bridge:

- On the current bridge alignment and widening to the south
- With a signalized intersection at Highway 43/Macadam Ave. at the west end
- And a traffic signal for pedestrians and bicyclists at SE Tacoma and SE 6th Ave. at the east end

The task force was split on the width of the bridge and whether it should have two or three traffic lanes.

On February 6 the Policy Advisory Group is scheduled to recommend a preferred alternative that identifies the alignment, traffic interchanges at the east and west ends, and the number of lanes and width of the bridge. The meeting will be held at 3:00 pm at the Multnomah Building Boardroom at 501 SE Hawthorne Blvd. The preferred alternative recommended by the Policy Group must be adopted by elected officials at Multnomah County, the City of Portland and Metro. These local votes are expected in February and March. Then the alternative will be forwarded to the Federal Highway Administration, which is expected to take a year to approve the decision and the project's Final Environmental Impact Statement.

The February 6 meeting of the Policy Group will include time for public comment. The joint meeting on January 26 is not a decision-making meeting and will not include public comment. The public may submit written comments at the meeting which will be shared with the Policy Group. All meetings are open to the public.

Multnomah County maintains the Sellwood Bridge, five other Willamette River bridges, and more than 300 miles of roads. For more information, visit www.sellwoodbridge.org.

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