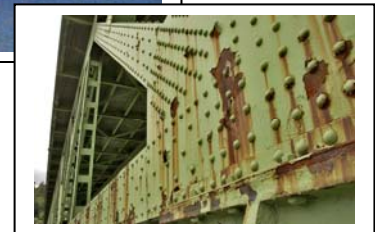


Local Vehicle Registration Fee



Building the new Sellwood Bridge

On October 22, 2009 Multnomah County's Board of Commissioners adopted a vehicle registration fee to help fund a replacement for the Sellwood Bridge. Here are some frequently asked questions and answers about the fee and the bridge project:

How much is the Multnomah County fee?

\$19 per year per motor vehicle. Trucks weighing 26,000 lbs. or more are exempted by state law, since large trucks pay a separate weight/mile fee.

How long will the fee be in place?

20 years. That is how long it will take to pay off bonds that will be issued to fund the new bridge.

How and when will county residents pay the fee?

Multnomah County residents will pay the new fee to the state Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) when they renew their state vehicle registration. The DMV predicts Multnomah County vehicle owners will begin receiving notices to pay the fee in the early fall of 2010 due to the time it takes to set up a computerized billing system.

What will the fees pay for?

All fee revenue will be used to replace the Sellwood Bridge, as required by state law. The 83-year-old Sellwood Bridge has a federal sufficiency rating of 2 out of 100, with 100 representing a bridge in excellent condition. The only Willamette River crossing in a 12-mile stretch of river, it is in serious need of replacement. Most trucks and buses cannot use the bridge due to its 10-ton weight limit.

How much money will the fee raise for the bridge?

Multnomah County's fee is projected to raise \$127 million for the project.

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County Vehicle Registration Fee (continued)

How much is the new bridge expected to cost?

The preliminary cost estimate for the Sellwood Bridge Replacement is \$330 million (in 2014 dollars, the middle year of the construction phase).

Where does the legal authority for the fee come from?

The Jobs and Transportation Act passed by the Oregon Legislature and signed by Governor Kulongoski in 2009 allows several counties in the Portland metro area to adopt local vehicle registration fees to help fund a new Sellwood Bridge.

Will Clackamas County residents also pay a local vehicle fee?

Clackamas County Commissioners have announced plans to enact a local vehicle registration fee dedicated to the Sellwood Bridge replacement in the spring of 2010. Many people that use the Sellwood Bridge live in Clackamas County. The Clackamas County fee is expected to be lower than the Multnomah County fee.

What other funds will pay for the new bridge?

The Oregon Jobs and Transportation Act allocated \$30 million for the new interchange with Highway 43 at the west end of the bridge. The City of Portland plans to fund \$100 million of the project's cost with new transportation funds resulting from the same law. Other state and federal funds have already been secured by Multnomah County. The county has requested \$40 million from the next federal transportation bill, which would complete the project funding plan.

Who is in charge of replacing the Sellwood Bridge?

As the owner of the Sellwood Bridge, it is Multnomah County's job to replace the bridge. Since 2006 the county has worked with its regional partners to find a long-term solution that meets the needs of the Portland metropolitan area, the local neighborhood, and diverse user groups. The Preferred Alternative recommended for a new Sellwood Bridge in February 2009 is supported by neighbors, businesses and the county's community and government partners.

What is the status of the bridge replacement project?

The Sellwood Bridge Project is currently in the planning phase. A Preferred Alternative has been recommended by local jurisdictions. A Final Environmental Impact Statement will be submitted to the Federal Highway Administration in 2010. Federal approval is expected in Summer/Fall of 2010. After approval, the county can use federal funds to buy right of way and design the project. If funding is secured, construction can begin in late 2012 and be completed in 2016.

What is planned for the new Sellwood Bridge?

Key features of the new bridge will include:

- A cross-section 64' wide at its narrowest point, ensuring room for a future streetcar line
- Two 12' travel lanes, two 12' shared use sidewalks, and two 6.5' bike lanes
- A grade separated and signalized interchange at the intersection with Highway 43 on the west
- Built in its current alignment, but widened to the south so that the bridge can be constructed in halves while remaining open to traffic

For more information

For Sellwood Bridge project information visit www.sellwoodbridge.org. For information about the Local Vehicle Registration fee contact the Public Affairs Office at 503-988-6804.