

## Public Open House: Pre-Construction

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DATE: Wednesday, November 16, 2011

TIME: 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Llewellyn Elementary School

The ninth public open house for the Sellwood Bridge project was held on Wednesday, November 16, 2010 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Llewellyn Elementary School. The purpose of the meeting was to present the latest designs, project schedule, and next steps for the project. In addition, the project contractor was present at the event to discuss the upcoming construction work. The meeting was structured to encourage community members to visit a variety of informational stations staffed by members of the project team.



*Sellwood resident Governor Barbara Roberts views the latest project designs.*

Approximately 80 people attended the event. The open house was publicized through a newsletter mailing to 23,000 households in the project vicinity as well as an email to the 5,000+ address interested parties list. The open house was also announced through the project website and local media.

The meeting was staffed by members of the consulting team and staff members from Multnomah County, CH2M Hill, David Evans & Associates, Slayden/Sundt, TY Lin, PBOT, Alta Planning, Lois D. Cohen Associates, ODOT, and JLA Public Involvement. Meeting participants were welcomed at a sign-in table by project staff. As people signed in they were encouraged to view the orientation presentations, visit the open house stations, view the displays and ask questions of project staff. The welcome station also featured a video that was produced for a recent federal TIGER grant application. The stations at the open house included:

- **Bike and Pedestrian** – Included an aerial photo of the bike and pedestrian pathways on the Westside of the bridge and a presentation of the bridge cross-section.
- **Bridge Connections & Access Changes** – Displays presented a Westside aerial close-up, Eastside graphic, and an image of the 6<sup>th</sup> and Tacoma signal.

- **Meet the Contractor** – Staff with Slayden/Sundt Joint Venture were available to discuss the project construction schedule.
- **Bridge Design** – Featured displays with bridge renderings, overall details compilation, and an overall bridge site aerial. A slideshow of the latest Safdie Rabines architect designs was shown on a looped PowerPoint.
- **Westside Design Details** – This station revealed the concrete wall detail, a Staff Jennings view, the view from Highway 43, and included examples of the proposed materials, textures, and plantings by Walker Macy landscape architects.
- **Right-of-Way** – Included two maps with right-of-way properties.
- **Funding** – Included displays showing project funding plan and an interim interchange design option if full funding is not secured.
- **Schools Program** – Information on educational outreach program that will connect project with students in four local schools.
- **Refreshments**
- **Comments**

At the event, there were copies of the project overview handouts, project construction schedule and work hours handouts, and extra copies of the newsletter made available to attendees.

### **Open House Overview**

Meeting participants provided feedback through comment forms (10 were turned in), comments captured on flip charts and informal conversations with project team members. Community members were invited to review and provide comments on the tentative project construction plans. While many attendees commented that they like the project designs, there were several suggestions for ways to improve the design to retain the history and character of the current bridge.

## **Comments Received**

### **Flip Chart Notes**

- Need a written commitment from the County to be responsible for any damage to our unit (and/or neighbor’s units) caused during demolition or construction
- Assist in providing clean-up services for clean up needed to remove debris, etc. on the decks and on units during construction/ demolition.
- If necessary, to provide assistance with any air quality issues in our units during demolition/ construction.
- (For) other issues to be identified during demolition or construction, the Ombudsman should be available to talk when needed, as complaints occur.

- Reconstruct historic stone wall by cemetery on Highway 43.
- Smooth, safe bike and pedestrian access to SE Spokane St. (neighborhood greenway).
- Consider a bike fee to pay for a bike/ pedestrian neighborhood greenway.
- What about a gateway feature for the Westside? It's our entry too.
- The light posts look too modern. Something more historic looking would be an improvement.
- Extend concrete pole light posts/ pedestals up to 42" rail height (behind rail).
- Commemorate old bridge on grade at east end (Gateway feature).
- (Consider adding a) seagull sculpture on bronze at Gateway Feature (they like to sit on top of light fixtures on old bridge).
- Save and reuse old bronze bridge plaques - use at Gateway Plaza.
- Get rid of extra sidewalk and add rush hour lane that switches directions.
- Put benches at both end of bridge on both sides.
- Put a curb or bump between bike lane and car lane (or at least rumble strip).

## Comment Cards

- Looks very good - Please limit commercial traffic and new truck traffic. (It will be a terrible stress on neighborhood and Taylors Ferry Road.
- Leave out the ramps to the south, to save money not voted on by Clackamas.
- Thank you for the beautiful design elements and for listening to neighbors. I am very pleased!
- Want to be sure access of equipment down Spokane will not cause any noise or vibrational damage to Oaks Pioneer Church. Also, want to be sure area near church is tidy for SMILE's ability to rent Oaks Pioneer Church.
- It will be very important for this job, as a public works project, to be manned using union labor.
- I really like the belvederes!
- Virginia Ave, which runs parallel to Macadam, is the only other arterial in the area. (It) always gets cut through traffic when Macadam is slow. What steps will the project take to make sure our neighborhood is protected from rush-hour and project congestion? Even tonight, it was difficult to get on to Virginia! I am worried about the project's impact.
- Nice design.
- Please keep and enforce weight restrictions. This keeps large truck traffic to a minimum on Taylors Ferry Road which is already a busy residential street.
- Your funding list should include "Clackamas County..."\$0".
- Love the street light design! I like that there is a "viewing" area with bench on bridge!
- There is more space for bicycles and pedestrians than there is for cars and trucks on the new bridge. There is a multitude of amenities for bicyclists and pedestrians. Tied to the project it is a form of discrimination to only expect motor vehicle owners to pay for the other users. This type of tax discrimination has become the trademark of the present mayoral administration in Portland. Taxpayer equity on this project is a joke and yet another failure of the current

mayoral administration. Drivers need to stage an “occupy the bridge protest” but that too probably would not change the mayor’s bias.