

# Public Input Informs Early Planning Phase of the Boone Bridge Project

Dec. 12, 2024



*On Sept. 18, 2024, the I-5 Boone Bridge Replacement Project team hosted an open house at Wilsonville City Hall. About 60 people attended, including Wilsonville Mayor Julie Fitzgerald.*

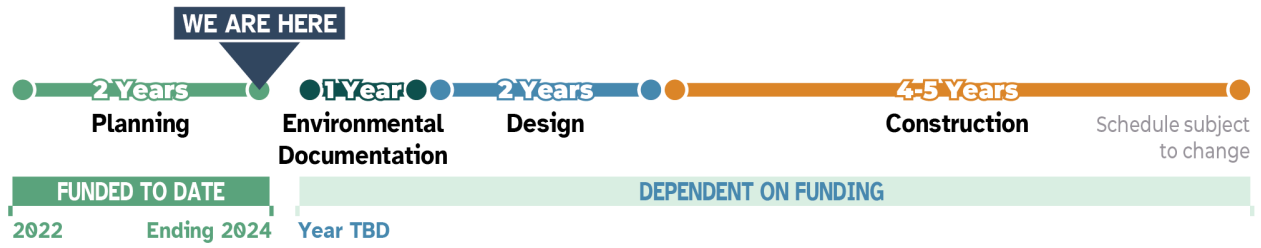
The Oregon Department of Transportation has concluded its public engagement activities for the [Planning and Environmental Linkages \(PEL\) study phase](#) of the I-5 Boone Bridge Replacement Project. The project aims to build a bridge across the Willamette River that can withstand a major earthquake while improving safety and congestion. It also aims to provide better options for the active transportation community.

From 2022 to 2024, we worked with agencies, Tribes and the public to develop and evaluate project options. This fall we conducted the final round of outreach. We gathered input about the project options recommended for further study. Public input helped confirm the PEL results and recommendations for the next steps.

As part of our final round of outreach for the PEL process, we hosted an open house at Wilsonville City Hall on Sept. 18, accompanied by an [online open house](#) from Sept. 11–25. We shared draft findings and collected feedback on the options being studied. The project team identified two options to study in more detail during a future phase, Alternative 2 and Alternative 4. Both options would replace the existing bridge structure with a new bridge. Both would also add a ramp-to-ramp (auxiliary) lane on I-5 southbound for better traffic flow. The difference between the two alternatives is where they each provide a new path to walk or bike across the river. Alternative 2 has a protected walking and biking path on the new I-5 bridge.

Alternative 4 instead has the path on a separate French Prairie Bridge. Advancing these two options reflects the study's results, and public and agency input.

Completing the PEL process marks a major milestone for the project. It positions the project to be ready to move forward when funding becomes available. This includes making it more eligible for future funding opportunities. As shown in the timeline below, once funding is identified, next steps include completing a more detailed study of Alternative 2 and Alternative 4, as required under the federal [National Environmental Policy Act](#) (NEPA). During the NEPA phase there will be more chances for community input.



Learn more and sign up for future project updates on the project website:

<https://tinyurl.com/BooneBridge>.