

Project eUpdate – February 2010

Thank you for reading the Columbia River Crossing email update.

In this issue:

- Learn about new plans for Hayden Island at Feb. 10 open house
- Project Sponsors Council praises reports on performance measures and finance plan
- CRC Tolling Study Committee releases report on tolling scenarios and public engagement
- Community input received in 2009 moved the project forward

Learn about new plans for Hayden Island at Feb. 10 open house

The CRC project and the Portland Working Group are hosting an open house for the public to learn about improvements to Hayden Island, including the latest project designs for light rail and the interchange; pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicle access around the island; strategies for commercial and residential development around the transit station; and safety and security measures.

The CRC project will create long-lasting improvements to help realize the neighborhood vision in Hayden Island Plan, the City of Portland's blueprint for planning and development on the island.

Representatives from the <u>Portland Working Group</u>, CRC, City of Portland, Oregon Department of Transportation and TriMet will be available to provide information and answer questions.

Hayden Island Open House

Wednesday, February 10, 2010 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Jantzen Beach SuperCenter, Community Room (near carousel and food court) 1405 Jantzen Beach Center, Portland

For transit information, please visit: www.trimet.org or www.c-tran.org

CRC will extend the MAX Yellow light rail line from Expo Center in Portland to a station near Clark College in Vancouver. There will be a station on Hayden Island, providing a transit connection to downtown Portland and Vancouver.

Project Sponsors Council praises reports on performance measures and finance plan

Members of CRC's Project Sponsors Council (PSC) gave high praise for the work on CRC performance measures and the detailed overview on a conceptual finance plan when it met Jan. 22.

Members heard a report from the CRC Performance Measures Advisory Group, a presentation by finance consultant Steve Siegel and the findings of the CRC Tolling Study Committee. Siegel reported that the developing a viable finance plan for the project is "doable."

PSC also heard an update on refined designs for the Hayden Island interchange. Additional work with the residents and business owners will occur before the next PSC meeting.

The PSC will next meet 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Friday, March 12, at the Oregon Department of Transportation, 123 NW Flanders Street in Portland.

Materials from the January meeting are available at: http://www.columbiarivercrossing.org/ProjectPartners/PSCMeetingMaterials.aspx

CRC Tolling Study Committee releases report on tolling scenarios and public engagement

The CRC Tolling Study Committee recently released its final report describing how tolling could help fund the project and manage traffic congestion. Thousands of people participated in the study and their comments are also included in the report.

The report and appendices can be found at: http://tolling.columbiarivercrossing.org/

The committee, composed of the directors of transportation and the chairs of the transportation commissions from Oregon and Washington, provided the report to the Washington and Oregon transportation commissions and legislatures in January 2010.

It is expected that a portion of the funding to build the CRC project will come from tolls, supplementing funds from federal and state sources. Tolling will also help manage traffic congestion and provide bridge users more predictable trips.

Community input received in 2009 moved the project forward

Since autumn 2005, CRC staff members have spoken with more than 21,000 people at over 700 events. In 2009 alone, CRC staff spoke with more than 4,500 people at 146 events, including 44 neighborhood association meetings, 14 open houses and workshops, and 22 neighborhood fairs and festivals.

Community advisory groups met 70 times in 2009. Important recommendations from the groups include a preferred light rail alignment in Vancouver, design guidelines for the replacement I-5 bridge and Hayden Island light rail station, and a preferred alternative for the Marine Drive interchange.

CRC places a high value on the contributions of the community to this project. Public input has made a difference in the alternatives being studied and will continue to shape the project as it moves forward.

CRC is planning our 2010 spring and summer event schedule. To schedule a presentation about the latest CRC developments with your organization or to provide feedback, contact project staff:

Email: feedback@columbiarivercrossing.org

Mail: 700 Washington St., Suite 300, Vancouver, WA 98660

Phone: 360-737-2726 or 503-256-2726

Fax: 360-737-0294

www.ColumbiaRiverCrossing.org