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Cover Sheet

Interstate 5 Columbia River Crossing

DRAFT –Architectural Standards

With Place Specific Requirements
for bridges and landscape designs

Submitted By: CRC Staff

Abstract:

These standards provide design guidance for the highway structures including land-scape elements. The standards will be used during final phases of the project. The architectural design of Transit facilities are beyond the scope of the standards.

The designs are based on the goals and objectives of the Urban Design Advisory Group.

Comments Due:

Initial comments are due by September 14th 2010.

ACRONYMS

Acronym Description

CRC Columbia River Crossing
DEIS Draft Environmental Impact
PBAC Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory
SPUI Single Point Urban Interchange
UDAG Urban Design Advisory Group

The document was prepared by the future facility owners and operators. The following took part as representatives of stakeholders.

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Note these elements will be developed in further drafts of the Standards:

Bridge Traffic Barrier
Bridge Railings
Throw Fences
Bridge Colors and Textures
Planting

INTRODUCTION

Columbia River Crossing is a bridge, transit and highway improvement project. The project is designed to address six interchange reconstructions on a five-mile segment of I-5 between Vancouver, Washington and Portland, Oregon, including: congestion, limited public transit, impaired freight mobility, high collision rates, inadequate pedestrian and bicycle paths, and earthquake vulnerability. These standards focus on the Washington and Oregon land bridges, walls and landscape architecture designs.

The standards draw upon the work of the Urban Design Advisory Group. Their efforts are documented in the *Design Guidance for the Columbia River Crossing*. Sensitivity to design context, relationship of designs to location, the use of color and light and unification of landscape to design are among the recommendations. These are discussed in detail in Section 3.1 Universal Urban Design Recommendations.

Additionally, these standards implement FHWA's Context Sensitive Design principals. The project strives to "add to the livability of the community because it preserves environmental, scenic, aesthetic, historic and natural resources of the area."

Architectural Standards are developed to work as aides for design. They are conceptual recommendations which outline typical situations. Throughout each phase of design and construction exceptional situations may arise in which a standard solution is not applicable. Specific situations must be assessed individually so that alternatives harmonize with the project as a whole.

The Standards will take into account the visual tie-in at the corridor and Transit facilities interface. The architectural design of Transit facilities are beyond the scope of the standards.

High quality design also serves as mitigation for adverse effects. The *Visual and Technical Report* for the FEIS identifies several potential strategies included here. Landscape for screening and visual quality as well as architectural features to blend with the community context and unite the corridor are guiding principles in the standards.









Landscape Imagery



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Bridge Architecture Imagery

Design Approach

The standards are produced by CRC staff following the recommendations of the *Design Guidance for the Columbia River Crossing*.

The design process includes the contributions of stake holders. Representatives of local agencies as well as outside design professionals provide comments and guidance at key points during the design.

Core to the design approach is addressing two distinct viewer experiences. One as 'viewed-from-the-roadway' and the other as 'viewed-toward-the-roadway. For simplicity in these standards, discussions of 'views from' are taken in reference to a northbound traveler.

Views 'from' the road are concerned with corridor continuity; creating an experience of national and regional ownership of the Interstate. A continuity example is the use of common elements such as barrier and lighting details that drivers experience from the roadway.

Views 'toward' the road are more personal to the individual neighborhoods and expressing of local culture, history and character. As an example, throughout the corridor the standards will "..use native plants in a distinctive and consistent landscape marking interchanges and intersections throughout..."

Irrespective of views, the standards seek to use green soft-scape plantings over concrete hardscape as the first strategy in aesthetics.



Place Specific Contextual Areas

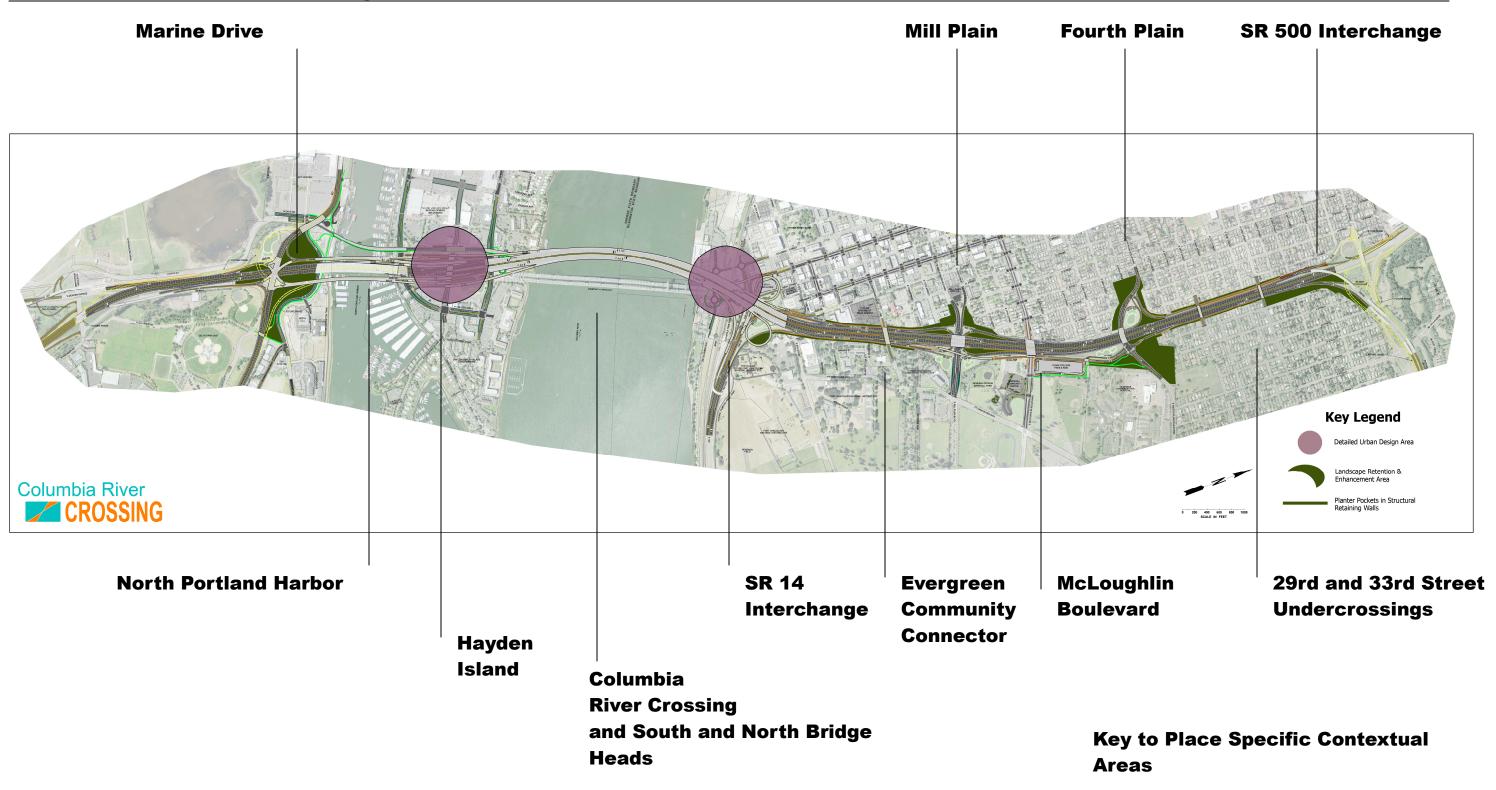
The UDAG recommendations provide guidance to contextualize. The design requires sensitivity to existing communities by '...ensuring that each component of the bridge and highway structures complement nearby buildings in scale, materials and color.'

Additionally the elements should '...develop a design vocabulary of distinctive elements....that are abstractly derivative of the natural landscape and history of their setting.'

The UDAG identified the following areas:

- Marine Drive Interchange
- North Portland Harbor Crossing
- Hayden Island
- Columbia River Bridge Head on Hayden Island
- Columbia River Spans
- SR 14 Interchange, Vancouver Waterfront and CRC Bridgehead
- Evergreen Community Connector
- Mill Plain Interchange
- McLoughlin Boulevard Crossing
- Fourth Plain Interchange
 - —-29th and 33rd Street Undercrossings
- SR 500 Interchange

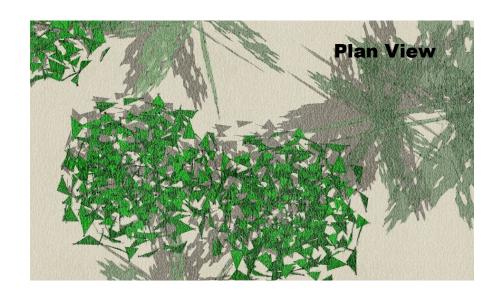
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Ground Cover



II Massed Shrub **Plantings**



Ground Cover



Vines



Examples

Discussion:

The landscape palette consists of the four types shown.

Low cost maintenance shall be the key factor in design. Irrigation will be supplied only during the start up phase of growth.

Dense planting for infill and to minimize weed growth will be employed.

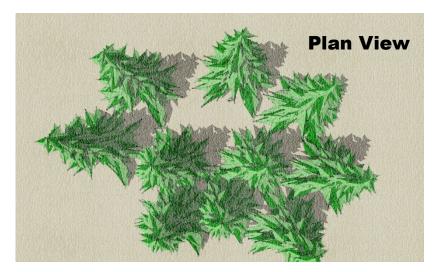
Principles of urban forest growth with canopy cover and CPTED will also guide the design.



Alcove Planter Pockets



Barrier Planter Pockets



Screening **Closeup View**

III Large Screening Vegetation



Vegetation Medium



Screening



IV Streetscape





Douglas Fir Specimen

Heavy Screening

Medium View

Landscape Palette



CONTEXT: Historic uses in this area include stockyards and shipyards at the turn of the century. Currently the west side is a public transit hub with freight industry and exposition center. The east is condominiums, hotels and marinas. Historic imagery is maritime in nature.

VIEWS 'FROM' THE CORRIDOR: The Marine Drive Interchange may include a bridge structure. This could involve building a larger 'squared-off' roadway rather than the curved design shown. If structurally feasible, the remaindered roadway deck areas may be landscaped.

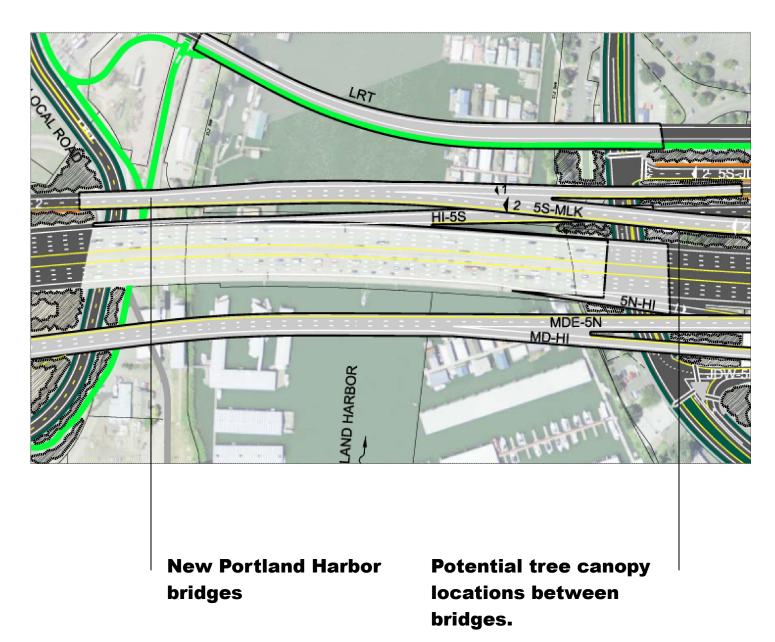
The roadway shoulder adjacent to the ramps will have a blend of ground cover and shrubs from zero to 6 ft in height. This will create an open feeling with diffuse and softened edges.

VIEWS 'TOWARD' THE CORRIDOR: Selected areas will be screened with cottonwoods to complement existing stands in the southwest quadrant.



Place Specific Contextual Area Marine Drive Interchange

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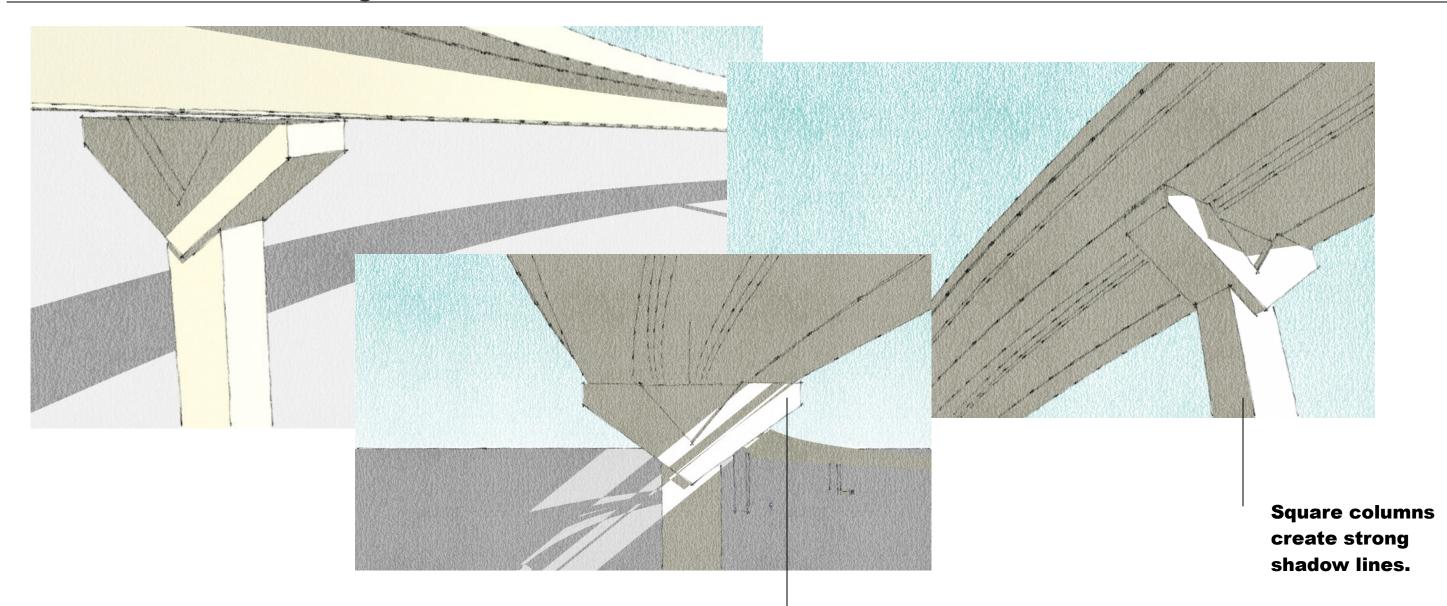
CONTEXT: The north shore is the site of the only island community in the Portland area. It is mixed socio-economically and includes condominium residences. The south shore is maritime industrial. While local aesthetics reflects maritime culture, the area just north of the site is currently the home of 'big box' retail. The area planned for major redevelopment.

VIEWS 'FROM' THE CORRIDOR: The new North Portland Harbor bridges are on both sides existing I5 crossing. The bridges are higher in elevation and provide views of the harbor substructure columns. Architectural detailing of the square columns and the sculptural effects of the 'hammer head' crossbeams are primary aesthetic features.

VIEWS 'TOWARD' THE CORRIDOR: Waterfront views, such as those in the floating homes, will be softened by conifer trees between the existing and new bridges. In order to blend with the round columns of the existing I 5 bridge, the HI-5S ramp will also have round columns. The new transit bridge and North Portland Harbor bridges will have architecturally detailed square columns to match other corridor elements. The new sculpted columns and crossbeams, being higher, will visually dominate the older round columns, being lower and under the existing bridge.

Place Specific Contextual Area North Portland Harbor Crossing

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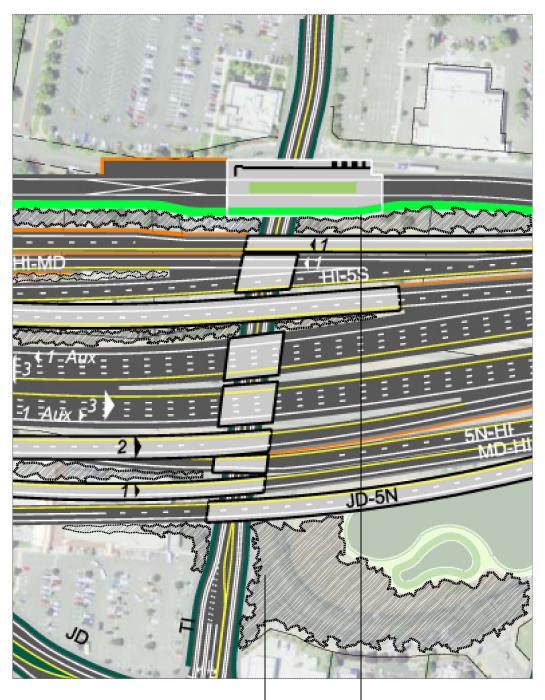


Steel girder bridges are currently under consideration for the North Portland Harbor bridges. Due to their proximity to I 5, the piers will be highly visible to northbound and southbound traffic. The designs also have an opportunity to visually relate to the main river crossing.

Detailing of the dropped 'hammer-head' columns echo the shapes of the river crossing piers.

Classic hammer head crossbeams float below the superstructure and are detailed to echo the shapes of the main river crossing.

Major Design Elements
North Portland Harbor Crossing



CONTEXT: Early use included a theme and amusement park. Nautical architectural references were used for commercial buildings. The area is currently a 'big-box' commercial area with plans for redevelopment. A key element is the transit station discussed in the *Light Rail Station Concept Design Report*.



VIEWS 'TOWARD' THE CORRIDOR: The Hayden Island bridges are a series of overcrossings. Drivers will notice them only by their corridor specific traffic barriers and railing.

The design should be as 'airy' as possible, taking advantage of daylight between the bridge structures.

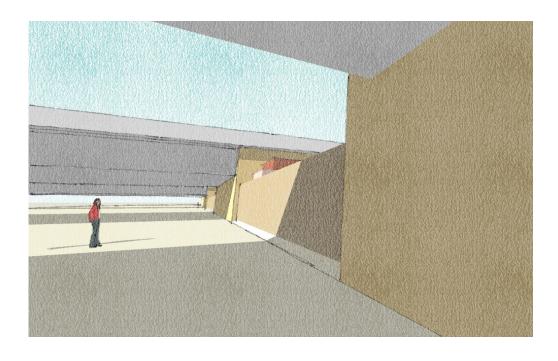
The continuous sidewalks on Tomahawk Drive have ample opportunities for street trees, especially in the northeast and southeast quadrants of the interchange.

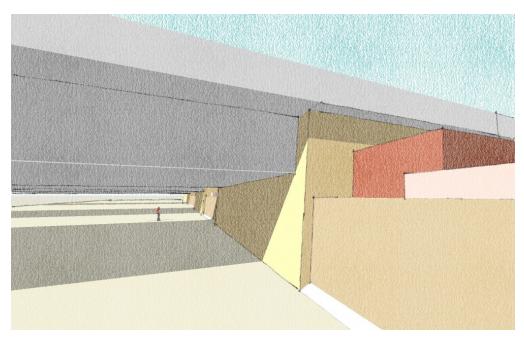
VIEWS 'FROM' THE CORRIDOR: This project element will involve detailed urban design at a future time. The transit station area will also be designed by others.

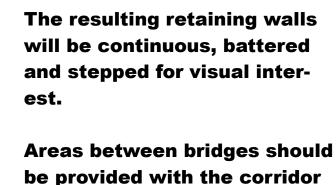
Shrubs or planter pockets depending on space constraints

Larger trees and tree canopy except those that may shade Tomahawk Drive.

Place Specific Contextual Area Hayden Island







theme planter boxes. These

bridges. The design provides

ing with the sheltered feeling

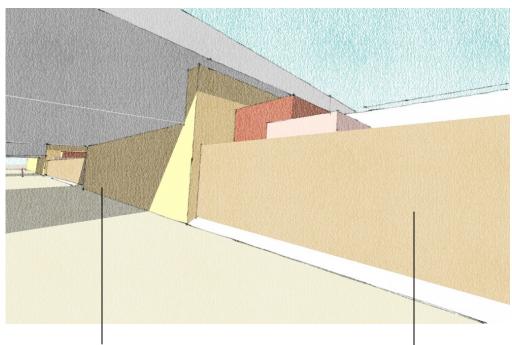
light and green space alternat-

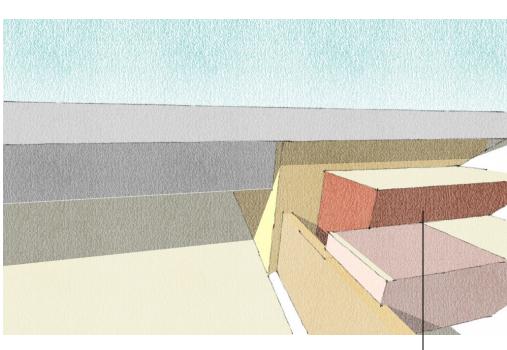
are located between the

of the bridges.

Tomahawk Drive will be con-

structed below grade existing.





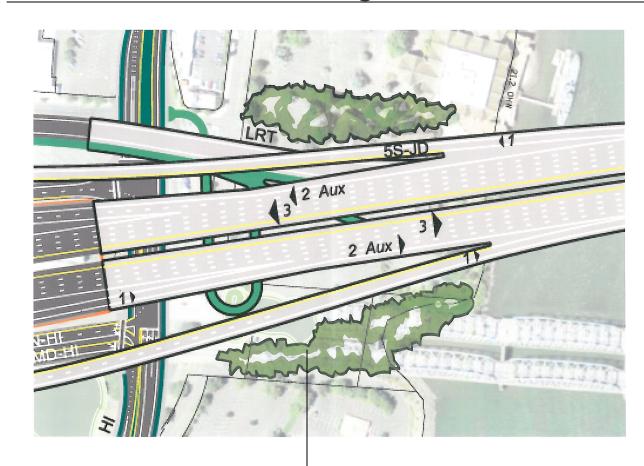
This is a potential areas for public art.

Bridge abutments: battered for visual interest

Retaining walls between bridge abutments: only to the height required to control ground water.

Planter boxes

Major Design Elements
Hayden Island



Larger trees and screening.

CONTEXT: The bridge head on Hayden Island is composed of the river crossing approaches, integration of the light rail to the west river bridge and bicycle and pedestrian access to the east river bridge.

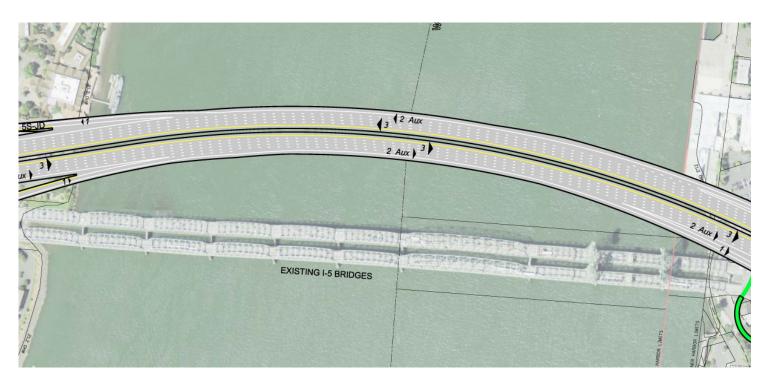
VIEWS 'TOWARD' THE CORRIDOR: The approaches and main Columbia River Crossing will be viewed overhead. The skyline will be dominated by these structures.

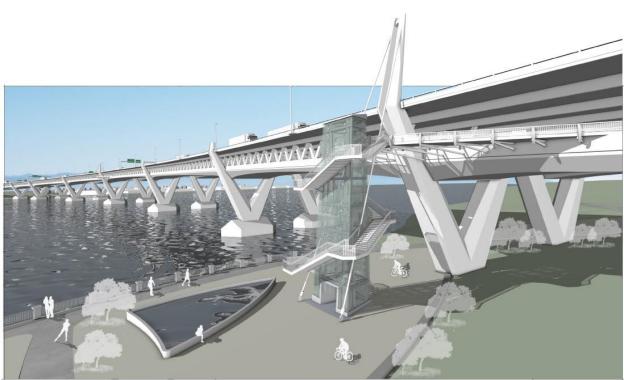
The bicycle and pedestrian structure, located beneath the main river crossing, is to be included in future design work.

VIEWS 'FROM' THE CORRIDOR: The approaches and bridge rise from a land based experience toward one of panoramic views of the river.



Place Specific Contextual Area Columbia River Bridge Head on Hayden Island





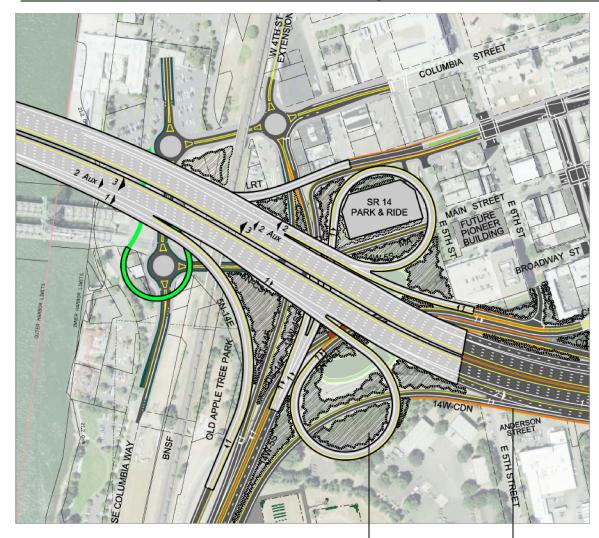


The Columbia River Bridge architecture is detailed in the *Architectural Design Concept Document*.

The main river crossing is beyond the scope the standards. However the land bridges designs will be coordinated with river crossing's to provide corridor continuity.

Place Specific Contextual Area Columbia River Spans

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Larger canopy trees: 40-60 ft high.

Planter pockets adjacent to walls where constrained by right of way. CONTEXT: The North Bank and SR 14 Interchange include the approaches to the river crossing, loop ramps for SR 14, and downtown access as well as the light rail touchdown. Kanaka village is immediately to the west at Fort Vancouver.

VIEWS 'TOWARD' THE CORRIDOR: The ramps and approaches dominate overhead. The bridge columns architectural detailing as well as integrated landscape design will shape the cityscape.

VIEWS 'FROM' THE CORRIDOR: The height of the bridge approaches affords a 'birds eye view' of the Vancouver cityscape to the west. To the east rolling hills appear behind Fort Vancouver.

A detailed urban design for the area will be included in future work by others, such as the City of Vancouver.

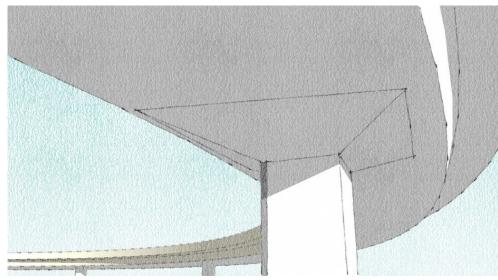
One of several design studies is shown for reference. It is an examples of how the project team will take into account local agency plans to determine the best utilization of land in the post construction phases.



Place Specific Contextual Area SR 14 Interchange, Vancouver Waterfront and CRC Bridgehead

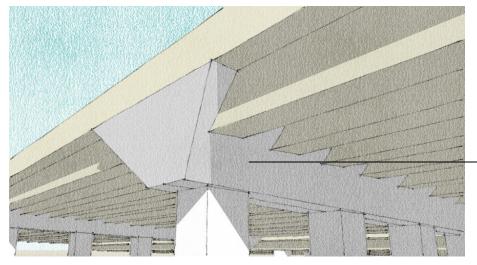


Repeating angular geometry.

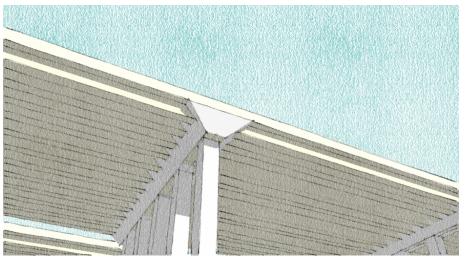


Superstructure elements are cast-in-place concrete box girders for the off ramps to SR 14.

Substructure columns are prismatic squares. These create strong shadow lines and efficiently accommodate texturing. Continuous corbel collars echo the angular geometry of the main river crossing.



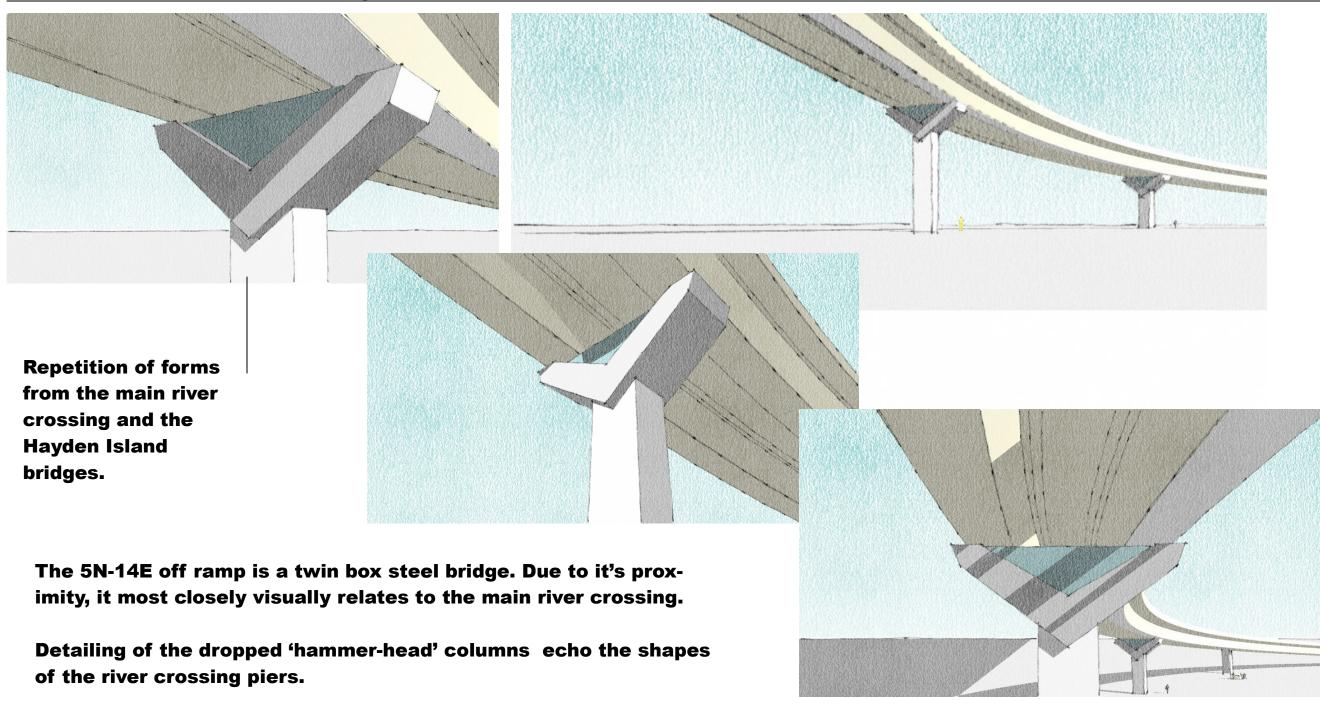
Cast in place angular crossbeam and square columns.



The I5 north approach ramps are multicolumn bents carrying pre-stressed trapezoidal box girders.

The 'uplifting' orientation of the main river piers are repeated in the sloped semi-raised crossbeam.

Major Design Elements
SR 14 Interchange, Vancouver
Waterfront and CRC Bridgehead



For visual continuity with other land bridges, the square columns are repeated.

Major Design Elements
SR 14 Interchange, Vancouver
Waterfront and CRC Bridgehead



CONTEXT: To the west of I 5, the Evergreen Community Connector is the site of the Riverwest Redevelopment Project as well as the competition for the connector lid. To the east lies the historic Fort Vancouver. This site will be an area of detailed urban design including the proposed connector 'lid' directly south of the bridge.

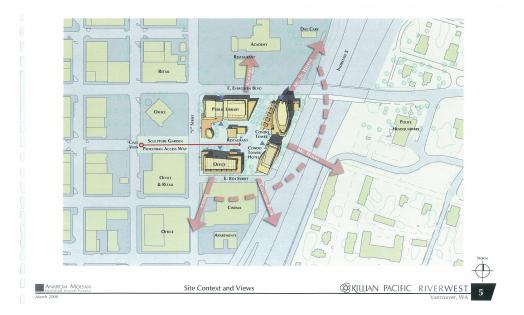
VIEWS 'TOWARD' THE CORRIDOR: On the westward and the eastward views of the corridor are obscured by well established urban environment. Additionally the corridor is well below grade and therefore hidden from view.

VIEWS 'FROM' THE CORRIDOR: The corridor has a sense of enclosure. Its below grade and contained within retaining walls. The proposed community connector will be experienced as a tunnel from the roadway.





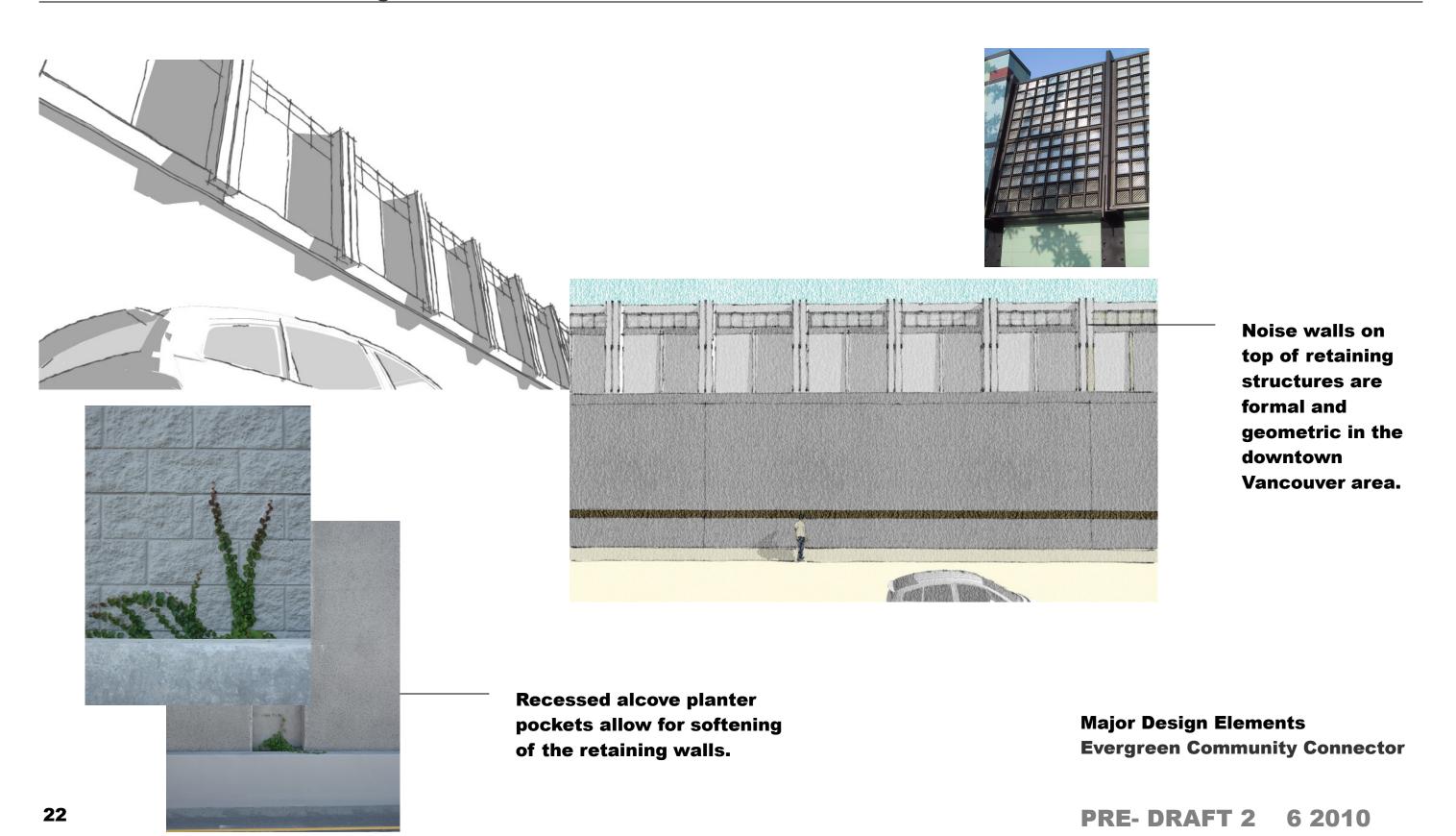
Recessed Alcove Planter Pockets





Place Specific Contextual Area Evergreen Community Connector

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Existing Community Gateway



CONTEXT: The Mill Plain bridge is one of four major intersections. Due to it's proximity to the state border this area serves as a gateway to Washington State as well as the city of Vancouver. It has an urban feel.

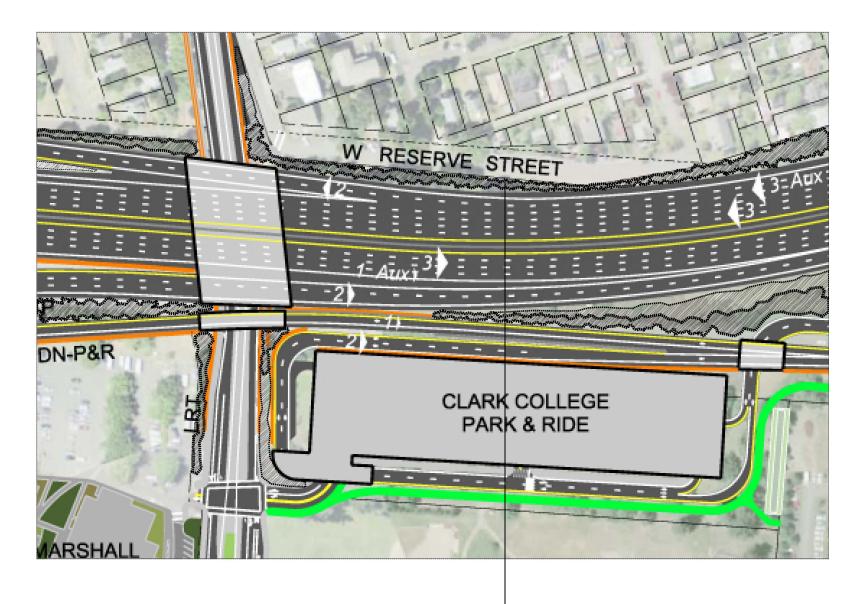
VIEWS 'TOWARD' THE CORRIDOR: Views from the west are obscured by residential neighborhoods. From the east lies the boundary between Fort Vancouver and Clark College. The corridor is slightly above grade and experienced as part of the community.

VIEWS 'FROM' THE CORRIDOR: The roadway emerges from the deeper retaining wall bordered area to the south. The open feeling is part of the gateway experience.

The ramp to the east rises above the roadway revealing the architecturally detailed columns and sculptural shape of the superstructure.

Taller coniferous trees and screening.

Place Specific Contextual Area Mill Plain Interchange



Dense neighborhood screening.

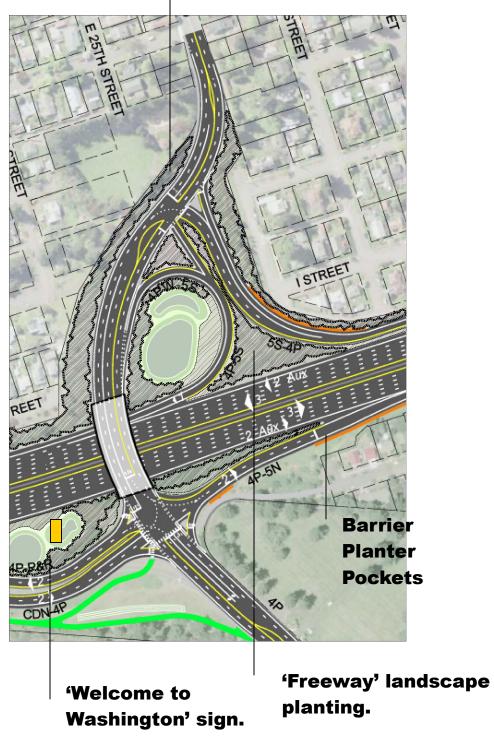
CONTEXT: Residential neighborhoods to the west and Clark College to the east define the context.

VIEWS 'TOWARD' THE CORRIDOR: The residential neighborhoods to the west interrupt direct views of the corridor. To the east Clark College and the Marshall Community Center obscure the roadway.

VIEWS 'FROM' THE CORRIDOR: The views from the corridor are open to the east & west, yet bounded by the approaching overcrossing.

Place Specific Contextual Area
McLoughlin Boulevard Undercrossing

Dense neighborhood screening.

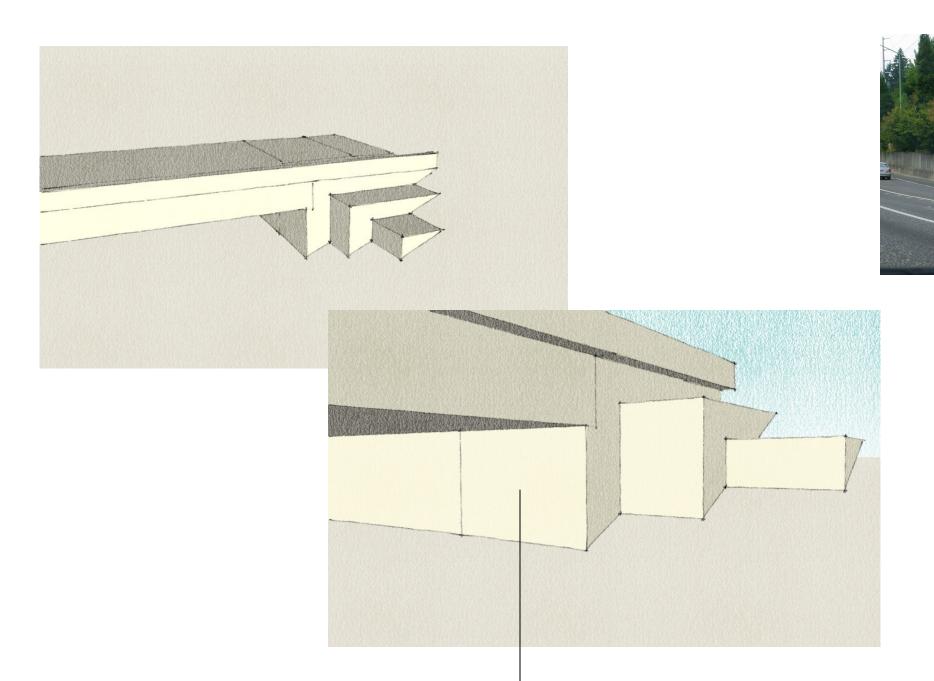


CONTEXT: Fourth Plain is a major intersection marked by a bridge undercrossing. Well established residential neighborhoods built between 1900 and the 1950's are to the east and west. A cemetery lies in the northeast quadrant.

VIEWS 'TOWARD' THE CORRIDOR: Like the McLoughlin interchange, neighborhoods to the west interrupt views of the corridor. To the east the cemetery provides screening.

VIEWS 'FROM' THE CORRIDOR: The open feeling is a continuation from the south. This is the traditional site of the 'Welcome to Washington' sign.

Place Specific Contextual Area Fourth Plain Undercrossing



Vertical abutments with planters correspond to the vertical nature of walls in this part of the corridor.



Major Design Elements
Fourth Plain Undercrossing

Landscape planting will soften concrete

surfaces.

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Barrier
Planter
Pockets
on the
west side.

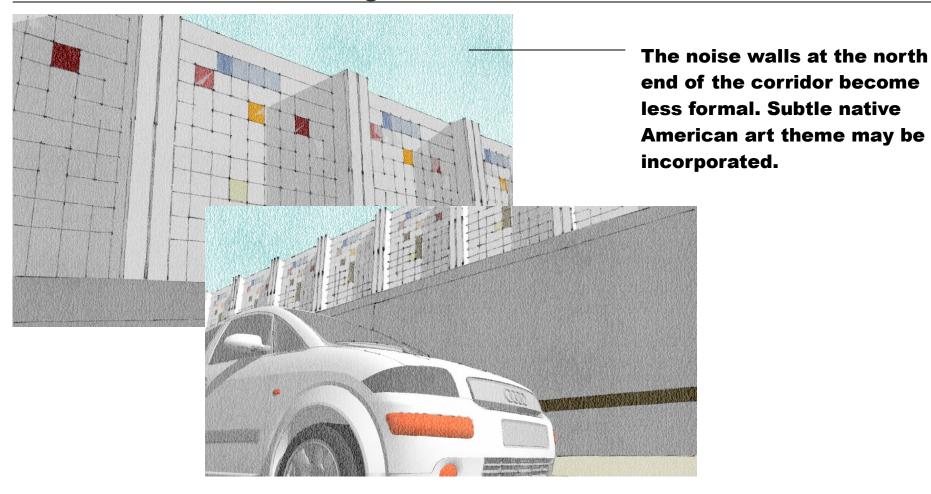
Recessed Alcove Planter Pockets combined with noise walls on east and west CONTEXT: Established residential neighborhoods built between 1900 and 1950 define the context.

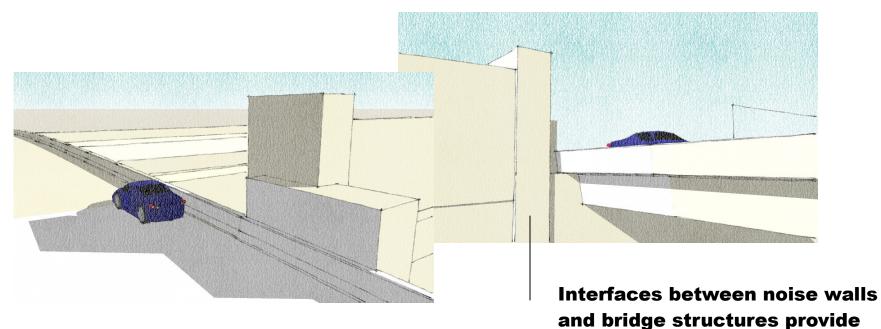
VIEWS 'TOWARD' THE CORRIDOR: Since residential neighborhoods are on both the west and east, the views of the corridor and screened by noise walls.

VIEWS 'FROM' THE CORRIDOR: The roadway continues to be open yet somewhat enclosed by mid height retaining walls. The experience of enclosure is accentuated by the presence of the noisewalls rising above the retaining walls. The 29th and 33rd Street bridges are encountered as a set in close proximity when viewed from the roadway.



Place Specific Contextual Area
29th and 33rd Street Undercrossings





opportunities for neighborhood

gateway elements.



Large wall surfaces are softened with combinations of recessed alcove and barrier planter pockets.

Major Design Elements
29th and 33rd Street Undercrossings

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screening.

Tunnel with portal north and south. Landscape plantings over the length of the tunnel. CONTEXT: The project end at the north includes the SR 500 Interchange. Residential neighborhoods are to the southeast and southwest. Leverich Park is to the northeast. The northwest is the site of Discovery Middle School, a richly detailed example of postmodern architecture.

VIEWS 'FROM' THE CORRIDOR: The grade rises to the north, and is a continuation of those features to the south. The long existing SR 500 ramp bridge provides a thin silhouette against the horizon as the grade immediately falls to the north.

VIEWS 'TOWARD' THE CORRIDOR: Plant screening and noise walls obscure the corridor from the neighborhoods. The park is sheltered and below the corridor. The school is sited well above the roadway and is also screened by large trees.



Place Specific Contextual Area SR 500 Interchange

Bridge Superstructure Elements	State	Locations
Cast-in-Place Post-Tensioned Concrete Box Girder	OR	MD (transit)
Precast Tub Girder	WA OR	14W-5S1, 14W-5S2, 5N-CST, 14W-5S/4ST, 14W-4ST, MP (SR14 loop ramps and Mill Plain) MD-5N, MD-HI, 5S-MD, HI-MD, HI-5S, 5N-HI, JD-5N(TI), JD-5N, 5S (TI), 5N (TI)
Steel Tub Girder	WA OR WA	WA approaches, 14W-CST/5S, CST-5S, EG, MC, CDN-4P2, 29th, 33rd, MD-HI and HI-MD (both over NPH) 5N-14E (SR14), CDN-4P1, 4P
Steel I Girder	OR WA	MD (I-5) None
Precast I or Bulb Tee Girder	OR WA	MD (Marine Way), MD (Union Court) CDN-4P3
Bridge Substructure Elements		
Abutments built into Retaining Walls	WA	Community Connector, Evergreen Blvd., 29th St. 33rd St.)
Abutments with Planter Boxes	WA	Fourth Plain, 33rd St (NE corner), CST-5S, 14W-S52
Vertical Wall Abutments	вотн	Marine Drive, Hayden Island (except TI Drive), OR and WA highway and transit touchdowns 5N-14E (east end, 14W-5S1, 14W-5S/4ST, 14W-4ST, 5N-CST, Mill Plain, McLoughlin, Fourth Plain
Interior pier in median of I-5	вотн	Marine Drive, Evergreen Blvd., Fourth Plain, 29th St., 33rd St.
Hammer head piers	вотн	5N-14E (and possibly others for narrow ramps with single column piersneed to discuss) CD ramps over NPH and connecting ramps to the CDs, 5N and 5S
Multi-column bents	вотн	Approaches
Integral raised crossbeam with multiple square columns		Typical at most bridges with prestressed trapezoidal and I girder shapes.
Semi-raised crossbeam with multiple square columns		Used as required on prominent bridge undercrossings or where vertical clearance controls.

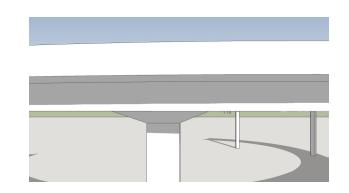
Structure Design Matrix
Types by location

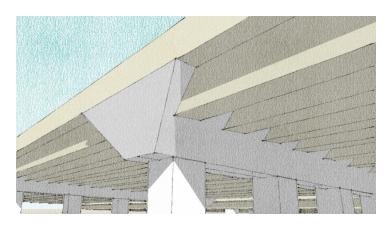
Bridge Details

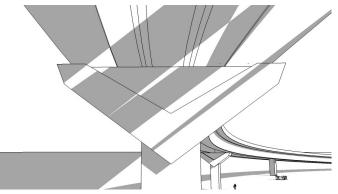
The following geometry details address each individual structure by type. Details will be developed during future phases of the standards.

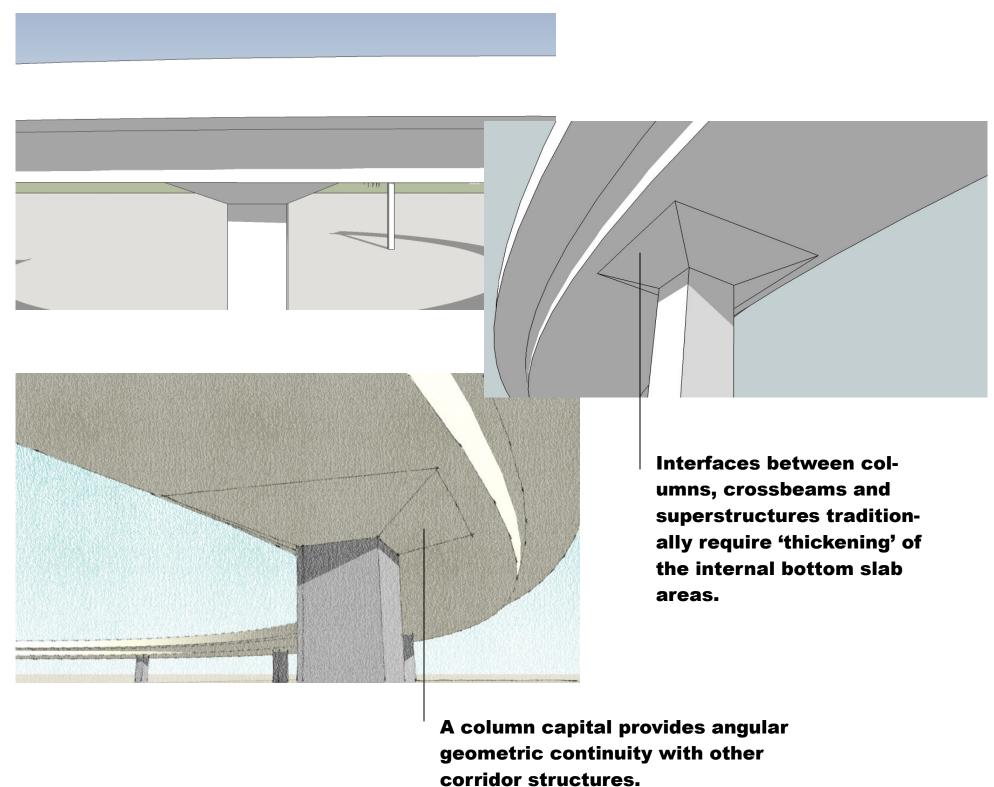
Bridge superstructure types fall into the following categories.

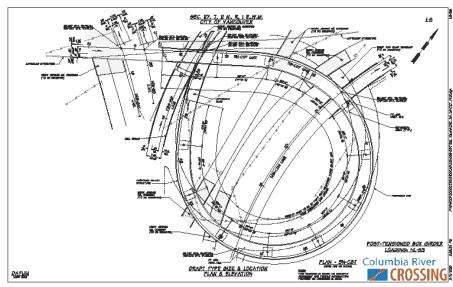
- Cast in place concrete box girders
- Precast concrete trapezoidal girders
- Steel trapezoidal box girders.







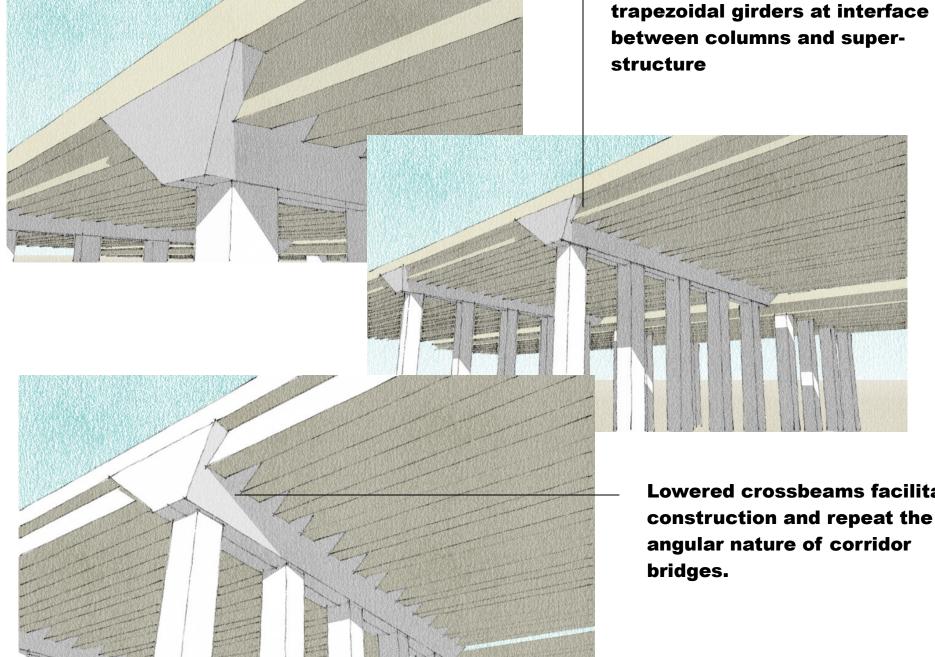




Cast in place Post Tensioned Concrete Superstructure.

Integral Raised Crossbeams: Prismatic Square Columns Substructure

Example: SR 14 Interchange Loop Ramps



SECTION AT PIER WA-4

Lowered crossbeams facilitate construction and repeat the angular nature of corridor

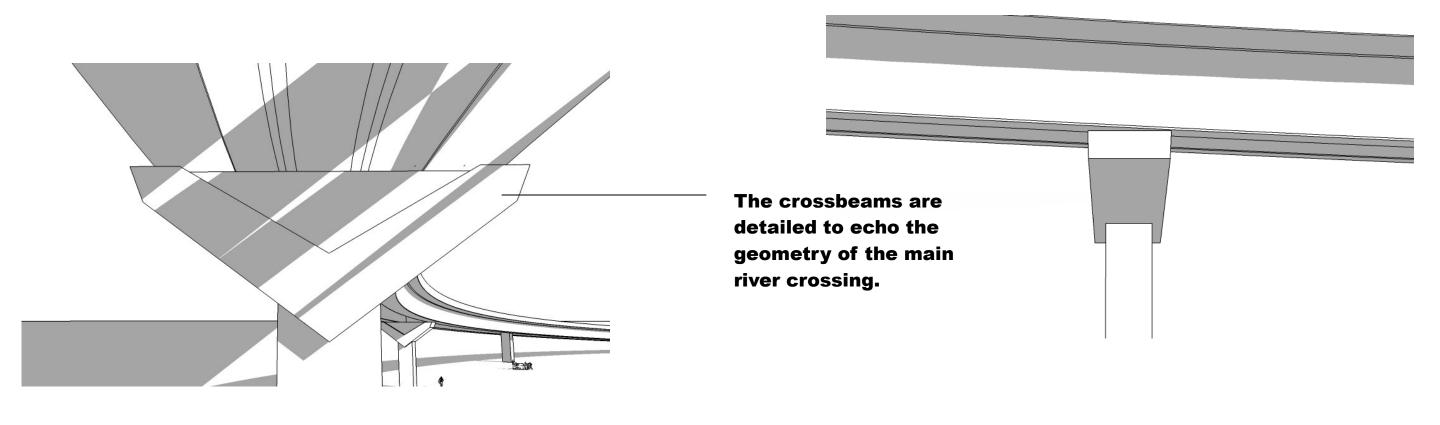
Sculptural opportunities for

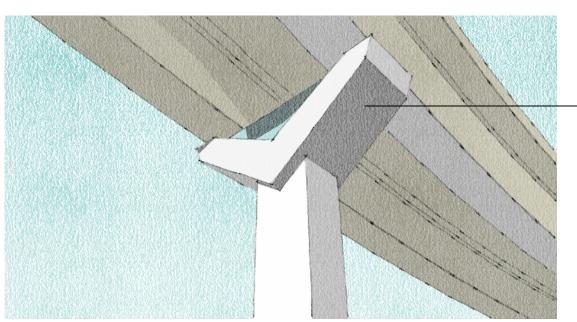
Precast Pre-stressed Concrete Trapezoidal Girder Superstructure

Semi-Raised Crossbeams with Prismatic Square Columns

Example: Washington and Oregon approach bridges.

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Square columns and hammer head crossbeams 'float' beneath the continuous steel superstructure.

There is a perceivable distance between the substructure and superstructure connected only by small bridge bearings. Steel trapezoidal box girder bridges.

This bridge type requires a 'dropped crossbeam'. The crossbeam is traditionally configured as a 'hammer head.'

Example: Ramps at North Portland Harbor

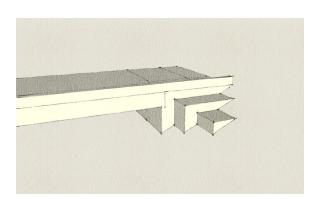
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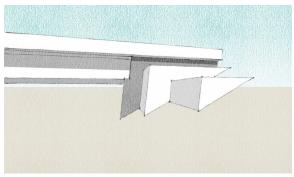
Bridge Abutment and Wall Details

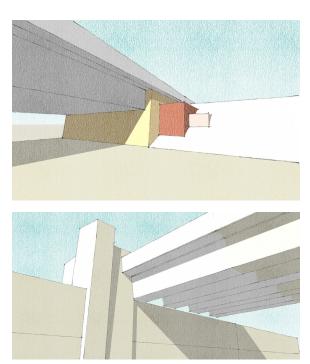
The following geometry details address each individual structure by type. Details will be developed during future phases of the standards.

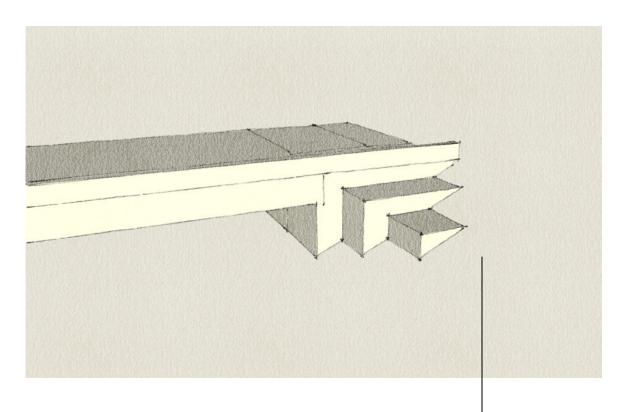
Bridge abutment and wall types fall into the following categories.

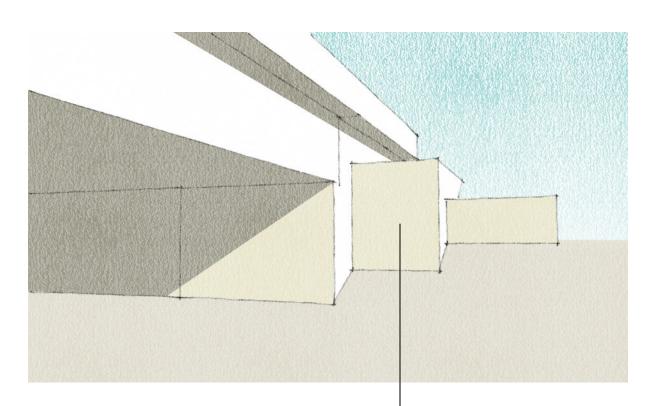
- · Vertical abutment walls
- Battered abutment walls
- Interface between large walls and bridge abutments











Planter boxes provide softening of concrete surfaces with landscape.

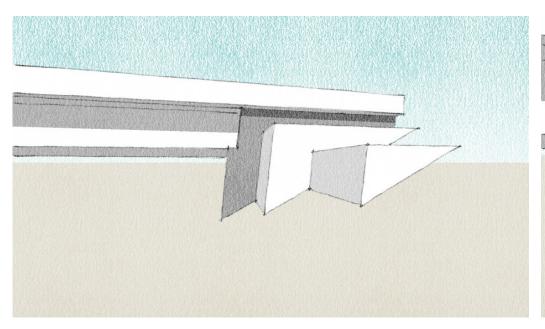
Multiple boxes are provided where space allows and create a layered effect.

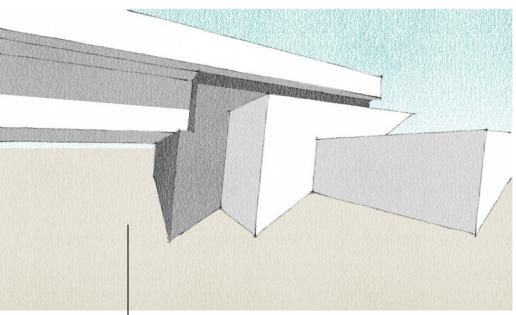
Vertical walls are used in areas where the majority of surfaces are vertical, such as the areas near downtown Vancouver.

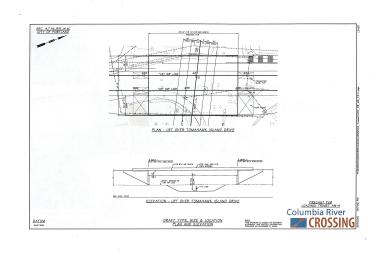
Typical Abutment Shapes

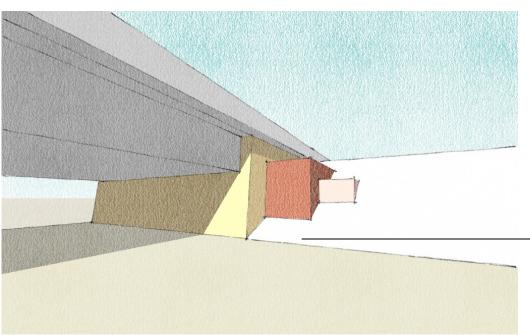
Example locations: 29th and 33rd Street Undercrossings East side of I5.

Showing Classic Planter Boxes









The angular orientation is appropriate in areas such as near the transit station, where modern transportation facilities traditionally take on such design features.

Battered walls are structurally efficient since they accommodate heavy lateral earth forces at the bottom of the wall.

They are expressive of structural 'honesty'.

Typical Abutment Shapes

Example location: Tomahawk Island

Showing Planter Boxes with battered walls.

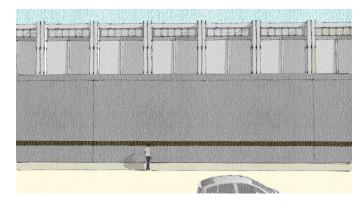
Retaining Wall and Noise Wall Details

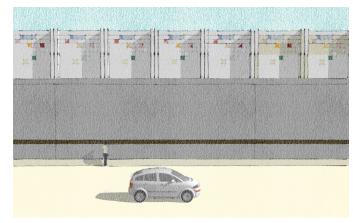
The following geometry details address each individual retaining wall and noise wall by type. Details will be developed during future phases of the standards.

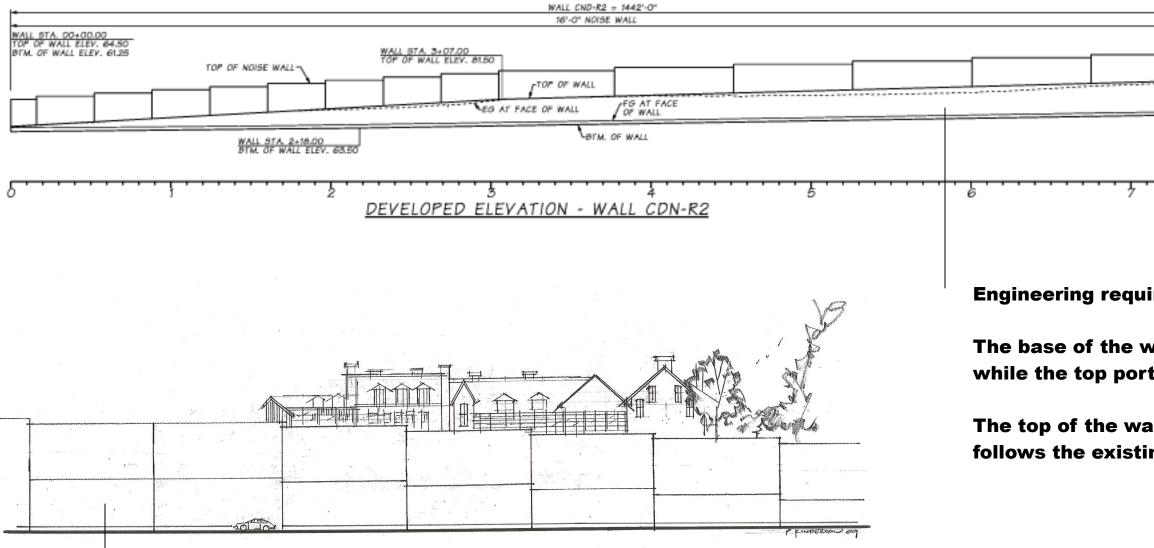
Retaining Wall and Noise Wall types fall into the following categories.

- Formal designs
- · Artistic designs









The top of the retaining wall will be horizontal steps.

Aesthetic requirements:

These steps will create a harmonious geometry with the noise walls.

Engineering requirements:

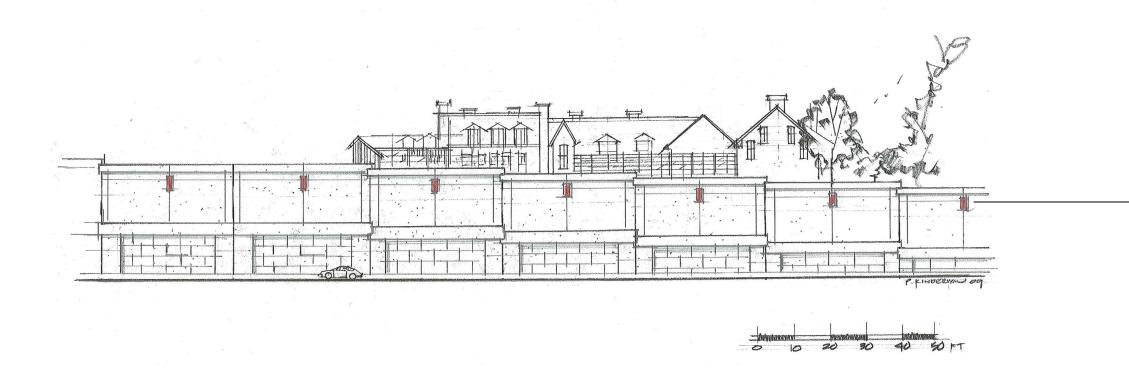
The base of the wall retains the earth while the top portion mitigates noise.

The top of the wall elevation generally follows the existing ground line.

> **Retaining Wall with Noise Walls Designs:**

Geometric Control

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These designs are shown for reference only,. They were studies during early phases of the project.

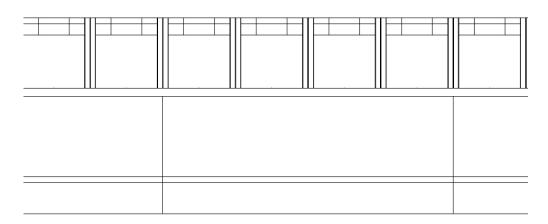
The concepts demonstrate the formal nature of walls in the downtown Vancouver area.



Landscape plantings will be used to reduce the scale of retaining walls and to soften surfaces.

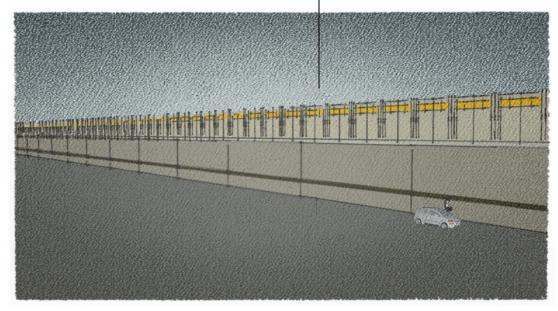
Preliminary Retaining Wall Designs:

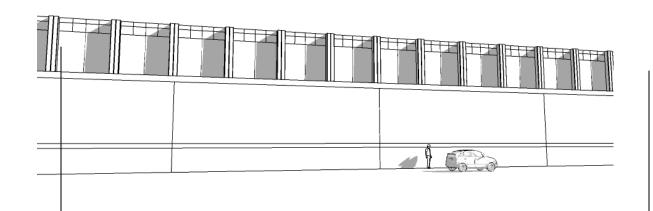
Designs were used to validate right of way.





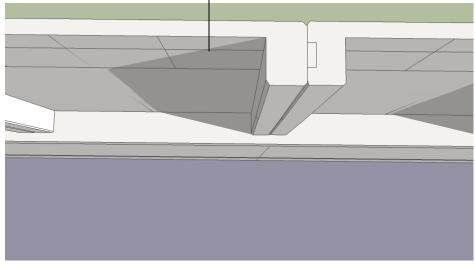
Formal geometric designs.

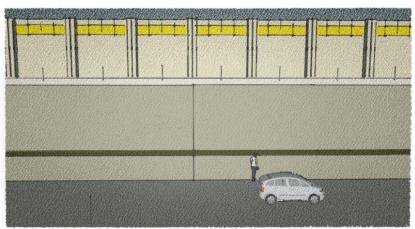




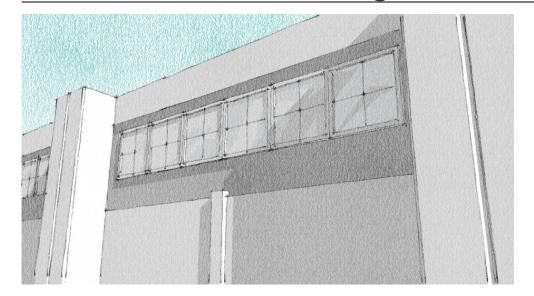
The pilasters create strong vertical elements and shadow lines.

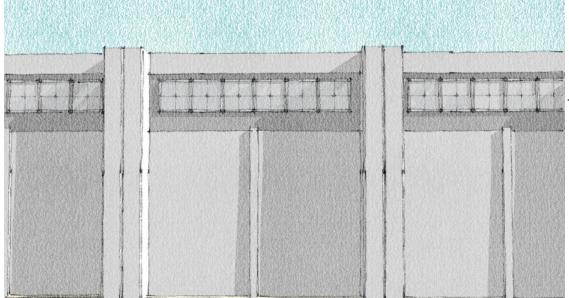
Standard retaining wall panels reversed with pilasters on the roadway side.



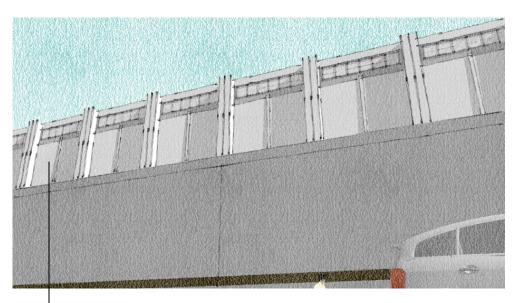


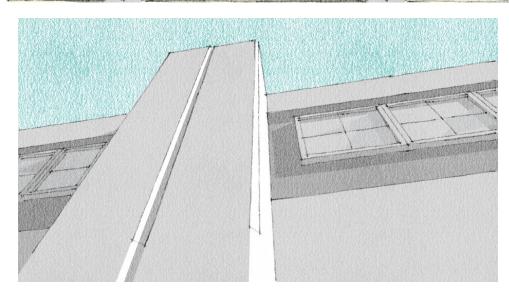
Noise Walls on Retaining Walls
Areas near downtown
Vancouver and Fort Vancouver.



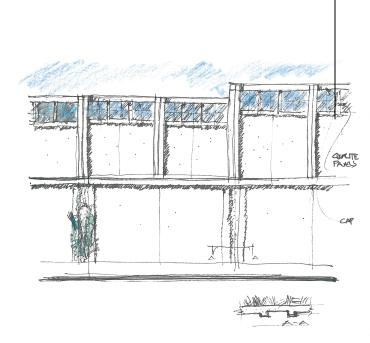


Light passes through panels and is used in limited areas on the wall tops only.





Quilite acrylic sound barrier set in concrete wall panels.



Views showing noise walls on top of retaining walls.

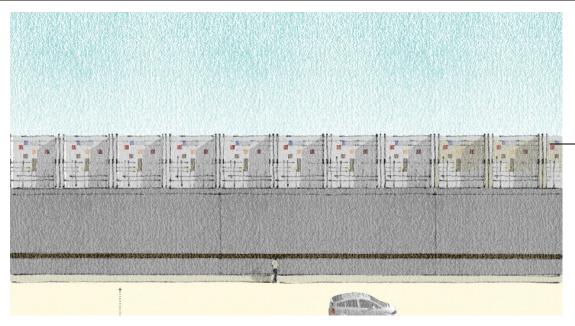


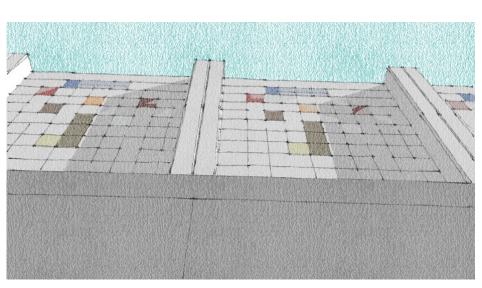


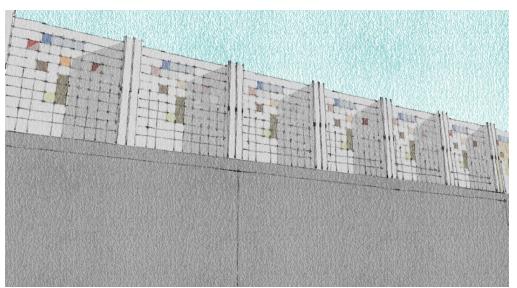
Quilite is an approved new product in Washington state.

Noise Walls on Retaining Walls



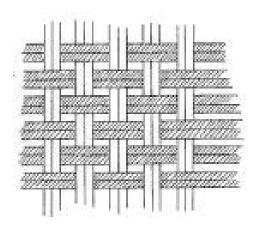






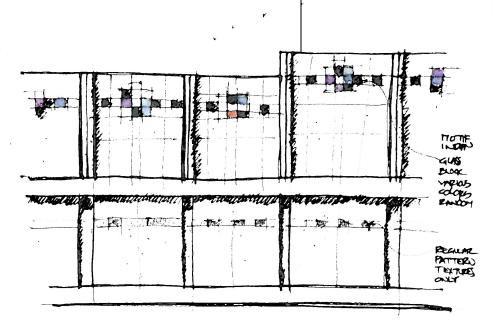


Design based on native American imagery. Detailed in glass block on surface textures.



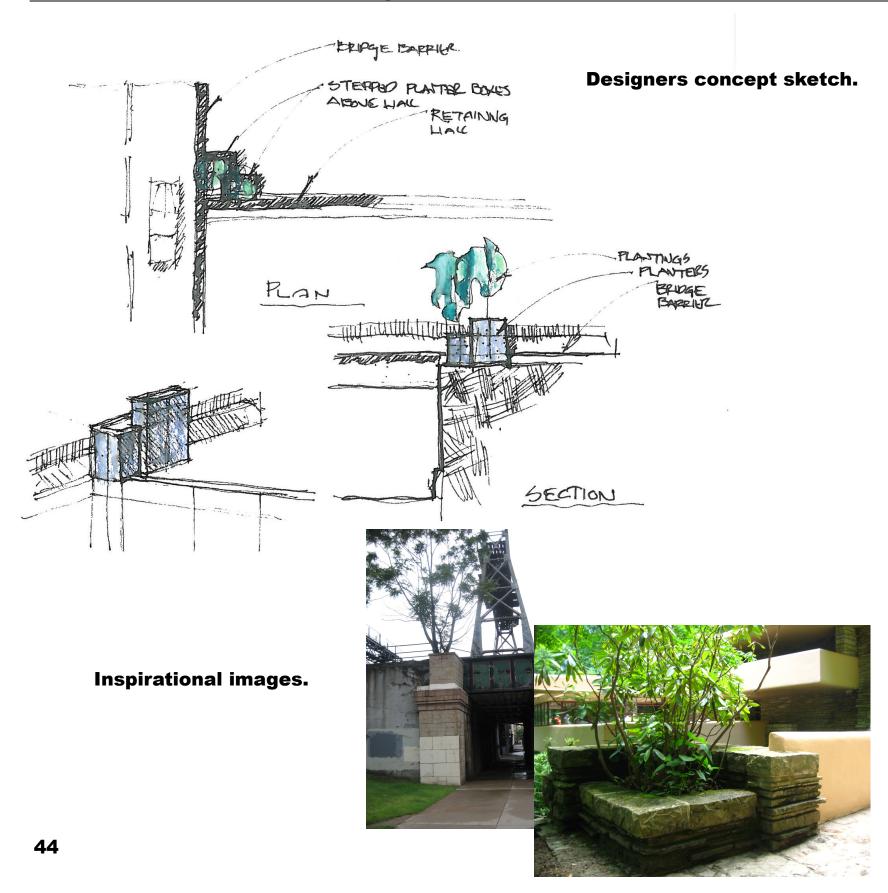
Elevation Views showing noise walls on top of retaining walls.

Glass block set in wall panels.
Integrate with native American
theme motif. The blocks would
be limited in number.



Noise Walls on Retaining Walls Discussion Sketches

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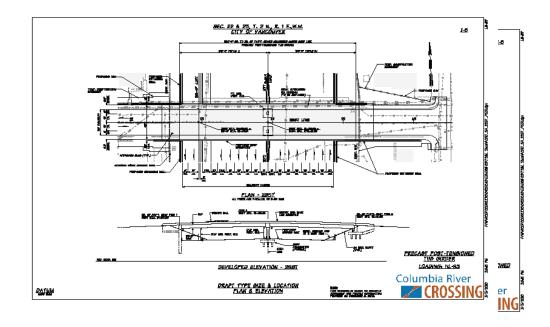


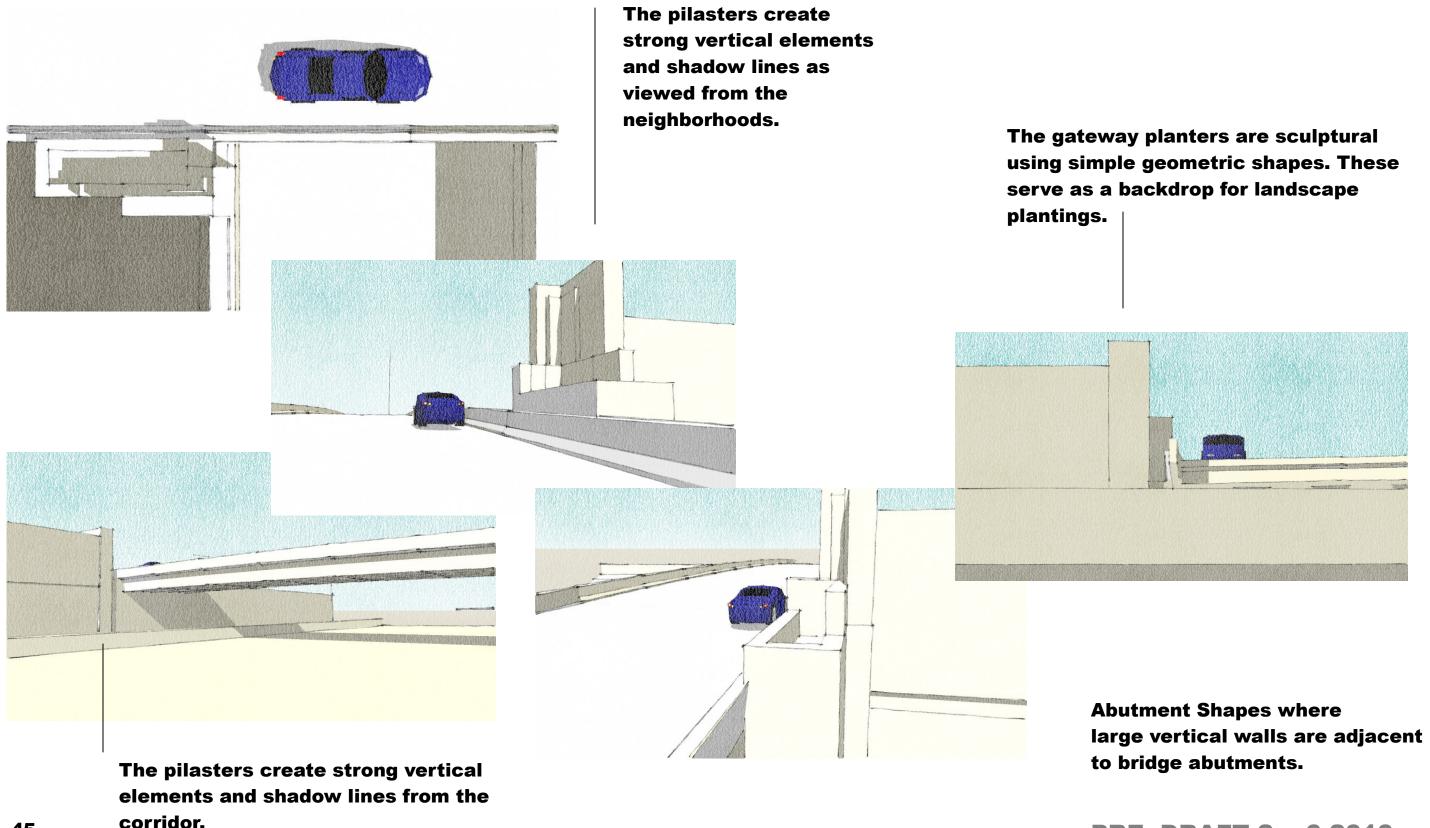
Typical Abutment Shapes where vertical walls are adjacent to bridge abutments.

33rd Street Undercrossing Example.

Showing abutments with raised planter boxes at neighborhood side.

The planters create neighborhood gateway elements at street level.





Tunnel Portal and Wall Details

The following geometry details address tunnel portals. Details will be developed during future phases of the standards.

The project has one tunnel portal near the SR 500 Interchange.



The tunnel portals will be designed to provide landscape plantings. The cast in place concrete portals will provide simple sculptural qualities.

Structure Design Concepts

Public Art

The following locations provide potential for public art integrated into structural elements.

- The areas along Tomahawk Drive: retaining walls and bridge abutments.
- Noise Walls on Retaining Walls north of central Vancouver.
- Gateway obelisks on the neighborhood side of the 29th Street and 33rd Street Undercrossings.

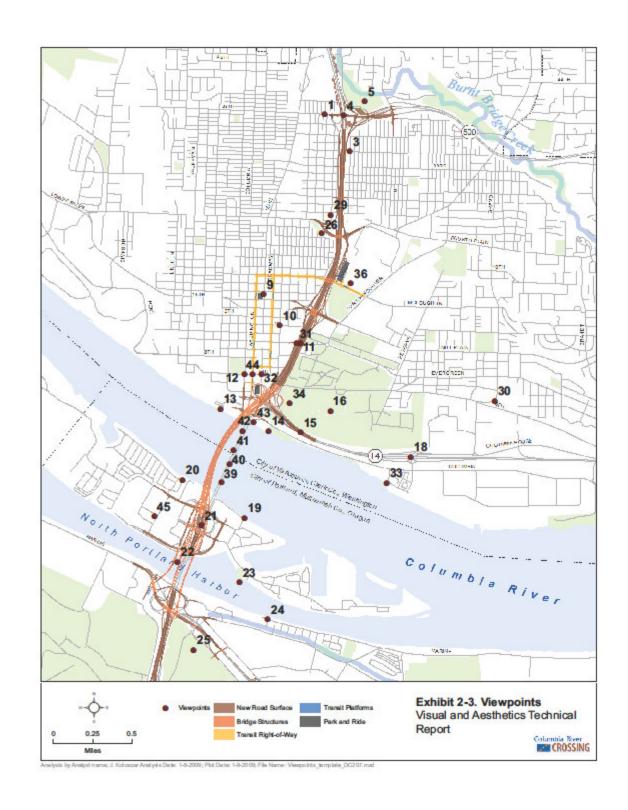
Other locations such as transit facilities and stand alone areas will be developed during future phases of the standards.

Appendix

View Sheds

Portland and Vancouver Land Use Maps

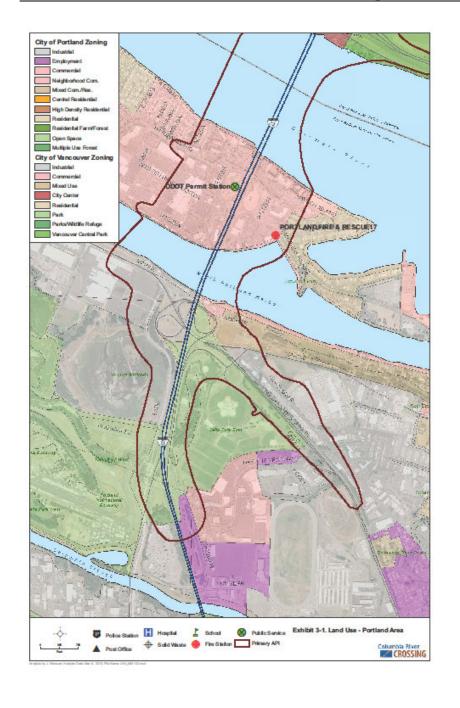
Shown for reference during the draft phases of the standards development.

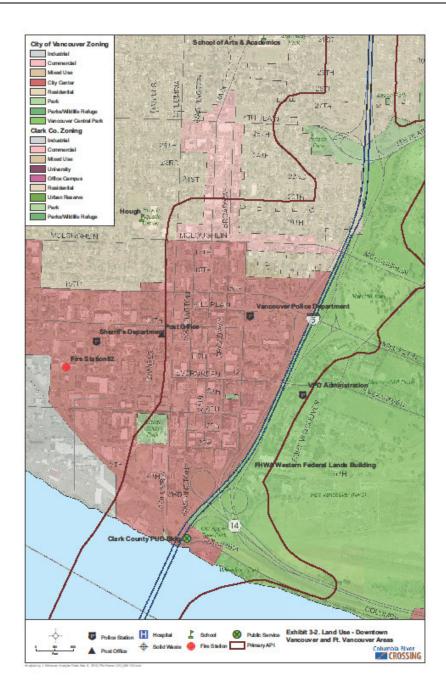


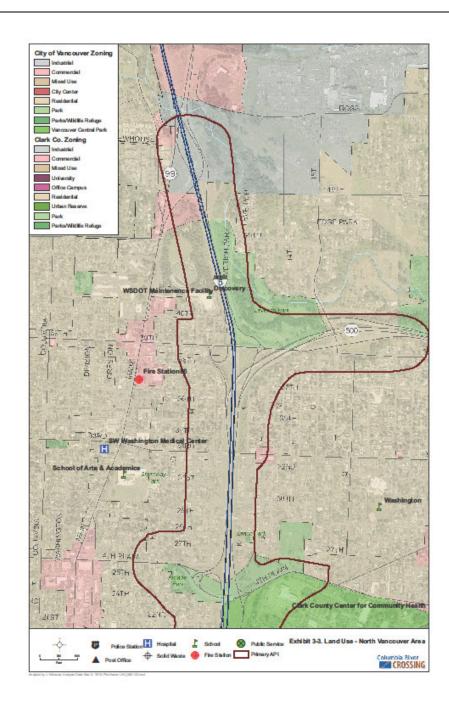
View sheds.

Shown for reference.

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Portland Land use.

Vancouver Land Use.

Shown for reference only and to aide in context understanding during draft phases.

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