



MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 12, 2021

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Eric Holmes, City Manager

RE: **Interstate Bridge Replacement Program (IBRP) – City of Vancouver Priorities Resolution**

CC: Brian Carlson, Deputy City Manager; Chad Eiken, Director, Community & Economic Development; Rebecca Kennedy, Deputy Director, Community Development; Katherine Kelly, Senior Policy Advisor; Aaron Lande, Policy & Program Manager

Background:

Studies to enhance safety and mobility on and to the Interstate 5 corridor in the Portland-Vancouver region through design that addresses seismic resiliency, congestion relief, and better multimodal access have been conducted over the past two decades. From 2005 to 2014, the Columbia River Crossing (CRC) program identified several alternatives for safe bicycle, pedestrian, roadway, and transit improvements. Following close-out of the CRC, the Interstate 5 Bridge Replacement Program (IBRP) was established in 2019 to revisit options for improvements that address identified safety and mobility needs plus environmental and demographic changes since the CRC program.

To-date the IBRP has established advisory committees and groups comprised of legislative and elected leaders from Oregon and Washington, community members, equity-focused leaders, and planning and technical staff. These groups are currently engaged in the planning and environmental phase of the program. Options to address identified needs will be developed over the next 8-10 months, with a goal to identify a preferred alternative for improvements by spring 2022. Final design is scheduled for 2022 - 2024 with construction beginning in 2025.

Staff have presented updates periodically to Council on progress of the IBRP, with the most recent update being at a June 21, 2021 workshop. At that workshop staff presented examples of desired outcomes from the IBRP that the City of Vancouver may consider, and what those might mean in terms of benefits for the community. Staff proposed to solidify Council's desires via a Resolution. The purpose of the Resolution is to document Council's identified priorities for desired outcomes as something to refer to as design options are developed and defined.

Attached is a draft Resolution on the City's desired outcomes from the IBRP. Based on feedback heard from Council during this workshop, staff proposes to revise the Resolution as necessary and submit a version for Council consideration on July 26 via Consent.