U.S. Department of Homeland Security

United States Coast Guard



Commander United States Coast Guard Thirteenth District 915 Second Avenue, Rm 3510 Seattle, WA 98174-1067 Staff Symbol: dpw Phone: (206) 220-7282

29 September 2021

PUBLIC NOTICE 07-21

Subject: PROPOSED REPLACEMENT OF THE EXISTING BELTLINE BRIDGE AND CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW SECOND BRIDGE; BOTH BRIDGES ACROSS THE WILLAMETTE RIVER IN THE CITY OF EUGENE, LANE COUNTY, OREGON

All interested parties are notified that the Commander, Thirteenth Coast Guard District has received a request for a preliminary navigation clearance determination (PNCD) from the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) in preparation for compiling a Coast Guard Bridge Permit application for the Beltline Highway (OR 569): River Road – Delta Highway project, as well as a second, new bridge nearby. At the request of the Coast Guard, ODOT has prepared a navigation impact report (NIR) for the project elements involving bridges over the Willamette River in Eugene, OR. Based on the Beltline Highway NIR, the Coast Guard is preparing to issue a PNCD as detailed below. This public notice is soliciting comments exclusively related to navigation. The public is highly encouraged to carefully review this notice and provide comments with regard to the proposed bridges' ability to meet the reasonable needs of navigation.

WATERWAY AND LOCATION: Willamette River, river mile 178.2, City of Eugene, Lane County OR.

<u>CHARACTER OF WORK</u>: The existing Beltline Bridge is a fixed-span highway bridge that carries vehicles and pedestrians on the Beltline Highway across the Willamette River. Due to increasing congestion on the Beltline Highway and ongoing deterioration of the Beltline Bridge, ODOT is planning to:

- 1. Remove the existing, fixed-span Beltline Bridge in its entirety and replace it with a new, fixed-span highway and pedestrian bridge in its current location, and
- 2. Construct a new, fixed-span arterial highway and pedestrian bridge approximately 125 feet north (downstream) of the existing Beltline Bridge.

During construction, temporary work platforms are planned to extend from one side of the river for both bridges.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS: The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is the Lead Federal Agency (LFA). FHWA and ODOT are currently preparing a Categorical Exclusion to comply with National Environmental Policy Act requirements. ODOT has developed a conceptual level of design and expects final design and construction to be phased as funding becomes available. Therefore, bridge construction over the Willamette River is not anticipated to occur for several years. Upon receipt of a sufficient application for a U.S. Coast Guard bridge permit, the Coast Guard will issue a

subsequent public notice (PN) to solicit comments on the project as a whole, including environmental considerations. This PN solicits comments only on the ability of the bridges to meet the reasonable needs of navigation.

	Existing	Proposed	During Construction (3 yrs)
Replacement of Existing Bridge			
Horizontal	190.0 feet	190.0 feet	80
Vertical (above OHW)*	18.0 feet	18.0 feet	18.0
<u>New Arterial Bridge</u> Horizontal Vertical (OHW)*	n/a n/a	190.0 feet 18.0 feet	130 18.0

MINIMUM NAVIGATIONAL CLEARANCES (at ordinary high water [OHW*):

*Ordinary High Water = elevation 382.5' (NAVD29)

Conceptual plans attached.

SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS: Mariners and maritime stakeholders are requested to express their views, in writing, on the proposed bridges and their possible impacts on navigation, if any, giving sufficient detail to establish a clear understanding of their reasons for support of, or opposition to, the proposed work.

Comments will be received for the record at the office of: Commander (dpw), Thirteenth Coast Guard District, 915 2nd Ave, Rm 3510, Seattle, WA 98174-1067, or via email at <u>D13-SMB-D13-BRIDGES@uscg.mil</u> or by telephone (if unable to submit comments in writing) by calling 206.220.7282. Comments should be sent to arrive on or before 29 October 2021.

STEVEN M. FISCHER U.S. Coast Guard Thirteenth District Bridge Administrator By direction of the District Commander

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