

Portland to Milwaukie Light Rail
Willamette River Bridge Study

Screening “Many to Some”

Screening Criteria Category: Aesthetics/Urban Design

Screening Criteria Name: Portland Core Values and Traditions/Symbolism

Brief Description:

The new transit multi-modal bridge should reflect the core values of Portland and the region as a whole. The bridge should be memorable and tailored to the city. The bridge should achieve an overall design excellence and aspire to become a city symbol. The bridge should create a sense of pride and ownership in the community.

Screening Criteria Name: Looking at the Bridge – Proportion and Scale

Brief Description:

When seen from a distance and long-range vantage points the proportions and scale of all bridge components should be in harmony with its spans over the river, overall height and deck width. The bridge should appear slender but also robust, and express the ability to support all loads and stresses. The bridge scale/dimensions should reflect its physical properties and functionality.

Screening Criteria Name: Being near the Bridge – Experience on Greenway, Walkways and River

Brief Description:

When seen at close-range vantage points from the water and river walkways/greenway the bridge should have an articulated and uncluttered underside. The detailing and scale of elements should be appropriate and refined. The depth of the structure over the greenway should be minimized to allow desirable clearance for pedestrians and cyclists. The bridge should make refined transitions to land and promote connectivity to existing and future walkways and greenways.

Screening Criteria Name: Being on the Bridge – Experience Crossing the river

Brief Description:

The bridge should celebrate the crossing of the Willamette River. All bridge users should get a sense of the importance of the river crossing. The bridge should provide an enjoyable and safe environment for all users at different speeds including pedestrians, bicyclists, and bus/ MAX light rail users. The integration of the bridge into the urban fabric and well as the bridge itself should seek to create an interesting and comfortable sequence of experiences for the people. The detailing and scale of all bridge elements should be refined, understated and consistent with the significance of the river crossing.

Screening Criteria Name: Integration with Existing Context, Fabric and Adjacent Bridge

Brief Description:

The bridge should complement the existing context, fabric and adjacent bridges. The bridge should have a sense of sequence and rhythm that relates to other bridges in Portland. The bridge should be as transparent as possible and not obstruct views of the landscape and other elements in the urban and natural environments. The bridge should positively respond to its context and integrate into the future vision for natural and urban fabrics at its bridgeheads.

Screening Criteria Name: Reflection of Current Technology and Innovation

Brief Description:

The bridge should reflect current technology and honest innovation; a bridge of its time that looks to the future for inspiration.

Screening Criteria Name: Being on the Bridge – Static Experience

Brief Description:

The bridge should provide opportunities to for people to visually interact with the Willamette River, City of Portland, and other human and natural elements that will be visible when on it. In addition, the bridge should provide for positive interactions with other people. All bridge users should get a sense of the importance of the river, the city, and the landscape. Key views could be emphasized if appropriate. The ability of a bridge to support overlooks and stopping spaces could be important; however, these must be considered with regard to the potential for both positive and negative social interactions and uses.