

Portland to Milwaukie Light Rail
Willamette River Bridge Study

Working Group 08/28/08: Screening “Many to Some”

Screening Criteria Category: Aesthetic (Note: “Code” refers to evaluation matrix line)

Code x: 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.

Code y: Looking at the Bridge – Proportion and Scale

Brief Description: When seen from a distance 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.

Code z: Being near the Bridge – Experience on Greenway, Walkways and River

Brief Description: When seen at close range vantage points (such as 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 pleasing transitions to land.

Code aa: 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 and be aware of the river itself. The bridge should provide an enjoyable experience for all users and respond to that experience recognizing the different pace of pedestrians, bicyclists, and bus/ light rail riders. The detailing and scale of all bridge elements should be refined, understated and consistent with the significance of the river crossing.

Code bb: Compatibility with Existing Context, Fabric and Adjacent Bridges

Brief Description: The bridge should complement the existing context, fabric and adjacent bridges. The bridge should have a 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.

Code cc: Reflection of Current Technology and Innovation

Brief Description: The bridge should reflect state-of-the-art technology and innovation; a bridge of its time that looks to the future for inspiration.

Code dd: Green Design and Sustainability

Brief Description: The bridge should be a model of sustainability for other bridges across the United States. It should be efficient and not wasteful of resources, and whenever possible, utilize local materials. The bridge should minimize environmental impacts to the river, wildlife, and fisheries. The bridge should attempt to maximize environmental benefits.