



PLANNING COMMISSION

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2020

II. WORK SESSIONS

B. I-5 Pedestrian Bridge (Weigel) (45 Minutes)



PLANNING COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: July 8, 2020		Subject: I-5 Pedestrian Bridge and Gateway Plaza	
		Staff Member: Zach Weigel, PE, Capital Projects Engineering Manager; Kimberly Rybold, AICP, Senior Planner	
		Department: Community Development	
Action Required		Advisory Board/Commission Recommendation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance 1 st Reading Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance 2 nd Reading Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information or Direction <input type="checkbox"/> Information Only <input type="checkbox"/> Council Direction <input type="checkbox"/> Consent Agenda		<input type="checkbox"/> Approval <input type="checkbox"/> Denial <input type="checkbox"/> None Forwarded <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable Comments: N/A	
Staff Recommendation: Review bridge alternatives and provide input on design priorities for the I-5 Pedestrian Bridge and Gateway Plaza project in Wilsonville Town Center.			
Recommended Language for Motion: N/A			
Project / Issue Relates To:			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Council Goals/Priorities I- 5 Bike-Pedestrian Bridge, Town Center	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted Master Plan(s) Bicycle & Pedestrian Connectivity Plan, Transportation System Plan, Town Center Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable	

ISSUE BEFORE COMMISSION:

The project team will provide an update on the plaza configurations currently under review and will present refined bridge alternatives, seeking feedback on preferences related to design priorities.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In 2017, the City was awarded a Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) Regional Flexible Funds (RFFA) grant from Metro for the design of the I-5 Pedestrian Bridge. The project, first identified as a need in the 2006 Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan and subsequently added to the Transportation System Plan (TSP) in 2013, will provide a safe pedestrian and bike crossing of Interstate 5, connecting the Villebois neighborhood and the Wilsonville Transit Center to the Town Center and adjacent residential areas. The project also includes design of the Gateway Plaza, a community gathering space identified as a community priority as part of the Town Center Plan process, on a City-owned parcel at the east bridge landing. Per the IGA for this grant, 90% design for the project must be completed in fall 2021.

After the March Planning Commission and City Council work sessions, the project team began designing bridge and plaza concepts based on feedback gathered from the project kickoff open house and survey. At the June work session, the Planning Commission reviewed conceptual bridge landing / plaza configurations and provided feedback on considerations to the project team.

At the July work session, the project team will provide the Planning Commission with a brief update on the evolution of the plaza configurations based on the June feedback. The primary focus of this work session will be three bridge concepts that evolved based on the public input received during the project kickoff outreach. The project team will present images of these concepts—cable-stayed, arching, and modern artistic—along with a discussion on how these alternatives incorporate public input and conceptual information on cost considerations for each. The project team seeks feedback on the following questions:

- Which bridge design elements are important to prioritize given budget constraints?
- Are there additional considerations or concerns the team should address in refining the bridge alternatives?
- As the team prepares three plaza concepts for public input, which design elements do you believe best meet the guiding design principles established through the Town Center Plan and recent public engagement, and what elements are missing that could better articulate these aspirations?

These bridge alternatives, along with refined plaza concepts, will be presented for public feedback through an online survey on *Let's Talk, Wilsonville!* and online open house in August.

EXPECTED RESULTS:

The project team will use input from the Planning Commission, along with public input gathered from the August survey and open house, to select preferred alternatives for the bridge and plaza layouts.

TIMELINE:

Project work and public engagement activities will continue throughout 2020 to further inform bridge design, plaza materials, and amenities. Environmental documentation, permitting, design and other technical work currently underway will also inform the bridge type, size, and location. This will enable the project team to engage the community on bridge and plaza design, and gather input on the preliminary design elements through an online open house and through a survey using *Let's Talk, Wilsonville!*, after which design will advance to 90% Design with an anticipated completion in fall 2021. Additional work sessions will be facilitated with the Planning Commission over the course of this project.

CURRENT YEAR BUDGET IMPACTS:

The adopted budget for FY2020-21 includes \$5,830,275 in Transportation SDCs for CIP project #4202. The remaining project design work over the next two years is estimated at \$1.0 million. The remaining budget is intended to begin to accrue funds to pay for project construction in future years.

FINANCIAL REVIEW / COMMENTS:

Reviewed by: Date:

LEGAL REVIEW / COMMENT:

Reviewed by: Date:

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROCESS:

The pedestrian and bikeway bridge was identified as a high priority project through the last update to the Wilsonville Transportation System Plan, which included an extensive community involvement process. Likewise, the RFFA grant process included a public review and comment period in which the project garnered positive feedback from the community. In addition, the Town Center Plan included a robust and inclusive public outreach process where the Bridge Project was identified as a key framework project through extensive community support.

There will be additional opportunities to participate in the design of the Bridge Project and Gateway Plaza, which has multiple activities scoped within the Public Engagement Plan for the project. In addition to the public kickoff event, future activities will include an online open house, online surveys, stakeholder interviews, input opportunities through *Let's Talk, Wilsonville!*, and pop-up information displays. The engagement plan is designed to reach as broad an audience as possible and to gather the variety of perspectives in the community. It also includes targeted outreach to specific stakeholders more impacted by activity in the Town Center.

POTENTIAL IMPACTS or BENEFIT TO THE COMMUNITY:

The Bridge Project will provide a safe bike and pedestrian crossing of I-5 that is separated from vehicular traffic with direct access to essential services in the Wilsonville Town Center, the Wilsonville Transit Center, employment areas, and educational resources. The bridge will serve all populations within and around the project area and will help the Town Center become a more vibrant, pedestrian and transit-supportive mixed-use district. Public art and environmental features integrated into the Bridge Project and plaza will help to create an attractive and accessible place for visitors and residents of all ages to shop, eat, live, work, learn, and play. The bridge and plaza investment will exemplify the City's commitment to realizing the community's vision for Town Center and serve as an incentive for private investment.

ALTERNATIVES:

The Commission can provide additional design elements to consider alongside the bridge alternatives for consideration in developing the preferred alternative bridge and plaza design.

CITY MANAGER COMMENT:

ATTACHMENT:

N/A