



## **Project eUpdate –August 2010**

Thank you for reading the Columbia River Crossing email update.

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### **CRC project sponsors unanimously recommend a 10-lane bridge and changes to Hayden Island interchange design**

The Columbia River Crossing [Project Sponsors Council](#) (PSC) unanimously agreed earlier this month on a set of recommendations to the governors of Washington and Oregon for moving ahead with development and construction of the I-5 bridge project.

The [draft recommendations](#) were developed collaboratively by an integrated group of staff members from all the agencies represented on the council, as well as the ports of Portland and Vancouver. The recommendations include designing a permanent 10-lane replacement bridge over the Columbia River and changing the Hayden Island interchange design to address several community concerns. The co-chairs for the PSC will now develop a report to the governors based on the agreement.

In addition to the recommendations, PSC members agreed that continued meetings of their advisory group are necessary to ensure project success. Future meetings will be planned to discuss project delivery issues related to governance, bridge type and design, and project financing.

### **Governors receive independent report on CRC**

Governors Ted Kulongoski and Chris Gregoire have received a [final report](#) from the [Independent Review Panel](#) they appointed in [April](#) to assess the work of the CRC project and provide recommendations for future work.

The panel affirmed that the CRC must move forward and a new bridge should be constructed at the earliest possible date. The panel also commended the work to date on the preliminary environmental and engineering issues and outlined a series of recommendations to serve as a roadmap to move from design to completion of the project.

The governors directed the Oregon Department of Transportation and the Washington Department of Transportation to develop a plan to address the recommendations outlined by the panel and report back with an estimated timeline for completion. Project staff is working on the plan and expects an initial review to be complete by early September.

## **CRC engages community during with spring and summer**

CRC is continuing to make significant efforts to involve and inform the public throughout the project development process.

This spring and summer, CRC staff provided community members with project information and updates through presentations, open houses, advisory group meetings, Project Sponsors Council meetings, fairs and festivals, and the CRC web site. During this time, project staff talked with more than 3,000 people at almost 100 events to share information and hear feedback. Topics [most frequently](#) mentioned include: the need for a project, the light rail extension, architectural design of the I-5 bridge, the Hayden Island interchange, tolling, neighborhood congestion and congestion at the Rose Quarter.

The CRC is currently developing its fall calendar. Information on all outreach events will be posted on the project [online](#).

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