



# I-5 Seismic Retrofit Project

## SW Hood Avenue Bridge



Summer 2013

### Project Summary

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) is initiating a seismic retrofit project for bridges along the Interstate 5 corridor in the Portland metropolitan area. The I-5 Bridge over SW Hood Avenue is one of five bridges between Portland's South Waterfront district and the Tualatin River to comprise the initial package of work. Construction is scheduled to begin in early 2014 and end in 2015.

ODOT's initiative to retrofit the state's older bridges to meet modern seismic specifications will help ensure I-5 would not be immobilized in the event Oregon experiences a powerful earthquake. The sites selected to receive improvements represent the first phase of an expected multi-phase program to improve the seismic sufficiency of bridges throughout the region.

### Key Elements of the SW Hood Avenue Bridge Project

- Strengthen bridge columns with in-fill walls and enlarge pier wall footings.
- Install lighting fixtures and ornamental security fencing.

### Anticipated Traffic Impacts

- Alternating closure of one of the two travel lanes on Hood Avenue under I-5. This may lead to delays on OR 43 (SW Macadam Avenue and SW Hood Avenue) during peak travel periods.
- Prevent vehicles from continuing straight (east) onto SW Bancroft Street from SW Hood Avenue during construction.
- Permit free flowing left turn onto SW Macadam Avenue northbound from SW Hood Avenue. The existing traffic signal will not be operational during construction.
- Temporary night shoulder closures on I-5 over SW Hood Avenue.

### Project Location

The bridge is located on I-5 over SW Hood Avenue in Portland's South Waterfront district. Work will be taking place entirely underneath the bridge on SW Hood Avenue.



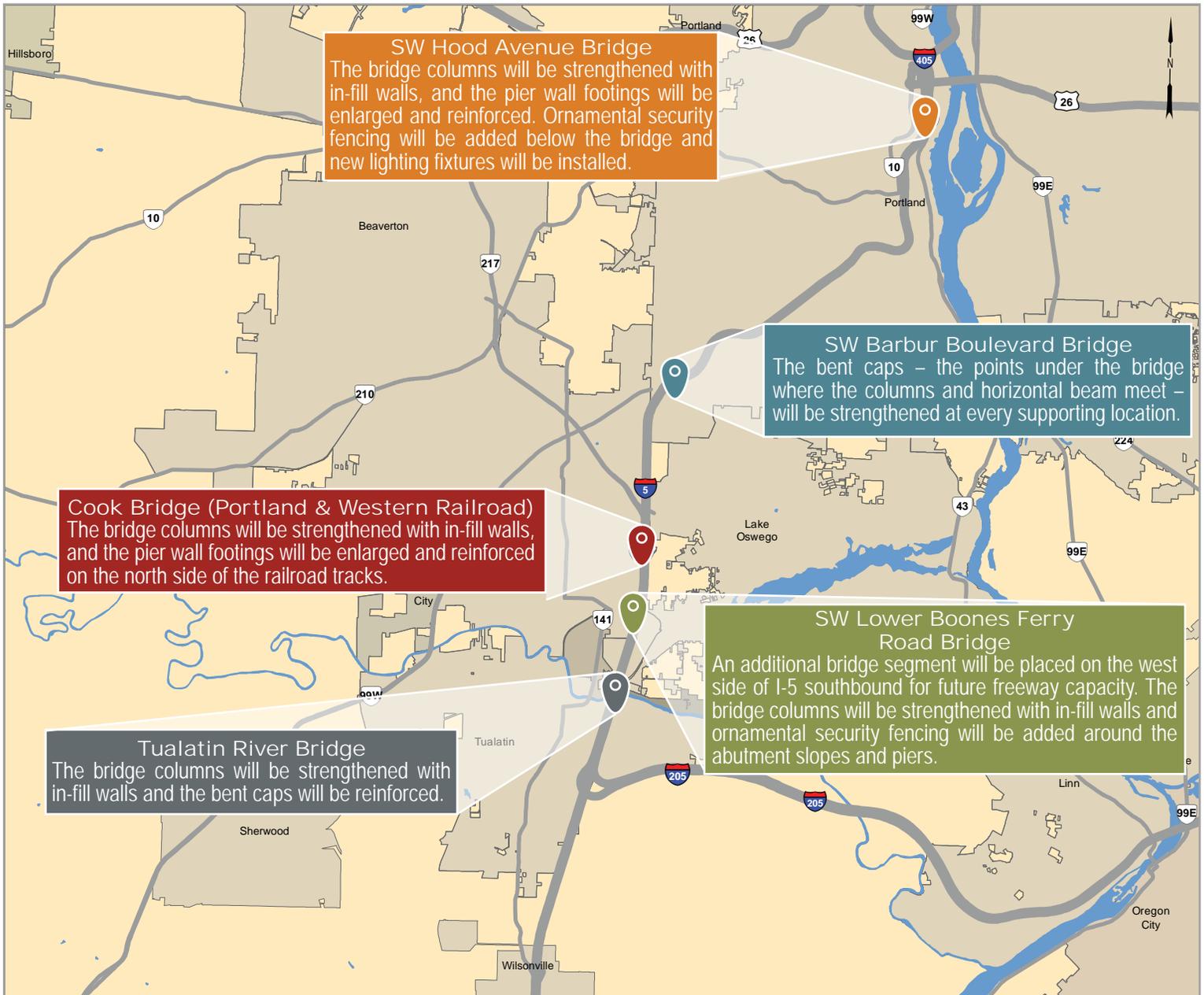


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## Why Seismic Retrofitting?

According to research conducted by the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, there is a 40 percent chance that an earthquake similar to the 2011 Tohoku Earthquake in Japan will take place along the Oregon coast sometime in the next 50 years. In response to these findings, ODOT conducted a seismic vulnerability study of the state highway bridges to assess the risks to Oregon's only north-south interstate highway. Only a small portion of I-5 would remain passable if the state suffered a substantial seismic event; most of the older bridges would either collapse or experience severe damage and become impassable without major and very costly repair work. The seismic retrofit project will strengthen bridges and give them the ability to withstand a major earthquake.



For more information or to sign-up for electronic updates, contact:

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