

U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security

United States  
Coast Guard



Commander  
Thirteenth Coast Guard District

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16591  
1 December 2021

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Transportation Project Manager  
Oregon Department of Transportation  
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Subj: Preliminary Navigation Clearance Determination (PNCD) for the Beltline Highway Bridge and second arterial bridge project.

Dear Ms. Cary:

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) proposes to replace the existing Beltline Highway Bridge (OR 569): as well as construct a second, new arterial bridge nearby (Project). The Project is located across the Willamette River at river mile 178.2, at the City of Eugene, Lane County, OR.

The existing Beltline Bridge is a five-span, fixed highway bridge that carries motor vehicles and pedestrians on the Beltline Highway across the Willamette River. Due to increasing congestion on the Beltline Highway and ongoing deterioration of the Beltline Bridge, ODOT is planning to:

1. Remove the existing, fixed-span Beltline Bridge in its entirety and replace it with a new, fixed-span highway and pedestrian bridge in its current location, and
2. Construct a new, fixed-span arterial highway and pedestrian bridge approximately 125 feet north (downstream) of the existing Beltline Bridge.

During construction, temporary work platforms are planned to extend from one side of the river for both bridges.

ODOT proposes the following minimum navigational clearances for the replacement and new bridge:

**MINIMUM NAVIGATIONAL CLEARANCES (at ordinary high water (OHW\*):**

	<u>Existing</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>During Construction (3 yrs)</u>
<u>Replacement of Existing Bridge</u>			
Horizontal	190.0 feet	190.0 feet	80 feet
Vertical (above OHW)*	18.0 feet	18.0 feet	18.0 feet
<u>New Arterial Bridge</u>			
Horizontal	n/a	190.0 feet	130 feet
Vertical (above OHW)*	n/a	18.0 feet	18.0 feet

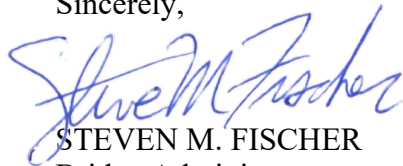
\*Ordinary High Water = elevation 382.5' (NAVD29)

At the request of the Coast Guard, ODOT prepared a navigation impact report (NIR) for the Project that provides information regarding use of the waterway and characteristics of the existing bridge and other bridges in the Project area.

After review of specifications for the new bridge as shown above, and the bridge drawings dated 6 October 2021, as well as the Navigation Impact Report for this project and other information, the U.S. Coast Guard published a Public Notice (PN 07-21) dated 29 September 2021. The Public Notice sought comments from maritime stakeholders and mariners on the ability of the proposed new bridges to meet the reasonable needs of navigation. The Coast Guard received one comment that is not related to navigation. Therefore, the Coast Guard issues this Preliminary Navigation Clearance Determination (PNCD) confirming that the horizontal and vertical navigation clearances documented above will meet the reasonable needs of navigation.

Please note that this preliminary determination does not constitute an approval of any bridge or final agency determination, which we can only make in accordance with regulation and after ODOT submits a complete bridge permit application. If you need any more information about our permit process, please call me at the number shown above or Mr. Carl Smith at 206-220-7277.

Sincerely,



STEVEN M. FISCHER  
Bridge Administrator  
Thirteenth Coast Guard District

Copy: Emily Cline, Federal Highway Administration  
Betsi Phoebus, Jacobs  
CG-MSU Portland