



## Remember

Constructed between 1913 and 1922, the Historic Columbia River Highway overcame all odds. At the turn of the century, after visiting Europe's great roads, two men had a vision to create an even better road here in the United States designed exclusively for this new contraption called the automobile. This road would lay lightly on the land and take its users to the most beautiful spots and breathtaking vistas of the Columbia River Gorge.

## Restore

In the early 1950s, many miles of the Historic Columbia River Highway were damaged or destroyed to pave the way for Interstate 84. The passage of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act in 1986 motivated the Oregon State Legislature to commit to restore the entire Historic Highway to its glory days of the 1920s.

## Reconnect

Currently, an effort is underway to restore all 73 miles of the Historic Columbia River Highway from Troutdale to The Dalles. Some segments will be accessible to cars and cyclists. Some segments, known as the Historic Highway State Trail, will be accessible only by people walking, rolling or biking.

## Revive

The fully reconnected Historic Columbia River Highway will be an Oregon gem and an incredible destination for locals and visitors alike. A fully connected highway is expected to generate millions more in tourism dollars for local communities. The completed trail will bring tourists further east while reducing congestion in the western Gorge.

### Historic Columbia River Highway Advisory Committee

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Governor Appointee

**Ernest Drapela**  
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State Historic Preservation  
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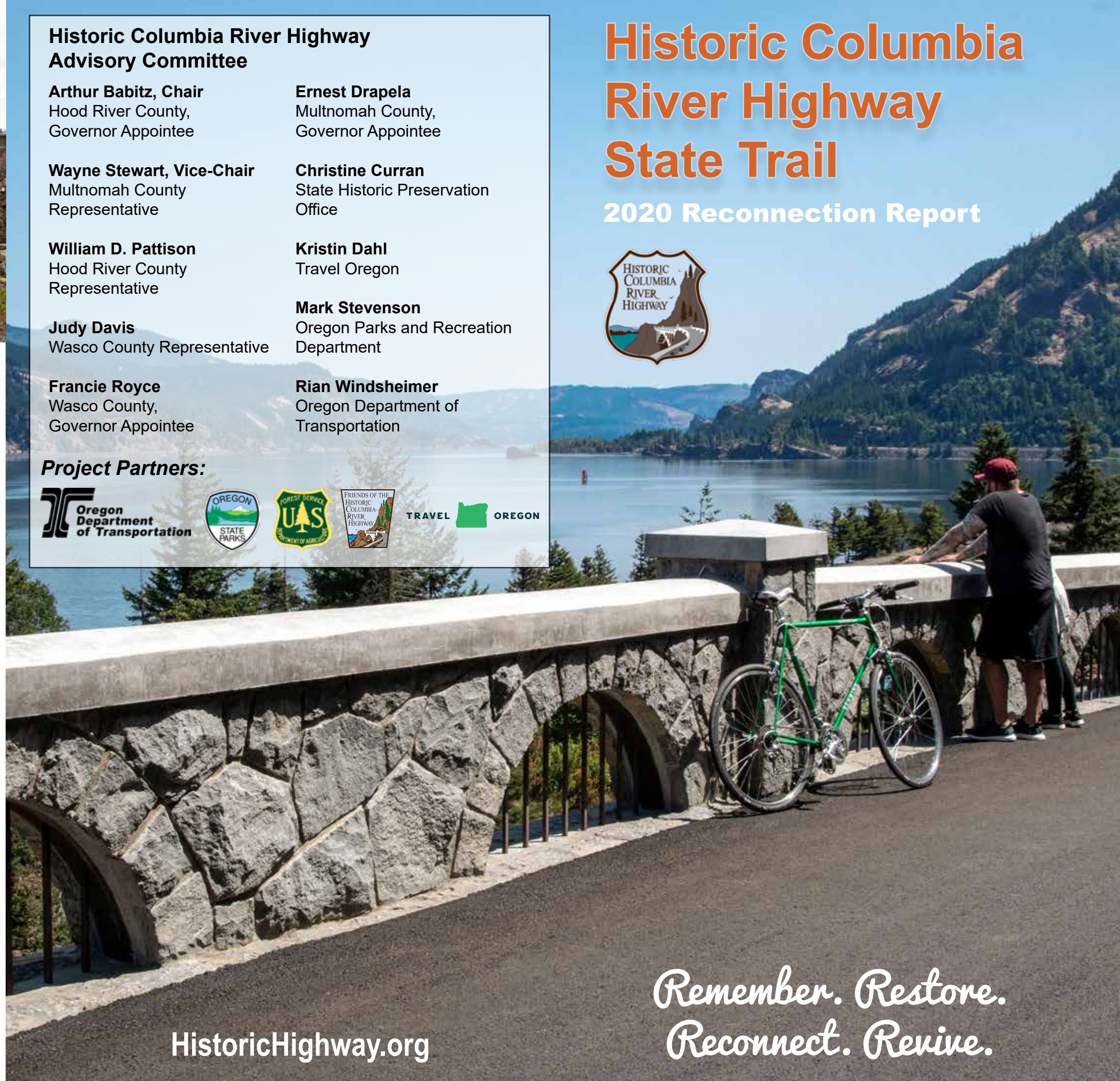
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Oregon Parks and Recreation  
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**Francie Royce**  
Wasco County,  
Governor Appointee

**Rian Windsheimer**  
Oregon Department of  
Transportation

### Project Partners:



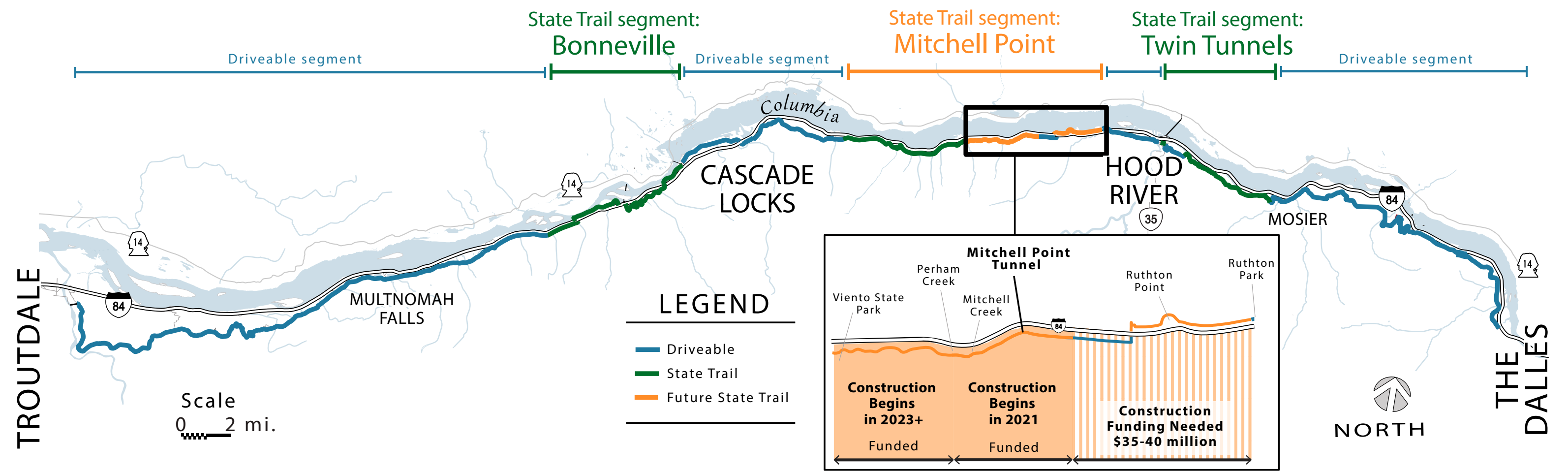
HistoricHighway.org

Remember. Restore.  
Reconnect. Revive.



# Awaiting Reconnection

In 1986, 22 miles of trail awaited reconnection. Now, just over 5 miles await.



## Viento State Park To Mitchell Point *(funded)*

Construction is anticipated to begin in 2023 or beyond, depending on funding and scheduling availability.

This 2.6-mile segment of trail will cross Perham and Mitchell Creeks with two elegant bridge structures.

Trail construction will carve back the same rock cliffs initially blasted for the construction of Interstate 84 to make room for the trail and improve safety for trail and interstate users. Construction will be challenging and installing rockfall protection may even require a helicopter or tall cranes.

## Mitchell Point Tunnel *(funded)*

Construction is planned to begin in spring 2021.

The iconic Mitchell Point Tunnel was a highlight of the original Historic Highway, but the construction of Interstate 84 destroyed the tunnel.

Now, plans are underway to construct a new tunnel in its place. The current plans show a 655-foot tunnel with five arched windows.

The tunnel and trail segment are planned for a total length of 1.5 miles, including a plaza on the west side of the tunnel and picnic tables, rest and pause areas, an overlook area and an expanded restroom at the trailhead.

## Ruthton Point To Hood River *(funding needed)*

Just west of the City of Hood River, a section of the Historic Highway with world-class views of the Columbia River Gorge awaits to be reconnected. This 1.6-mile segment of the Historic Highway State Trail includes Ruthton Point, a beautiful piece of land overlooking the Columbia River.

This segment replaces the narrow and short undercrossing under I-84 with a new one-way traffic undercrossing and a separated two-way path for trail users just west of the existing location. The existing undercrossing will be closed and filled in.

Construction is dependent on funding.

