



January 11, 2026

Commander  
U.S. Coast Guard District NW  
915 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave Room 3510  
Seattle, WA 98174

Dear Commander:

The American Trucking Associations would like to express our strong support for the Columbia River Interstate Bridge Replacement project's locally preferred alternative. We urge the U.S. Coast Guard and federal agencies to move forward with this essential project without new requirements that could result in significant delays that are likely to greatly increase project costs and upend two decades of project development, negotiation and community engagement.

The Interstate 5 crossing is critical to the movement of freight along the west coast. Truck traffic accounts for approximately 10% of the roughly 140,000 daily vehicle trips on the bridge. However, according to the American Transportation Research Institute, that segment is the thirty-first worst freight bottleneck in the country. Freight volumes moved by truck are projected to increase by 50% to 75% by 2045, while overall travel demand is projected to rise by 25%. The crossing already experiences gridlock for four to six hours every day. Waiting years longer to address the problem will seriously undermine the trucking industry's ability to meet customer needs, putting manufacturers, farmers and other businesses at risk and increasing consumer costs.

The trucking industry fully supports this project and is committed to its successful completion. We urge you to work with Washington and Oregon stakeholders to ensure that the project moves forward without delay.

Sincerely,

Henry Hanscom  
Chief Advocacy & Public Affairs Officer  
American Trucking Associations