

Fischer, Steven M CIV USCG D13 (USA)

From: Waterfront Oregon <wooregon@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 11, 2026 12:27 PM
To: D13-SMB-D13-BRIDGES
Cc: info@interstatebridge.org; Dan Comfort; Quinn Flanigan; Tim Gorman
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Interstate Bridge Replacement Project -- Support of a fixed-span bridge configuration

Waterfront Organizations of Oregon
10350 N. Vancouver Way, #5082
Portland OR 97217

Sent by email January 11, 2026

Coast Guard District Northwest
915 Second Avenue, Room 3510
Seattle, WA 98174-1067

Dear Sir,

On behalf of the **Waterfront Organizations of Oregon (WOOO)**, I am writing to express our support for the Interstate Bridge Replacement (IBR) Program's **fixed-span bridge configuration** over the Columbia River, providing 116 feet of vertical navigation clearance.

WOOO represents river-dependent businesses, marinas, floating-home moorages, and working waterfront communities throughout Oregon. We appreciate the IBR Program's careful evaluation of alternatives and believe the **fixed-span option** best balances navigation needs with safety, reliability, cost, and constructibility. We understand that formal agreements provide appropriate mitigation for the limited number of users requiring greater clearance for specific operations.

Timely replacement of the existing Interstate 5 bridge is critical to waterfront operations and to residents who depend on reliable river and roadway access. The current movable span contributes to congestion and delay that directly affects waterfront businesses and access to floating-home moorages, including routine operations, maintenance, and emergency response. A fixed-span bridge will reduce these impacts while supporting safe navigation and long-term multimodal improvements identified in the Program's environmental review.

Thank you for your leadership on this critical infrastructure investment and for considering the perspective of Oregon's working and residential waterfront.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Butler Holtz, President
On behalf of the Board of the
Waterfront Organizations of Oregon

wooregon@gmail.com

