



January 8, 2026

915 Second Avenue, Rm 3510  
Seattle, WA 98174-1067

Subject: Support for 116-Foot Fixed-Span Bridge for Interstate Bridge Replacement  
In Response to Public Notice (04-25)

Dear U.S. Coast Guard,

The City of Hillsboro strongly supports the proposed Interstate Bridge Replacement (IBR) project fixed-span bridge with 116-feet of vertical clearance.

Our City is home to significant concentrations of the semiconductor industry, biomedical industry, and other advanced technology manufacturers which has been deemed as "Oregon's Silicon Forest". These industries rely on the Interstate 5 corridor, including the Interstate Bridge, as well as maritime freight mobility along the Columbia River for their inter-state and international economic needs. A fixed-span bridge provides reliability and predictability for the distribution of these manufactured products to access key international airports worldwide. The duration of travel of these manufactured products, such as leading-edge computer chips and biomedical products, is critical to ensure those products reach their destination in time.

The City strongly opposes introducing a movable-span. This proposal would place a "stop light" on I-5, creating delays, uncertainty, and operational risks for freight and time-sensitive supply chains that rely on uninterrupted interstate travel. The movable-span proposal threatens our City and Oregon's marketability to retain our current manufacturers and attract new manufacturers to our area.

We urge the U.S. Coast Guard to support the fixed-span bridge with 116 feet of vertical clearance to strengthen Oregon's economic competitiveness by reducing delay on Interstate 5, which is a critical freight movement corridor in Oregon and Washington.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Pace".

Beach Pace  
Mayor, City of Hillsboro