

 www.i5RoseQuarter.org
 info@i5RoseQuarter.org
 503-470-3127

Pedestrian Advisory Committee

November 9, 2022

In July 2022, Portland City Council unanimously approved an intergovernmental agreement with the Oregon Department of Transportation to formally re-join the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project. Since then, staff from PBOT and other City bureaus have been coordinating with staff from ODOT's Urban Mobility Office and consultant team on project development, including incorporating updates that have been made to the project design as a result of the Independent Highway Cover Assessment and the community engagement that continues to shape the project.

The Federal Highway Administration will soon publish a Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA), in accordance with NEPA, that examines the environmental effects associated with the updated ["Hybrid 3" highway cover design](#) as further developed by ODOT. Extensive engagement with the City, Metro, Multnomah County, TriMet, Portland Streetcar Inc., major land owners, businesses, stakeholders, the Albina Vision Trust and the public will inform design refinement, which would happen as the Project is advanced to construction following a NEPA decision. Final design elements involving the local street network will require City review and approval as part of the local permitting processes.

Among the changes to the proposed project design since the original 2019 EA include building a single, longer and stronger highway cover capable of supporting up to 6-story buildings on top, moving the I-5 southbound off-ramp from Broadway further south to N. Wheeler Ave, and locating the bicycle and pedestrian facilities along the Broadway/Weidler Couplet rather than on a separate off-street bridge over I-5.

These changes were the result of an [independent cover assessment](#) led by ZGF Architects and with input from the community and the Historic Albina Advisory Board. In addition to the City, Hybrid 3 has been endorsed by TriMet, Multnomah County, Metro, Portland Public Schools and Albina Vision Trust as the community's preferred design solution. ZGF recently won [an award](#) for the firm's work developing the Hybrid 3 cover concept.

The SEA will include a public comment period and a virtual public hearing to afford the community an opportunity to weigh in on the impacts from the changes to the design in the original EA. We will notify you when that opportunity is available. More information can be found on the project's [website](#), including a [project brochure](#) and [FAQs](#).

We look forward to providing you with an update on the project. The briefing will include a PowerPoint presentation from ODOT staff and technical experts and an opportunity to hear and answer your questions.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,

Megan Channell
Project Director