

Magnolia BRIDGE PROJECT



Project Update

Winter/Spring 2005

The aging Magnolia Bridge, twice damaged by landslide and earthquake, is in need of replacement. The Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) is moving forward with the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process for the Magnolia Bridge Project. The City has been studying three alternatives, known as Alternatives A, C and D, for replacing the bridge.

Calculating Bridge Costs

In 2002 rough estimates were established as one factor to compare the original nine replacement options. Alternatives A, C, and D were selected for the EIS, before more detailed estimates were prepared. Earlier estimates of \$100-\$135 million are now over \$200 million. Costs have increased due to:

- Geological conditions
- Estimating to projected mid-year of construction
- Right-of-way acquisition
- Uncertainty of construction staging and detour costs



The City is committed to finding a safe and cost-effective alternative for replacing the Magnolia Bridge. Transportation is one of Mayor Nickels' four priorities and he is actively lobbying in Olympia and working with cities throughout the State to identify new revenue measures. In the meantime we will continue to look for opportunities to reduce the costs of the project.

Next Steps

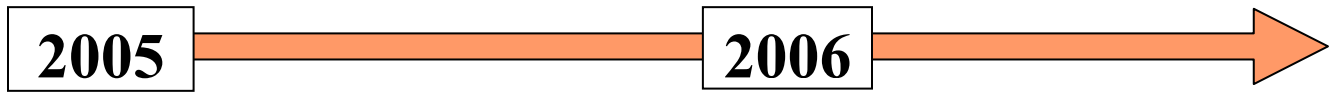
Over the next couple of months the City will consider options for lowering costs. We will review the project components and schedule to look for opportunities to reduce the cost of the existing three alternatives. Another possibility is rehabilitating the existing bridge to bring it up to current design standards. This would entail closing the bridge for approximately two years while building a new bridge deck and rebuilding the foundation and substructure. The City is re-examining this alternative to see if there would be a cost savings. If this proves to be a viable option it will be added to the EIS for study. As new information becomes available, we will update the public about which alternatives to include in the EIS and their associated costs.

Funding

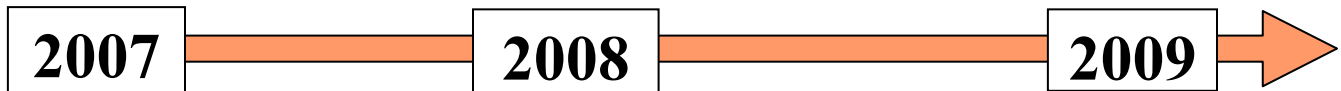
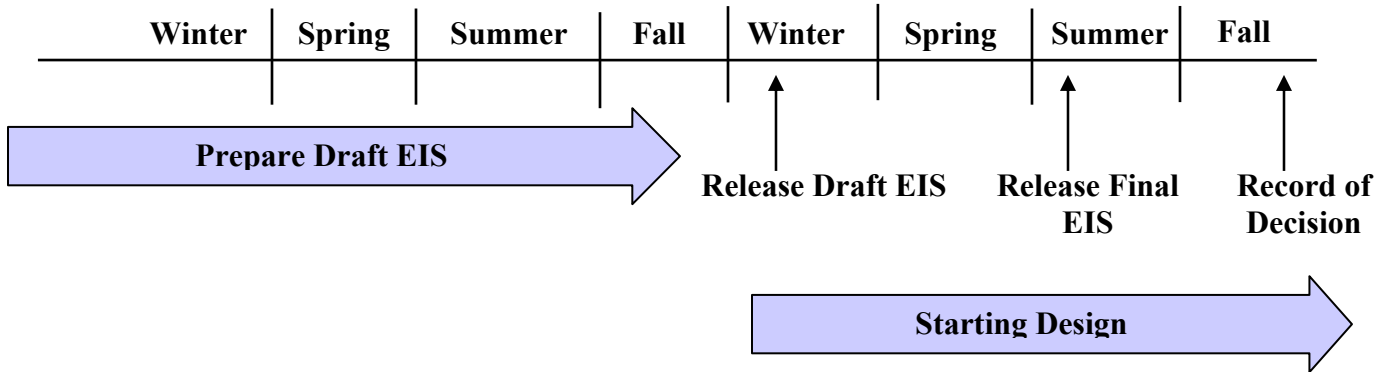
The City has a \$9 million Federal Grant and \$1 million local funds to complete the EIS and most of the design.

Project Schedule

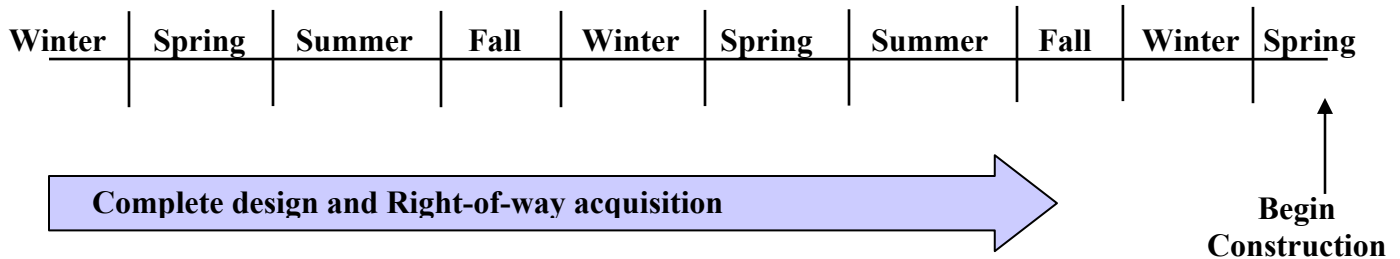
Adding another alternative, such as rehabilitating the bridge, to the EIS could cause some project delays. The following schedule is contingent upon securing funding in time to move ahead with those phases that are not yet funded.



Ongoing Community Involvement Activities



Ongoing Community Involvement Activities



More Information

- ◆ Contact Kirk T. Jones, Seattle Department of Transportation Project Manager, at (206) 615-0862 or at kirkt.jones@seattle.gov
- ◆ Visit the project website at www.seattle.gov/transportation/magbridgereplace.htm

