

February 2026

The 2025 Transportation Budget, ESSB 5161, requires the department to provide updates on the ongoing coordination with the state of Oregon regarding the new I-5 bridge over the Columbia River.

Section 305 (15) (b) reads:

The department shall provide regular updates on the status of ongoing coordination with the state of Oregon on any bistate agreements regarding sharing of revenues, use of revenues, and fiscal responsibilities of each state. Prior to finalizing any such agreement, the department shall provide a draft of the agreement to the transportation committees of the legislature for review and input. Additionally, the department shall continue to advise quarterly on the status of any bistate agreements to the joint transportation committee until any agreements are finalized.

WSDOT's Report:

Representatives from the Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) continued conversations about how to structure the flow of toll revenues for the Interstate Bridge Replacement Program (IBR).

Completed during this reporting period:

- Held regular meetings to discuss considerations regarding toll revenue sharing.
- Met with representatives from Washington Office of the State Treasurer and the Oregon State Treasury.
- Continued to discuss different approaches to revenue sharing and accounts set-up with relevant WSDOT staff to ensure a clear protocol for IBR toll revenues.
- Briefings on bond authorization legislation and revised account structure given bistate nature of IBR.
- Shared concurrence amongst WSDOT and ODOT financial staff regarding the initial draft IBR Toll Program toll revenue waterfall.
- Began legal review with the Washington State Office of the Attorney General and the Oregon Department of Justice on IBR toll agreements.
- Continued discussion with the Washington State Office of the Attorney General and the Oregon Department of Justice on statutory authority conflicts and opportunities regarding bistate tolling.

Next steps:

- Continued bistate and internal meetings.
- Continued discussions with ODOT regarding financing tools.
- Continued development of framework delineating:
 - Preferred methodology for flow of funds.
 - How each state prefers funds to be handled and transmitted.

- Engagement of additional necessary parties.
- Continued engagement with Office of the State Treasurer and the Oregon State Treasury regarding preferred account structure.
- Continued engagement with the Washington State Office of the Attorney General and the Oregon Department of Justice.

If you have any questions about this effort, please reach out to Kate Elliott, kate.elliott@interstatebridge.org.