

Program # 90017 - Bridge Maintenance & Operations

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Priority:	Thriving Economy	Lead Agency:	Community Services
Program Offer Type:	Existing Operating	Program Contact:	Stan Ghezzi
Related Programs:	90016, 90018, 90019, 90032		
Frameworks:			

Executive Summary

This program is entrusted with providing the most cost effective means of operating and preserving the County's long term investment in its 6 Willamette River Bridges and 24 other bridge structures. The Willamette River crossings consist of 4 movable bridges (Hawthorne, Morrison, Burnside and Broadway) and 2 fixed (Sellwood and Sauvie Island).

Program Description

This program is comprised of 2 main function groups.

The Maintenance group is comprised of the hands-on people performing the everyday maintenance and preventive maintenance on the bridges. It is responsible for ensuring operational reliability in bridge mechanical, electrical, structural and corrosion protective (paint) systems. Their priority is to respond to emergencies, perform specialized preventative tasks and make repairs as needed. Some of the tasks performed by this group would include; vehicle accident repair, bridge mechanical and electrical troubleshooting, minor roadway or sidewalk repairs, graffiti removal/cover and snow removal.

The Operations group is stationed in the operator houses on of each of the 4 moveable bridges. They raise and lower the draw spans to allow ships to pass. They also perform very minor preventive maintenance.

Both these groups work closely with Bridge Engineering on a wide variety of projects and issues.

Program Justification

Approximately 200,000 buses, trucks, passenger vehicles and thousands of bicycle and pedestrians cross the Willamette River on County owned bridges every day making it a very important component of the regional transportation system. Without the Willamette River Bridges, travel between east and west Portland would be nearly impossible. Equally important are the number of commercial and tourist ships traveling the Willamette River that require reliable operations of the County's draw spans. Bridge Maintenance and Operations supports the 'Thriving Economy' primary factor of an 'Established Regional Infrastructure' by providing maintenance and enhancement of the existing road and waterway transportation systems. The free movement of commodities and goods that these transportation systems provide makes a significant positive impact to the regional economy. The Maintenance group keeps these aging bridges in a reliable and operable condition so they can be used by road and river traffic while protecting a very valuable County asset. The Operations group fulfills the mandates listed below and allows commercial and tourist ship navigation to take place on the Willamette River.

In addition to being a vital link in the transportation system, the historic and symbolic nature of the Willamette River Bridges contributes to 'Vibrant Community'. This program also contributes to the 'Safe Community' priority of well maintained and lighted neighborhoods through maintenance activities, lighting projects and a network of surveillance cameras. These cameras are currently being installed on all County owned movable bridges with funds provided by federal grant.

Performance Measures

Bridges that allow free flow of both road and river traffic are a basic component of the infrastructure needed to support business development and the resulting job growth. The measure used to assess Bridge Maintenance and Operations' ability to maintain the County's movable bridges in a reliable condition is the percentage of successful openings compared to the number of requested openings (goal is at least 99.5%).

Summary of last year's program results and this year's expected results

Last Year monitoring and periodic inspections on the Sauvie Island Bridge discovered structural problems. Quick response allowed the continued use by commercial carriers and buses. This year inspection and monitoring on the Burnside Bridge identified the source of a serious mechanical problem that now can be repair in next year's capital project. This year Bridge Maintenance and Operations' efforts to keep traffic flowing safely and draw spans operational have resulted in a bridge reliability percentage of 99.84%.

Program Mandate: 1 Mandated Program & Funding Level

Multnomah County is required to maintain and operate its drawbridges in accordance with the River and Harbor Act of 1894, federal regulations (USC 117.750), U.S. Coast Guard regulations CFR Title 33, State Law (ORS 382.305 – 382.425), 1984 IGA with City of Portland as amended in 1989, and HB, 2041 Section 3a.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
	2005	2005	2006	2006
Program Expenses				
Personnel	\$0	\$1,888,006	\$0	\$1,943,746
Contracts	\$0	\$19,300	\$0	\$19,300
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$245,679	\$0	\$230,239
Internal Services	\$0	\$236,491	\$0	\$307,957
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$0	\$2,389,476	\$0	\$2,501,242
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$43,952	\$0
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$7,500
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$43,952	\$7,500
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$2,389,476	\$43,952	\$2,508,742
Program Total:	\$2,389,476		\$2,552,694	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	26.50
Program Revenues				
Indirect for dep't Admin	\$13,742	\$0	\$15,969	\$0
Other / Miscellaneous	\$0	\$2,299,576	\$0	\$2,501,242
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$16,013	\$7,500
Total Revenue:	\$13,742	\$2,299,576	\$31,982	\$2,508,742

Explanation of Revenues

Revenue for this program comes entirely from gas taxes and vehicle registrations that are collected by the state and distributed based on an intergovernmental agreement that specifies the amount to be allocated to Bridge Maintenance and Operations. These are dedicated funds and can only be used for Willamette River bridges.

Significant Program Changes

There are no significant program changes