

# Public Involvement

Public involvement is essential for effective decision making. The project's goal is to inform, educate and engage the diverse Oregon and Washington communities interested in or affected by the Columbia River Crossing project.

Public outreach activities have grown and evolved with the project development process. These are some of the ways the public has helped shape the project:

- The initial list of potential solutions to congestion problems in the project area included ideas from the public gathered at open houses and during a public comment period in late 2005. These ideas were later narrowed down in spring 2006 to those offering the best outcomes based on initial staff screening and public feedback.
- The list of alternatives to receive rigorous analysis in the Draft EIS process grew as a result of public input and the project's Task Force recommendations.
- Strategies to communicate with the broader public have been refined as a result of conversations with the project's Community and Environmental Justice Group, neighborhood associations, and project area residents.



## Outreach Tools

Since October 2005, project staff has engaged more than 12,000 community members in conversation about the project at more than 400 events.

These are some of the ways we are connecting with the community.

## Advisory Groups

- Bi-State Task Force
- Community and Environmental Justice Group
- Freight Working Group
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee
- Urban Design Advisory Group

All advisory groups are composed of members from Oregon and Washington.

## Discussions and Presentations

- Neighborhood associations
- Business associations
- Community organizations
- Faith groups
- Labor unions
- Schools and university classes

## Community Meetings and Events

- Open houses in October 2005, April 2006, September 2006, January 2007 and October 2007. Additional open houses and public hearings will be held in spring 2008.
- Meetings with potentially affected property owners, September 2007
- Summer Drop-In Events, August 2007
- Design Workshops, Summer 2006



### Public Opinion

- Focus groups in Fall 2006
- Opinion survey in October 2006

### Information Booths

- Street fairs
- Festivals and celebrations
- Farmers markets

### Project News and Information

- Comprehensive web site
- Monthly email news to more than 3,000 people
- Newsletters mailed to 10,000 households
- Fact sheets
- Postcards mailed to 40,000 households
- Traveling displays

(Select materials also are available in Spanish, Russian and Vietnamese.)

### Media

- Regular project updates to regional newspaper, radio and television outlets



### How can I get involved?

- Visit the website at [www.ColumbiaRiverCrossing.org](http://www.ColumbiaRiverCrossing.org) to learn about the project and sign up for updates
- Attend an advisory group meeting
- Invite CRC staff to an event or meeting to discuss the project

### How can I comment on the project?

Email: [feedback@columbiarivercrossing.org](mailto:feedback@columbiarivercrossing.org)

Mail: 700 Washington Street, Suite 300  
Vancouver, WA 98660

Phone: 360-737-2726 or 503-256-2726

Fax: 360-737-0294

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