

# Salem River Crossing Project

August 2008 Project Status Report



This status report provides a brief explanation of the major activities that were conducted for the month and what is scheduled for the following month, along with a review of the overall project schedule. Detailed information on the project activities can be found on the project website:

[www.salemrivercrossing.org](http://www.salemrivercrossing.org).

The project schedule is available online at [www.salemrivercrossing.org/schedule.aspx](http://www.salemrivercrossing.org/schedule.aspx). While some of the early milestones occurred later than originally scheduled, the project is on schedule to develop the draft environmental impact statement (EIS) through the end of 2008 and to publish the document during the early part of 2009.

## Activities in August 2008

### Project Management Team Meeting

A PMT conference call meeting briefing was held from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm on Friday, August 1. The primary topic discussed was the following:

*(\*Basically follow-up on topics discussed in FHWA Coordination Meeting held Monday, July 28<sup>th</sup>.)*

- ◆ Inclusion of “footprint” of tolling facilities in DEIS.
  - Include potential sites for toll booths or kiosks in DEIS or make policy decision that if tolling is part of the funding scenario that it will be 100% electronic, therefore, not needing potential toll booth or kiosk sites.
- ◆ Level of detail of funding options discussion in DEIS.
  - Discuss in detail as much as we can about the four identified funding options and their potential impacts. When preferred option or combination of options is identified then detail will be included in the next document. Example: if funding option(s) are identified and approved after the DEIS, then detailed discussion will occur in the FEIS and ROD.
- ◆ Policy direction for the TSM/TDM and next steps.
  - Currently ODOT, City of Salem, and the MPO are working together to come up with an acceptable policy direction. Information will be taken back through the TSM/TDM Subcommittee and out for general review likely in early September.
- ◆ Next Steps for Alternative 2.
  - Began discussion on follow-up questions from July’s joint Task Force and Oversight Team Meeting.
  - Need to look at if there is an Existing Bridge Improvements alternative that is feasible – on its own or as part of Alternative 4B.

### Project Management Team Meeting

A PMT meeting briefing was held from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm on Wednesday, August 13. The primary topic discussed was the following:

- ◆ TSM/TDM Measures

- Review/Discuss Modeling Assumptions memo.
- Update on communication with the Subcommittee.
- ◆ Alternative 2: New and Old
  - Review status on responding to questions from OT/TF Briefing.
- ◆ Schedule Discussion
  - Outline schedule issues.

### **Federal Highway Administration Coordination Meeting**

A FHWA coordination meeting briefing was held from 8:30 to 10:00 am on Monday, August 25. The primary topic discussed was the following:

- ◆ Update on Alternative 2A and 2B and what that means for 4B.
  - FHWA OK with where we are headed with Alternative 2 and 4B.
- ◆ Debrief/update on internal discussions on percentages used as non-auto mode share in modeling for the DEIS.
  - FHWA OK with moving forward with increasing the non-auto mode share in the model as long as it is a defensible number.
- ◆ Policy direction needed on funding discussions in NEPA Documents and Financial Plan.
  - Funding types need to be explained as well as possible so that people can choose an alternative by funding type impacts, just like they can for natural resources and environmental impacts – able to make comparisons between alternatives.
  - However, the NEPA document should not be used to determine the preferred funding source(s).

### **Project Management Team Meeting**

A PMT conference call meeting briefing was held from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm on Wednesday, August 27. The primary topic discussed was the following:

- ◆ TSM/TDM Measures.
  - Review/Discuss modeling assumptions memo (continued).
  - Update on communication with the Subcommittee.
- ◆ Oversight Team/Task Force Briefing.
  - Review agenda. Meeting set for September 3, 2008.