



Hayden Island Neighborhood Network

2209 N. Schofield Street

Portland, Oregon 97217

November 12, 2025

Meghan Hodges, IBR Community and Government Relations Manager

Nathan Potter, IBR Construction Resident Engineer

Interstate Bridge Replacement Program

500 Broadway, Suite 200

Vancouver, WA 98660

Dear Meghan and Nathan,

On behalf of the Hayden Island Neighborhood Network, local residents, local businesses, marina and floating-home communities, and the ecosystems of the Columbia River adjoining our island, we write to express our serious and growing concern regarding the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) published by your program, and the manner in which the IBR Project has engaged with our community.

Our Concerns

The proposed demolition of the historic I-5 bridge and construction of a new crossing—already billions of dollars over budget, not approved by the U.S. Coast Guard, offering no measurable improvement to traffic congestion, and still lacking a completed environmental review—will have massive, long-term consequences for our community of more than 3,000 residents.

The *Health Analysis* prepared by regional health departments confirms what our community has long feared: that this project will exceed federal noise thresholds, disturb toxic river sediments, displace homes and businesses, and create disproportionate impacts on vulnerable communities such as ours.

These include, but are not limited to:

Extensive years of pile-driving, drilling, heavy construction, vibration, and noise that will directly affect houses, condos, floating homes, docks, businesses, and the marina environment on Hayden Island.

Loss of property and displacement of both residents and island businesses—many of whom will be forced to relocate or shut down permanently due to demolition, detours, and loss of access.

Environmental risks including disturbed river sediments, water-quality threats, impacts to fish and wildlife habitat, and lasting ecological strain on the river corridor.

Structural risks to the island itself including potential soil liquefaction, sinkholes, cracking, and shoreline collapse from years of planned vibration and drilling.

Public health impacts from sustained air and noise pollution, increased stress, and cardiovascular and respiratory illness — issues the IBR has yet to address in any meaningful way.

Economic burdens and equity impacts on our residents who depend on the bridge for daily access to groceries, medical care, work, and essential services—particularly when tolling is factored in.

Insufficient transparency and accountability: our community's requests for side-view renderings, vibration and noise monitoring data, detailed construction schedules, and assurances of compensation for property damage have been either ignored or inadequately addressed.

Unanswered Questions

We respectfully demand written, detailed responses to the following:

1. What specific vibration and noise thresholds will apply during pile driving and drilling phases, and how will these be monitored in real time for the benefit of homes, condos, floating homes, residents, and businesses?
2. What protections and compensation processes are in place if homes, properties, docks, or floating residences sustain damage (cracking, settling, structural shift) due to ground improvement or construction?
3. Will IBR commit to a **written compensation and mitigation agreement** for every resident and business affected by displacement or relocation? How will fair market value, business losses, and moving expenses be determined and guaranteed?
4. How will IBR address **air quality, particulate emissions, and health risks** to residents who will be exposed for years to dust, diesel exhaust, and noise-related stress? If medical impacts occur, how will residents seek compensation for uncovered healthcare costs?
5. How will the program ensure water quality protection during in-water work that disturbs hazardous sediments and toxics like PCBs and PAHs?

6. What is the full construction timeline and phasing plan for Hayden Island, including major noise, vibration, and access disruptions?
7. How will tolling and detours impact residents who depend on bridge access for essential services, and what mitigation or toll relief will be offered?
8. Will an **independent third-party monitoring entity** be established with the authority to measure compliance, report findings publicly, and enforce accountability when residents experience harm?

Community Concessions and Commitments we Expect

To rebuild trust and protect the health, safety, and livelihoods of Hayden Island residents, we request the following:

- **A comprehensive written compensation and relocation agreement** for all displaced residents and businesses, including those indirectly affected by long-term construction impacts.
- **Real-time environmental and noise monitoring stations** on Hayden Island, with public data access and alerts.
- **Transparent construction maps and renderings** showing staging areas, vibration zones, and truck routes.
- **A clear, accessible compensation process** for property or health-related damages, with independent assessment and timely resolution.
- **Resident toll-relief and mitigation funds** recognize Hayden Island's lack of alternative access and the disproportionate burden we will bear.
- **An independent oversight committee** that includes Hayden Island representatives, environmental experts, and health professionals to ensure IBR accountability.
- **A dedicated community liaison** assigned solely to Hayden Island, to maintain ongoing communication, publish updates, and ensure that no concern goes unaddressed.

Our community will continue to engage proactively and respectfully, but we cannot ignore the real and documented risks this project poses to Hayden Island's residents, businesses, and environment. Without meaningful transparency, accountability, and enforceable protections, especially given the cost, scale, and duration of this project—our neighborhood, our marine life, and our homes will suffer the consequences.

We request a formal written response to these concerns and questions within 30 days.

Sincerely,
Hayden Island Neighborhood Network (HINooN)

Date: November 13, 2025

Pam Ferguson

Pam Ferguson, Chair
Hayden Island Neighborhood Network

Ellen Churchill

Ellen Churchill, Secretary
Hayden Island Neighborhood Network