



French Prairie Bridge

City of Wilsonville

The French Prairie Bridge over the Willamette River would fill a critical gap in local and regional multi-modal transportation infrastructure, connecting Wilsonville and greater Portland with the northern portion of the Willamette Valley, known as the French Prairie.



The French Prairie Bridge will be a new bicycle and pedestrian bridge constructed just west of the Interstate 5 Boone Bridge near the historic Boones Ferry location. The Oregon Department of Transportation is currently studying both the proposed bridge and an on-highway bike lane as a potential alternative-transportation facility for the I-5 Boone Bridge and Seismic Improvement Project.

The French Prairie Bridge will extend the southern end of the planned 22-mile south metro-area Ice Age Tonquin Trail and provide a comfortable, welcoming Willamette River crossing to connect people biking and walking to the greater Willamette Valley, including the nearby Aurora National Historic District and Champoeg State Heritage Area and the northern terminus of the Willamette Valley Scenic Bikeway that ends in Eugene. The bridge will accommodate emergency vehicles and will add a key seismically resilient link in the emergency response

Project Partners

- **Lead agency: City of Wilsonville**
- Oregon Department of Transportation
- Clackamas County

Total Estimated Project Cost

- \$49.3 million

Remaining Funding Gap

- \$49.3 million

network, supporting post-earthquake response and recovery to communities on either side of the river. It will connect communities south of the Willamette River in the Aurora, Donald, Hubbard and Woodburn areas with SMART and TriMet local and regional transit systems.

State & Federal Agency Coordination

Future coordination with Oregon Parks and Recreation Department and Clackamas and Marion counties would help to connect the south end of the bridge and trail with

In Summer 2024 Metro staff collaborated with local agency partners to compile a list of "shovel-ready" projects key to building out the regional trail system, with fact sheets that can be used to advocate for and secure state, federal, and private funding for trail design and construction.

Graphics are for illustration purposes only and may not reflect final designs.



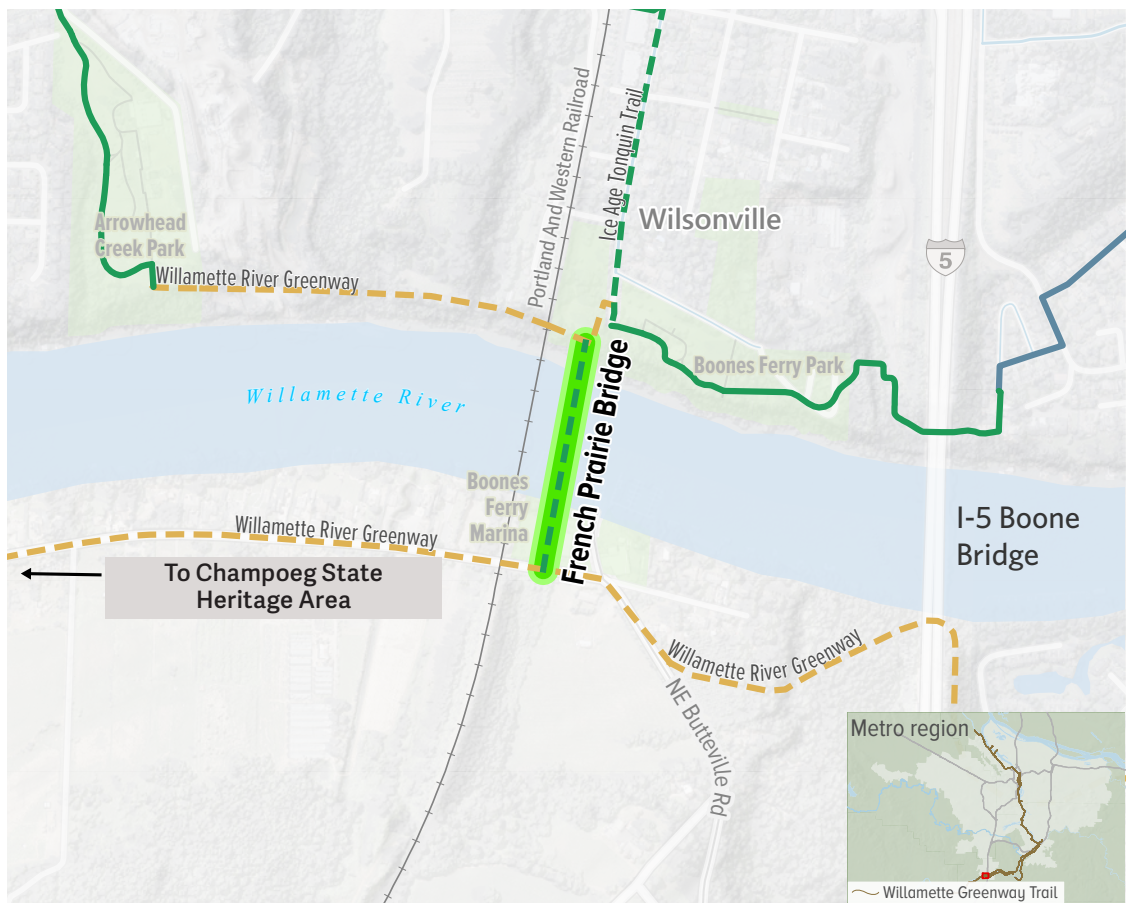
Project Vicinity

Multi-use Trail

- Existing ———
- Planned - - - -
- Conceptual - - - -

On-Street Connection

- Existing ———
- Planned - - - -



Champoeg State Heritage Area, 8 miles to the southwest. Designs and permitting must be coordinated with National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Oregon Dept. of Transportation (ODOT), Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon Dept. of State Lands, Oregon Office of Emergency Management, and Clackamas County Parks (owner of the marina at the south bridge landing). The environmental assessment must be completed in close cooperation with ODOT.

Major Opportunities & Constraints

Preliminary design and engineering were funded through Metro’s Regional Flexible Funds Allocation. With provision of remaining funding, the project could move to final design, construction drawings, and construction. ODOT’s study of the I-5 Boone Bridge and Seismic Improvement Project could result in formal recommendation to the Oregon Transportation Commission and Metro Council for inclusion of the French Prairie Bridge as the project’s alternative-transportation facility.

Estimated Annual Project Outcomes and Impact When Project is Complete¹

- Trail users: 177,000
- Tons of greenhouse gases reduced: 24
- VMT² reduction: 110,000
- Enhanced amenities benefits³: \$206,000
- Emission benefits: \$7,000
- Health benefits: \$202,000
- Total emissions, amenities, and health benefits: \$415,000

Project Contact

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¹ - These benefits were calculated using outputs from the Metro travel demand model and guidance from the forthcoming NCHRP 08-149 Report. Values are in 2022 dollars.

² - Vehicle Miles Traveled

³ - Enhanced amenity benefits include reductions in travel costs and quality improvements experienced by the user.

