



Port of  
**HOOD RIVER**

**INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL FACILITIES • AIRPORT • INTERSTATE BRIDGE • MARINA**

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Co-Chair Gorsek, Co-Chair McLain, Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 2184, providing funds for the Hood River-White Salmon Bridge replacement project.

As you know, the existing bridge—owned and operated by the Port of Hood River—is over a century old and functionally obsolete. It is narrow, weight-restricted, seismically vulnerable, and lacks safe facilities for bicyclists and pedestrians. Despite its limitations, it remains a critical crossing for thousands of vehicles per day, connecting Oregon and Washington communities for work, school, medical care, and commerce. A replacement bridge is not a luxury—it's a necessity.

In 2023, the newly formed bi-state Hood River-White Salmon Bridge Authority assumed responsibility for the replacement project. With broad local support and significant investments already secured, the project is moving through design toward construction. But to move forward on schedule, additional state matching funds are essential. The replacement of the bridge continues to be the Port's number one priority.

HB 2184 provides that match. Passage of this bill would demonstrate Oregon's commitment to public safety, economic vitality, and regional collaboration. It would help secure remaining federal funds and keep the project on track to begin construction in 2027.

This project will also generate hundreds of family-wage construction jobs, improve freight and commuter reliability across the Gorge, and create a new, seismically resilient crossing that meets modern standards for the next hundred years. The economic, social, and environmental benefits are clear and far-reaching.

We respectfully urge your support for HB 2184. Thank you for your leadership and your continued investment in the infrastructure that connects and strengthens our state.

Respectfully,

Kevin M. Greenwood  
Executive Director