
Appendix E. Agency Coordination Plan

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Environmental Assessment for Interstate 5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project

Agency Coordination Plan

**Federal Highway Administration
Oregon Department of Transportation**

Revised January 2024

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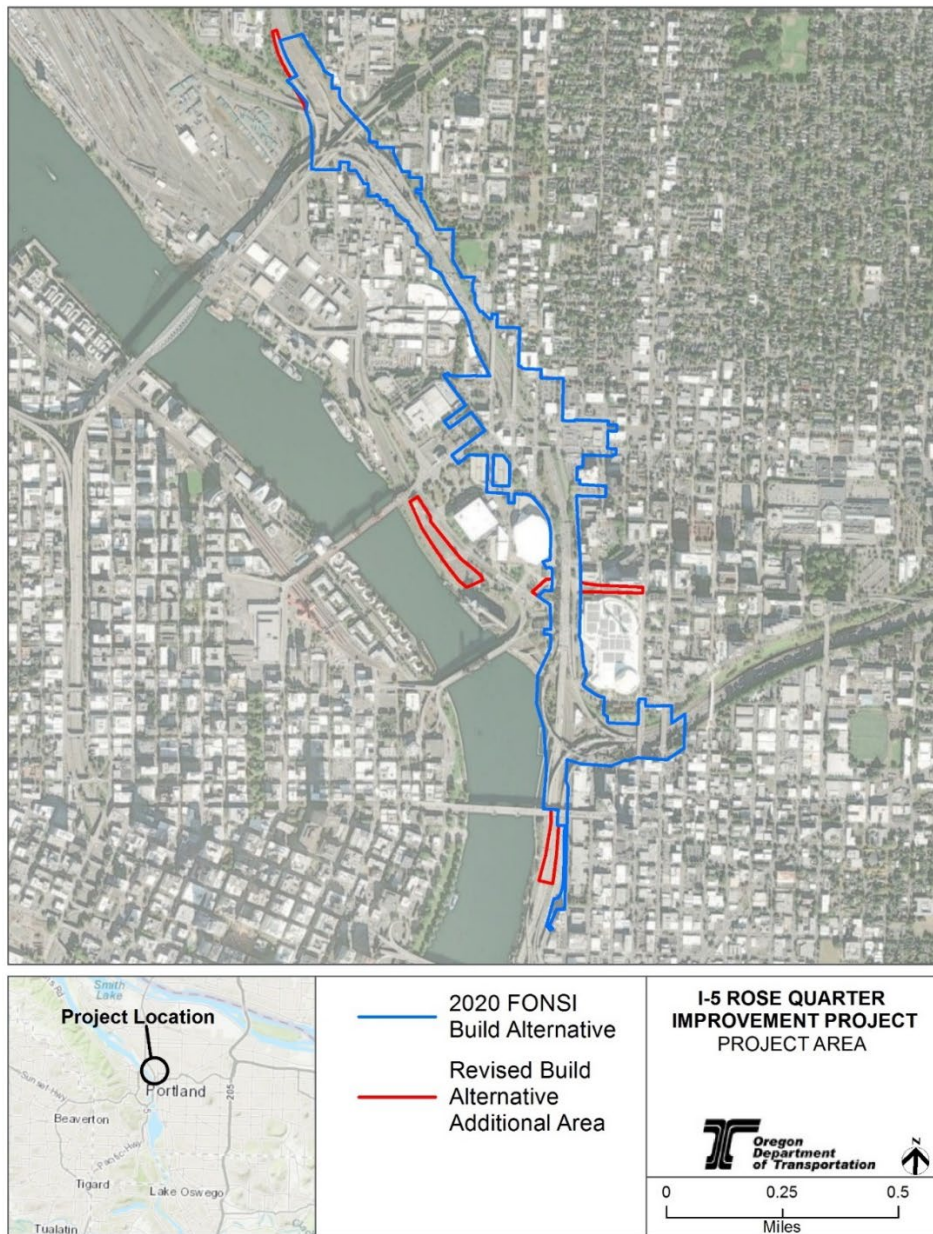
Appendix A Invitation and Response Letters

1. INTRODUCTION

This plan is being prepared to coordinate agency involvement during preparation of the Interstate 5 (I-5) Rose Quarter Improvement Project (Project) Environmental Assessment (EA) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The Project will address safety and operations on I-5 in the vicinity of the Broadway-Weidler interchange in the central portion of Portland in Multnomah County (between I-84 to the south and I-405 to the north). Figure 1 shows the Project area.

Figure 1. Project Area



With high traffic volumes (an average of 140,000 vehicles per day), closely spaced interchanges (six on- and off-ramps within one mile), and no shoulders, this segment of I-5 has the highest crash rate in the state of Oregon. This segment of I-5 also is listed in the top five percent of the statewide Safety Priority Index System (SPIS). Congestion and delays to motorists and freight commerce occur at this location, and the effects of congestion spread from morning and afternoon peak hours to off-peak hours throughout the day, with over 12 hours of congestion each day.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) are the lead agencies for the EA. FHWA serves as the lead Federal agency, as Federal funding is anticipated. ODOT is the joint lead agency, as the direct recipient of the Project’s Federal funds. Lead agencies are required by 23 USC 139 (g) to prepare a plan for coordinating public and agency participation in and comment on the environmental review process and a schedule for completion of the environmental review process for the Project.

The coordination plan may be updated periodically to reflect changes to the Project schedule and other items that may require updating over the course of the Project.

2. LEAD, COOPERATING AND PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

2.1 List of Agencies, Roles, and Responsibilities

Lead Agencies

Agency Name	Role	Responsibilities
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)	Joint Lead Agency	Manage 23 USC 139 process; prepare EA; provide opportunity for public, participating and cooperating agency involvement.
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)	Joint Lead Agency	Manage 23 USC 139 process; prepare EA; provide opportunity for public, participating and cooperating agency involvement.

Invited Cooperating Agencies

The agencies listed have been invited by letter to participate in the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project in the roles identified below. Those agencies that accepted the invitation to become cooperating agencies are identified and documentation of their acceptance is included in Appendix A of this coordination plan.

Agency or Tribe	Proposed Role	Responsibilities	Accepted Invitation as Cooperating Agency
National Marine Fisheries Service	Cooperating Agency	Review EA for sufficiency and provide comments. Identify any issues of concern regarding the Project’s potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts and provide timely input on unresolved issues. Provide comments on the purpose and need; range of alternatives; and methodologies for the following technical topics based on the special expertise or jurisdiction of the agency: Water Quality, Endangered Species Act jurisdiction on listed species.	Yes, while NMFS did not respond to the invitation, per SAFETEA-LU, NMFS is designated as a cooperating agency as the invitation was not declined in writing.
United States Army Corps of Engineers	Cooperating Agency	Review EA for sufficiency and provide comments. Identify any issues of concern regarding the Project’s potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts and provide timely input on unresolved issues. Provide comments on the purpose and need; range of alternatives; and methodologies for the following technical topics based on the special expertise or jurisdiction of the agency: Water Quality and Clean Water Act Section 10 and Section 404 compliance.	Yes, while the United State Army Corps of Engineers did not respond to the invitation, per SAFETEA-LU, the agency is designated as a cooperating agency as the invitation was not declined in writing. Note that the agency did accept the invitation as a participating agency in February 6, 2017 letter. An updated invitation to become a cooperating agency was sent on August 22, 2017.

United States Coast Guard	Cooperating Agency	Review EA for sufficiency and provide comments. Identify any issues of concern regarding the Project’s potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts and provide timely input on unresolved issues. Provide comments on the purpose and need; range of alternatives; and methodologies for the following technical topics based on the special expertise or jurisdiction of the agency: Compliance with navigable waters and structural clearance requirements.	Yes, in July 26, 2017 letter.
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Invited Participating Agencies

The agencies listed have been invited by letter to participate in the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project in the roles identified below. Those agencies that accepted the invitation to become participating agencies are identified and documentation of their acceptance is included in Appendix A of this coordination plan.

Agency or Tribe	Proposed Role	Responsibilities	Accepted Invitation as Participating Agency
Oregon State Office of Historic Preservation	Participating Agency	Review EA for sufficiency and provide comments. Identify any issues of concern regarding the Project’s potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts and provide timely input on unresolved issues. Provide comments on the purpose and need; range of alternatives; and methodologies for the following technical topics based on the special expertise or jurisdiction of the agency: Historic Resources, Archeological Resources, and Historic Preservation Act Section 106 compliance.	Yes, in January 10, 2017 letter.
TriMet	Participating Agency	Review EA for sufficiency and provide comments. Identify any issues of concern regarding the Project’s potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts and provide timely input on unresolved issues. Provide comments on the purpose and need; range of alternatives; and methodologies for the following technical topics based on the special expertise or jurisdiction of the agency: Transportation.	Yes, per phone call request to FHWA in March 2017.
Metro	Participating Agency	Review EA for sufficiency and provide comments. Identify any issues of concern regarding the Project’s potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts and provide timely input on unresolved issues. Provide comments on the purpose and need; range of alternatives; and methodologies for the following technical topics based on the special expertise or jurisdiction of the agency: Land Use and Transportation.	Yes, in January 10, 2017 letter.

Agency or Tribe	Proposed Role	Responsibilities	Accepted Invitation as Participating Agency
<p>City of Portland [Represented by Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT)]</p>	<p>Participating Agency (January 30, 2017 – July 5, 2020 and July 13, 2022 - present)</p>	<p>Review EA for sufficiency and provide comments. Identify any issues of concern regarding the Project’s potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts and provide timely input on unresolved issues. Provide comments on the purpose and need; range of alternatives; and methodologies for the following technical topics based on the special expertise or jurisdiction of the agency: Air Quality, Archaeological Resources, Climate Change, Environmental Justice, Hazardous Materials, Historic Resources, Land Use, Noise, Right-of-Way, Section 4(f), Socioeconomics, Transportation, Utilities, and Water Quality.</p>	<p>Yes, in January 30, 2017 letter.</p> <p>Per the January 30, 2017 PBOT letter, PBOT will be the point of contact for the City and will represent the City and all of its bureaus and offices.</p> <p>Following publication of the EA, declined participating agency role, effective July 6, 2020 with a City Council-issued stop work directive (per City letter to FHWA, dated October 15, 2020).</p> <p>Effective July 13, 2022, City Council adopted Ordinance No. 190924, which rescinded the July 6, 2020 Suspend Work Directive, and reinstated the City as a participating agency.</p>

Agency or Tribe	Proposed Role	Responsibilities	Accepted Invitation as Participating Agency
Port of Portland	Participating Agency	Review EA for sufficiency and provide comments. Identify any issues of concern regarding the Project’s potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts and provide timely input on unresolved issues. Provide comments on the purpose and need; range of alternatives; and methodologies for the following technical topics based on the special expertise or jurisdiction of the agency: Transportation, compatibility with Port operations and freight operations.	Yes, in January 23, 2017 letter.
Portland Streetcar	Participating Agency	Review EA for sufficiency and provide comments. Identify any issues of concern regarding the Project’s potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts and provide timely input on unresolved issues. Provide comments on the purpose and need; range of alternatives; and methodologies for the following technical topics based on the special expertise or jurisdiction of the agency: Transportation.	Yes, in January 27, 2017 letter.
United States Fish and Wildlife Service	Participating Agency	Not a participating agency. Declined in January 23, 2017 email to FHWA.	
Portland Parks and Recreation	Participating Agency	Not a participating agency. Declined in January 18, 2017 letter. While Portland Parks and Recreation is not a distinct participating agency, PBOT will represent the City of Portland and all of its bureaus and offices, including Parks and Recreation.	
Multnomah County	Participating Agency	Not a participating agency. Did not respond to invitation.	
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality	Participating Agency	Not a participating agency. Did not respond to invitation.	
Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde	Participating Agency	Not a participating agency. Did not respond to invitation.	
Confederated Tribes of Siletz	Participating Agency	Not a participating agency. Did not respond to invitation.	
Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs	Participating Agency	Not a participating agency. Did not respond to invitation.	

Agency or Tribe	Proposed Role	Responsibilities	Accepted Invitation as Participating Agency
Cowlitz Indian Tribe	Participating Agency	Not a participating agency. Did not respond to invitation.	

2.2 Agency and Tribal Contact Information

Agency	Point of Contact	Email	Phone
Federal Highway Administration	Thomas Parker, Environmental Program Manager	thomas.w.parker@dot.gov	(503) 316-2549
Oregon Department of Transportation	Megan Channell, Project Director	Megan.Channell@odot.oregon.gov	(971) 233-6510
National Marine Fisheries Service	Marc Liverman, Willamette Branch Chief	Marc.Liverman@noaa.gov	(503) 231-2336
United States Army Corps of Engineers	Natalie Edwards	Natalie.M.Edwards@usace.army.mil	(503)-808-4426
United States Coast Guard	LTCDR Laura Springer	laura.m.springer@uscg.mil	(503) 240-2594
Oregon State Office of Historic Preservation	Jessica Gabriel, Historian	Jessica.Gabriel@oregon.gov	(503) 986-0677
TriMet	Joe Recker, Environmental Permits Coordinator	ReckerJ@trimet.org	(503) 962-2893
Metro	Eliot Rose, Transportation Planner	eliot.rose@oregonmetro.gov	(503) 797-1825
City of Portland (Participating agency January 30, 2017 – July 5, 2020 and July 13, 2022 to present)	Caitlin Reff, PBOT Project Manager	Caitlin.Reff@portlandoregon.gov	(503) 823-8758
Port of Portland	Phil Healy, Senior Transportation Planner	Philip.healy@portofportland.com	(503) 415-6512
Portland Streetcar	Dan Bower, Executive Director	dan.bower@portlandstreetcar.org	(503) 222-4200

3. COORDINATION POINTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

3.1 Coordination Points, Information Requirements and Responsibilities

Coordination Point	Information Provided by Lead Agencies	Agency Responsible	Information Submitted by Cooperating and Participating Agencies	Agency Responsible
Purpose and Need	Provide cooperating/participating agencies and public with draft purpose and need statement via letters and/or web site; solicit comments; hold public meeting.	FHWA ODOT	Comments on purpose and need	Cooperating and participating agencies
Range of Alternatives	Provide cooperating/participating agencies and public with information regarding alternatives being considered via letters and/or web site; solicit comments; hold public meeting.	FHWA ODOT	Comments on range of alternatives	Cooperating and participating agencies
Collaboration on impact assessment methodologies	Provide cooperating/participating agencies with draft impact assessment methodologies for review and comment.	FHWA ODOT	Comments on impact assessment methodologies	Cooperating and participating agencies
Socioeconomic and natural resource impacts	Identification or resources located within Project area.	All cooperating/participating agencies	Identification of any issues that could substantially delay permit approval	FHWA ODOT
Environmental Assessment (EA)	Provide EA to cooperating/participating agencies and the public.	FHWA ODOT	Comments on EA, submitted during 30-day public comment period	Cooperating and participating agencies
Issue Decision Document	Decision Document, pending EA impact analysis	FHWA	None	FHWA
Other Permits or Approvals	Issuance of permits or approvals	Permitting agencies	Permits and approvals	Permitting agencies

4. SCHEDULE

Coordination Point	Anticipated Schedule	Agency Responsible	Response Timeframe	Agency Responsible
Purpose and Need	Summer 2017	FHWA ODOT	Provide comments within 30 days	Cooperating and participating agencies
Range of Alternatives	Summer 2017	FHWA ODOT	Provide comments within 30 days	Cooperating and participating agencies
Collaboration on impact assessment methodologies	Summer 2017	FHWA ODOT	Provide comments within 30 days	Cooperating and participating agencies
Environmental Assessment (EA)	Winter 2019	FHWA ODOT	Provide comments within 30 days	Cooperating and participating agencies
Revised EA and Decision Document	Fall 2020 (Note: the November 2020 Decision Document was rescinded by FHWA in January 2022.)	FHWA	None	FHWA
Supplemental EA	Winter 2022	FHWA ODOT	Invited to provide comments during 60-day public comment period (November 15, 2022 – January 4, 2023)	Cooperating and participating agencies
Revised Supplemental EA and Decision Document	Spring 2024	FHWA	None	FHWA
Permits and Other Approvals	To be determined	Permitting Agencies	Varies by permit	Permitting Agencies

5. REVISION HISTORY

The Revision History table will be updated to record changes in the Coordination Plan as they occur.

Per 23 USC 139(g), if a schedule was included in the original coordination plan and if the item that requires modification is related to the schedule, concurrence on the schedule change is required only if the schedule is being shortened and then only from the cooperating agencies, not all participating agencies.

Version	Date	Document Name	Revision Description and Why Necessary
Original	November 2017	Environmental Assessment for I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project: Agency Coordination Plan	Not Applicable
Revised	October 2020	Environmental Assessment for I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project: Agency Coordination Plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Updated Section 2.1, List of Agencies, Roles and Responsibilities to reflect City of Portland’s request to no longer serve as a participating agency, effective July 6, 2020. 2) Updated Section 2.2, Agency and Tribal Contact Information to reflect updated City of Portland contact (from Teresa Boyle to Caitlin Reff) and note duration of the City as a participating agency from January 30, 2017 to July 5, 2020. 3) Updated Section 4, Schedule to reflect revised anticipated schedule (EA to Winter 2019 and Decision Document to Fall 2020) 4) Updated Appendix A to include October 15, 2020 letter from City of Portland to FHWA, declining role as participating agency.
Revised	January 2024	Environmental Assessment for I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project: Agency Coordination Plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Updated Section 2.1, List of Agencies, Roles and Responsibilities to reflect City of Portland’s reinstatement as a participating agency, effective July 13, 2022, with a link to City Council’s adopted Ordinance. 2) Updated Section 2.2, Agency and Tribal Contact Information to note the updated duration of the City as a participating agency. 3) Updated Section 2.2, Agency and Tribal Contact Information to reflect updated FHWA contact information (from Emily Cline to Thomas Parker). 4) Updated Section 2.2, Agency and Tribal Contact Information to reflect updated ODOT contact information (updated email and phone number). 5) Updated Section 2.2, Agency and Tribal Contact Information to reflect updated Metro contact information (from Anthony Buzcek to Eliot Rose). 6) Updated Section 4, Schedule to reflect revised anticipated schedule (added Supplemental EA schedule).

Appendix A

Invitation and Response Letters



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Oregon Division
December 20, 2016

530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-399-5749
503-399-5838 (fax)
www.fhwa.dot.gov/ordiv

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-OR.
File:
KN19071

Mr. Barry Thom, Regional Administrator
National Marine Fisheries Service
1201 Northeast Lloyd Blvd.
Portland, OR 97232

Re: Invitation to Become a Participating Agency on the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project Environmental Assessment

Dear Mr. Thom:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations, and will act as lead agencies under NEPA, for the Interstate 5 (I-5) Broadway/Weidler Interchange Project. The proposed project limits extend approximately from Interstate 84 to the south to Interstate 405 north, in the City of Portland. A project location map is provided as an enclosure to this letter. The project purpose is to improve the safety and operation of I-5 in the vicinity of the NE Broadway and NE Weidler Interchange. Other objectives include enhancing local pedestrian and bicycle routes and improving freight movement.

This letter invites your agency to become a participating agency with FHWA and ODOT in the development of the NEPA Environmental Assessment for this project. You are receiving this letter because consultation with your agency may be needed during the environmental review of this project. Designation as a participating agency does not imply that your agency either supports the proposed project, or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of the Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), participating agencies are responsible to identify, as early as practicable any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental impacts to resources of the built and natural environment, that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval needed for the project. As a participating agency, your role in the development of this project may include, but not be limited to, the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

- Participate in coordination meetings, as appropriate.
- Timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, with comments on project design and anticipated impacts and mitigation measures.

Note that for this project, comments are not being solicited on the project purpose and need, or the development and screening of alternatives for the project. This is because the project purpose and need, and alternatives were reviewed extensively during the planning process which resulted in the current project. Agencies that agree to be participating agencies for this project will receive additional information on the purpose and need and alternatives evaluation process associated with the *I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Facility Plan*, as part of the North/Northeast Quadrant and I-5 Broadway Weidler Plans process.

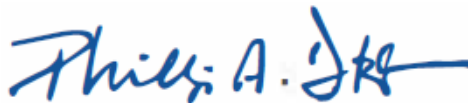
Please respond to FHWA in writing with an acceptance or denial of this invitation by January 31, 2017. If your agency chooses to decline, the written response should state the reason for declining the invitation. Pursuant to SAFETEA-LU 6002, any Federal Agency that chooses to decline the invitation to become a participating agency must specifically state that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to this project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the project; or
- Does not intend to submit comments on the project.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the project, or agency roles and responsibilities during preparation of the Environmental Assessment, please contact Emily Cline at Emily.cline@dot.gov or 503-316-2547.

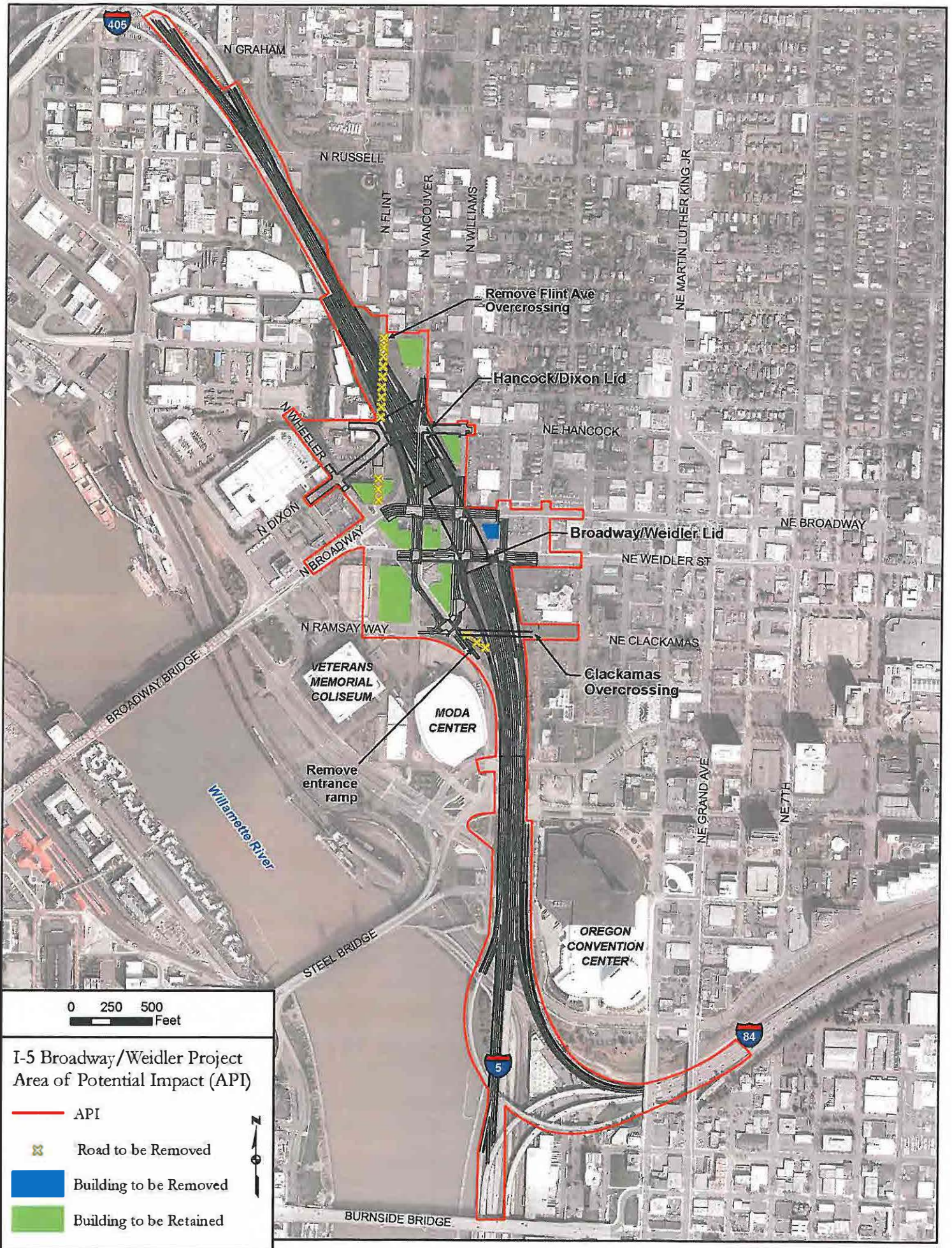
Thank you for your cooperation and potential interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Phillip A. Ditzler
Division Administrator, FHWA

Enclosure: Project Area Map



**I-5 Broadway/Weidler Project
Area of Potential Impact (API)**

- API
- ✕ Road to be Removed
- Building to be Removed
- Building to be Retained

0 250 500
Feet



BURNSIDE BRIDGE



Oregon

Department of Transportation

Region 1 Headquarters
123 NW Flanders Street
Portland, Oregon 97209
(503) 731.8200
FAX (503) 731.8531

August 22, 2017 [sent via e-mail]

Marc Liverman
National Marine Fisheries Service
1201 Northeast Lloyd Blvd.
Portland, OR 97232

Re: Invitation to Become a Cooperating Agency for the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Environmental Assessment and Opportunity to Comment on Draft Agency Coordination Plan

Dear Mr. Liverman:

Thank you for accepting the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) invitation to become a participating agency with FHWA and the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) in the development of the NEPA Environmental Assessment for the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project (previously named the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Project).

The purpose of this letter is to clarify the invitation to participate in the project as a cooperating agency and to provide your agency with an opportunity to comment on the Draft Agency Coordination Plan.

Invitation to Become a Cooperating Agency: This letter amends the December 20, 2016 participating agency invitation letter from FHWA to now invite your agency to become a cooperating agency. Your agency is a Federal agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise related to the project's environmental review and permitting process and therefore should be invited as a cooperating agency. Cooperating agencies are, by definition, participating agencies, with a higher degree of authority, responsibility, and involvement in the environmental review process. Designation as a cooperating agency does not imply that your agency either supports the proposed project, or has any special expertise with respect to the evaluation of the project.

Your response to FHWA in writing with an acceptance or denial of this cooperating agency invitation is needed by September 22, 2017. Pursuant to 23 USC 139, any Federal agency that chooses to decline the invitation to become a cooperating agency must specifically state that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to this project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the project.

Opportunity to Comment on the Draft Agency Coordination Plan: Your agency also has an opportunity to comment on the Draft Agency Coordination Plan, which summarizes the cooperating and participating agency responsibilities, coordination points, and project schedule. The Draft Agency Coordination Plan is enclosed for your review and comment. Please note that your agency's role identified in the Draft Agency Coordination Plan is pending response to this revised invitation to become a cooperating agency.

This letter and enclosed Draft Agency Coordination Plan also are intended to clarify that, should your agency accept the invitation to become a cooperating agency and pursuant to 23 USC 139, your agency has an opportunity to comment on the project's purpose and need and the range of alternatives considered, as well as the methodologies to be used and the level of detail required in the analysis. Your agency will be provided with the project's purpose and need, range of alternatives description, and methodologies for review and comment under separate cover.

FHWA and ODOT would appreciate your response to this invitation to become a cooperating agency and your comments on the Draft Agency Coordination Plan by September 22, 2017. Please send your comments to Megan Channell, ODOT at megan.channell@odot.state.or.us and Emily Cline, FHWA at emily.cline@dot.gov. If we do not receive a response within 30 days, we will assume your concurrence with the Draft Agency Coordination Plan. An electronic copy of the final Agency Coordination Plan will be sent to your attention by mid-October.

Thank you for your cooperation in this project.

Sincerely,



Kelly Brooks
Policy and Development Manager
Oregon Department of Transportation

Enclosure: December 20, 2016 Invitation Letter from FHWA
Draft Agency Coordination Plan

Cc: Emily Cline, Federal Highway Administration



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Oregon Division
December 20, 2016

530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-399-5749
503-399-5838 (fax)
www.fhwa.dot.gov/ordiv

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-OR.
File:
KN19071

Col. Jose L. Aguilar
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Portland District
P.O. Box 2946
Portland, OR 97208-2946

Re: Invitation to Become a Participating Agency on the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project Environmental Assessment

Dear Colonel Aguilar:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations, and will act as lead agencies under NEPA, for the Interstate 5 (I-5) Broadway/Weidler Interchange Project. The proposed project limits extend approximately from Interstate 84 to the south to Interstate 405 north, in the City of Portland. A project location map is provided as an enclosure to this letter. The project purpose is to improve the safety and operation of I-5 in the vicinity of the NE Broadway and NE Weidler Interchange. Other objectives include enhancing local pedestrian and bicycle routes and improving freight movement.

This letter invites your agency to become a participating agency with FHWA and ODOT in the development of the NEPA Environmental Assessment for this project. You are receiving this letter because consultation with your agency may be needed during the environmental review of this project. Designation as a participating agency does not imply that your agency either supports the proposed project, or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of the Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), participating agencies are responsible to identify, as early as practicable any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental impacts to resources of the built and natural environment, that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval needed for the project. As a participating agency, your role in the development of this project may include, but not be limited to, the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

- Participate in coordination meetings, as appropriate.

- Timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, with comments on project design and anticipated impacts and mitigation measures.

Note that for this project, comments are not being solicited on the project purpose and need, or the development and screening of alternatives for the project. This is because the project purpose and need, and alternatives were reviewed extensively during the planning process which resulted in the current project. Agencies that agree to be participating agencies for this project will receive additional information on the purpose and need and alternatives evaluation process associated with the *I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Facility Plan*, as part of the North/Northeast Quadrant and I-5 Broadway Weidler Plans process.

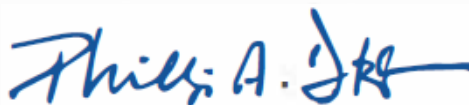
Please respond to FHWA in writing with an acceptance or denial of this invitation by January 31, 2017. If your agency chooses to decline, the written response should state the reason for declining the invitation. Pursuant to SAFETEA-LU 6002, any Federal Agency that chooses to decline the invitation to become a participating agency must specifically state that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to this project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the project; or
- Does not intend to submit comments on the project.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the project, or agency roles and responsibilities during preparation of the Environmental Assessment, please contact Emily Cline at 503-316-2547.

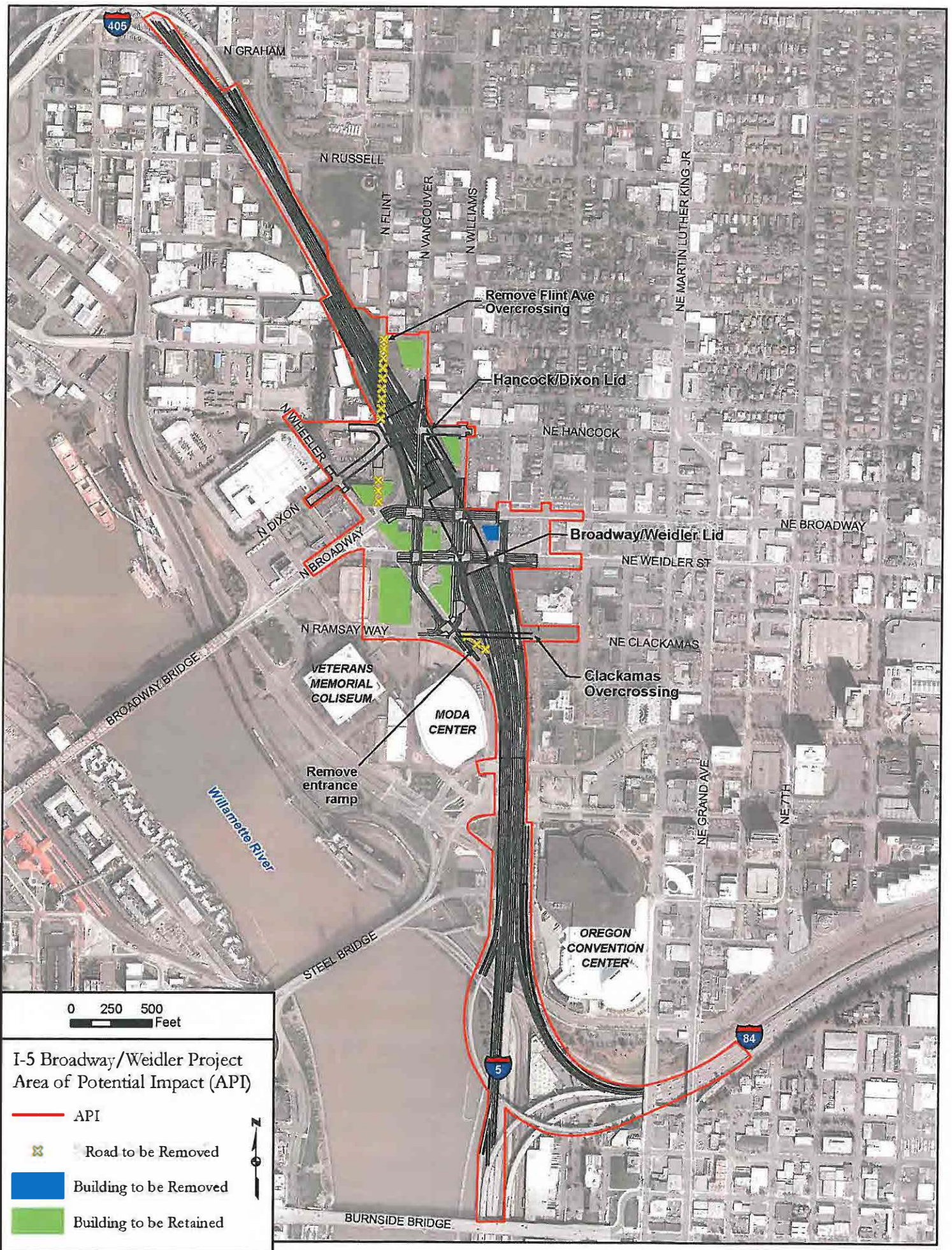
Thank you for your cooperation and potential interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Phillip A. Ditzler
Division Administrator, FHWA

Enclosure: Project Area Map



**I-5 Broadway/Weidler Project
Area of Potential Impact (API)**

- API
- ✕ Road to be Removed
- Building to be Removed
- Building to be Retained

0 250 500
Feet





DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, PORTLAND DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 2946
PORTLAND, OREGON 97208-2946

January 23, 2017

Regulatory Branch
Corps No.: NWP-2017-26

Mr. Phillip A. Ditzler
Federal Highway Administration
Division Administrator
530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Mr. Ditzler:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has received the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) request that we become a participating agency for the Interstate 5 (I-5) Broadway/Weidler Interchange Project (Enclosure). The project is located in the city of Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon. The project purpose is to improve safety and operation of I-5 in the vicinity of the NE Broadway and NE Weidler Interchange.

The Corps administers and enforces Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act through our regulatory program. Under Section 10 a permit is required to construct structures or perform work in or affecting navigable waters of the U.S. Under Section 404 a permit is required for the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S.

The Corps requires additional information to determine whether work would occur within our regulatory jurisdiction under Section 10 and/or Section 404, which would require a Department of the Army permit. If a Department of the Army permit is required, the Corps will accept your invitation to be a participating agency in the development of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) environmental assessment. It is our understanding that FHWA will serve as the lead federal agency for compliance with NEPA, the Endangered Species Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, and other applicable federal laws. As a participating agency, the Corps will participate in meetings, as appropriate, and provide guidance on issues related to our regulatory program.

To help us determine whether a permit is needed, please send detailed descriptions and/or drawings that explain or show the work as it relates to our jurisdictional boundaries for Section 10 and Section 404. The limits of navigable waters (i.e. the Willamette River) under Section 10 extend landward to the mean high water mark in tidal waters and to the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) in non-tidal waters. The limits under

Section 404 extend landward to the high tide line in tidal waters and to the OHWM in non-tidal waters, and includes special aquatic sites like wetlands.

If you have any questions or require further information regarding our jurisdictional boundaries and regulatory authority, please contact Ms. Carrie Bond, Regulatory Project Manager, at the letterhead address, by phone at (503) 808-4387, or by e-mail at: Carrie.L.Bond@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

Shawn H. Zinszer
Chief, Regulatory Branch

Enclosure

cc:

Emily Cline, FHWA (emily.cline@dot.gov)
Oregon Department of Transportation (Brad Livingston)



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Oregon Division

February 6, 2017

530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-399-5749
Oregon.FHWA@dot.gov

In Reply Refer To:
HPL.6-OR

Carrie Bond
Regulatory Project Manager
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Portland Division
PO Box 2946
Portland, OR 97208-2946

Dear Ms. Bond:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) received the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) request for additional information regarding the Interstate 5 (I-5) Broadway/Weidler Interchange project to determine whether work would occur within the Corps' regulatory jurisdiction under Section 10 and /or Section 404, which would require a Department of the Army permit.

The project is in the early development stage, and the level of design at this point is only conceptual, however, FHWA and Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) are certain that a temporary in-water work structure to access the I-5 ramps north of the Burnside Bridge will be needed. Therefore, we expect a Section 10 Corps permit will be necessary. FHWA and ODOT have interpreted your January 23, 2017 letter and our expected need of a Section 10 permit, as Corps acceptance of our invitation to be a participating agency for this project.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please contact me directly at 503-316-2547 or Emily.cline@dot.gov.

I look forward to working with you on this project.

Sincerely,

Emily Cline
Environmental Specialist, FHWA

Cc: ODOT Tova Peltz
Jeff Buckland



Oregon

Department of Transportation
Region 1 Headquarters
123 NW Flanders Street
Portland, Oregon 97209
(503) 731.8200
FAX (503) 731.8531

August 22, 2017 [sent via e-mail]

Carrie Bond
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Portland District
P.O. Box 2946
Portland, OR 97208-2946

Re: Invitation to Become a Cooperating Agency for the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Environmental Assessment and Opportunity to Comment on Draft Agency Coordination Plan

Dear Ms. Bond:

Thank you for accepting the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) invitation to become a participating agency with FHWA and the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) in the development of the NEPA Environmental Assessment for the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project (previously named the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Project).

The purpose of this letter is to clarify the invitation to participate in the project as a cooperating agency and to provide your agency with an opportunity to comment on the Draft Agency Coordination Plan.

Invitation to Become a Cooperating Agency: This letter amends the December 20, 2016 participating agency invitation letter from FHWA to now invite your agency to become a cooperating agency. Your agency is a Federal agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise related to the project's environmental review and permitting process and therefore should be invited as a cooperating agency. Cooperating agencies are, by definition, participating agencies, with a higher degree of authority, responsibility, and involvement in the environmental review process. Designation as a cooperating agency does not imply that your agency either supports the proposed project, or has any special expertise with respect to the evaluation of the project.

Your response to FHWA in writing with an acceptance or denial of this cooperating agency invitation is needed by September 22, 2017. Pursuant to 23 USC 139, any Federal agency that chooses to decline the invitation to become a cooperating agency must specifically state that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to this project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the project.

Opportunity to Comment on the Draft Agency Coordination Plan: Your agency also has an opportunity to comment on the Draft Agency Coordination Plan, which summarizes the cooperating and participating agency responsibilities, coordination points, and project schedule. The Draft Agency Coordination Plan is enclosed for your review and comment. Please note that your agency's role identified in the Draft Agency Coordination Plan is pending response to this revised invitation to become a cooperating agency.

This letter and enclosed Draft Agency Coordination Plan also are intended to clarify that, should your agency accept the invitation to become a cooperating agency and pursuant to 23 USC 139, your agency has an opportunity to comment on the project's purpose and need and the range of alternatives considered, as well as the methodologies to be used and the level of detail required in the analysis. Your agency will be provided with the project's purpose and need, range of alternatives description, and methodologies for review and comment under separate cover.

FHWA and ODOT would appreciate your response to this invitation to become a cooperating agency and your comments on the Draft Agency Coordination Plan by September 22, 2017. Please send your comments to Megan Channell, ODOT at megan.channell@odot.state.or.us and Emily Cline, FHWA at emily.cline@dot.gov . If we do not receive a response within 30 days, we will assume your concurrence with the Draft Agency Coordination Plan. An electronic copy of the final Agency Coordination Plan will be sent to your attention by mid-October.

Thank you for your cooperation in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kelly Brooks", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kelly Brooks
Policy and Development Manager
Oregon Department of Transportation

Enclosure: December 20, 2016 Invitation Letter from FHWA
Draft Agency Coordination Plan

Cc: Emily Cline, Federal Highway Administration



**U.S. Department
of Transportation
Federal Highway
Administration**

Oregon Division

July 5, 2017

530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-399-5749
Oregon.FHWA@dot.gov

In Reply Refer To:
HAD-OR

Lieutenant Commander Laura Springer
United States Coast Guard
Waterways Management Division, Marine Safety Unit Portland
6767 N. Basin Avenue
Portland, OR 97217-3992

Re: Invitation to Become a Cooperating Agency on the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project-
Environmental Assessment

Dear Lieutenant Commander Springer:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). FHWA is the lead Federal agency for the Interstate 5 (I-5) Rose Quarter Improvement Project (the Project). The proposed project limits on I-5 extend approximately from Interstate 84 (I-84) north to Interstate 405, in the City of Portland. A project location map is provided as an enclosure to this letter. The project purpose is to improve the safety and operation of I-5 in the vicinity of the NE Broadway and NE Weidler Interchange. Other objectives include enhancing local pedestrian and bicycle routes and improving freight movement.

The proposed project would involve work on the southbound ramp from I-5 to I-84, which provides a single travel lane curving above the Willamette River for approximately 700 feet. This southbound ramp crosses the Willamette River near the eastern shore and the existing ramp structure includes piers in the Willamette River. In-water work associated with the ramp is not anticipated, although further investigation may require seismic improvements that may involve one or two piers near the shore. Additionally, a portion of I-5, south of the I-84 eastbound ramp will require widening for approximately 200 linear feet. This work would occur very near the shore, or possibly within a portion of the Willamette River, depending on the final design.

This letter invites your agency to become a cooperating agency in the development of the NEPA Environmental Assessment for this project. Your agency is receiving this letter because consultation with your agency will be needed during the environmental review of this project and permitting from your agency may be necessary.

Pursuant to 23 USC 139, Efficient Environmental Reviews for Project Decision-making, as a cooperating agency, your role in the development of this project may include, but not be limited to, the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

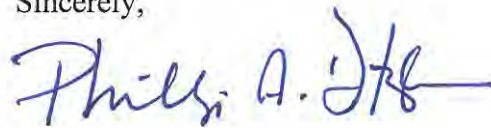
- Participate in coordination meetings, as appropriate;
- Provide timely review and comments, responses, studies, or methodologies and the level of detail required in the analysis, on those areas within the special expertise or jurisdiction of the agency; and
- Use the process to address any environmental issues of concern to the agency.

Please respond to FHWA in writing accepting or declining this invitation by August 7, 2017. If your agency chooses to decline, your agency will be treated as a participating agency unless your written response states that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to this project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the project.

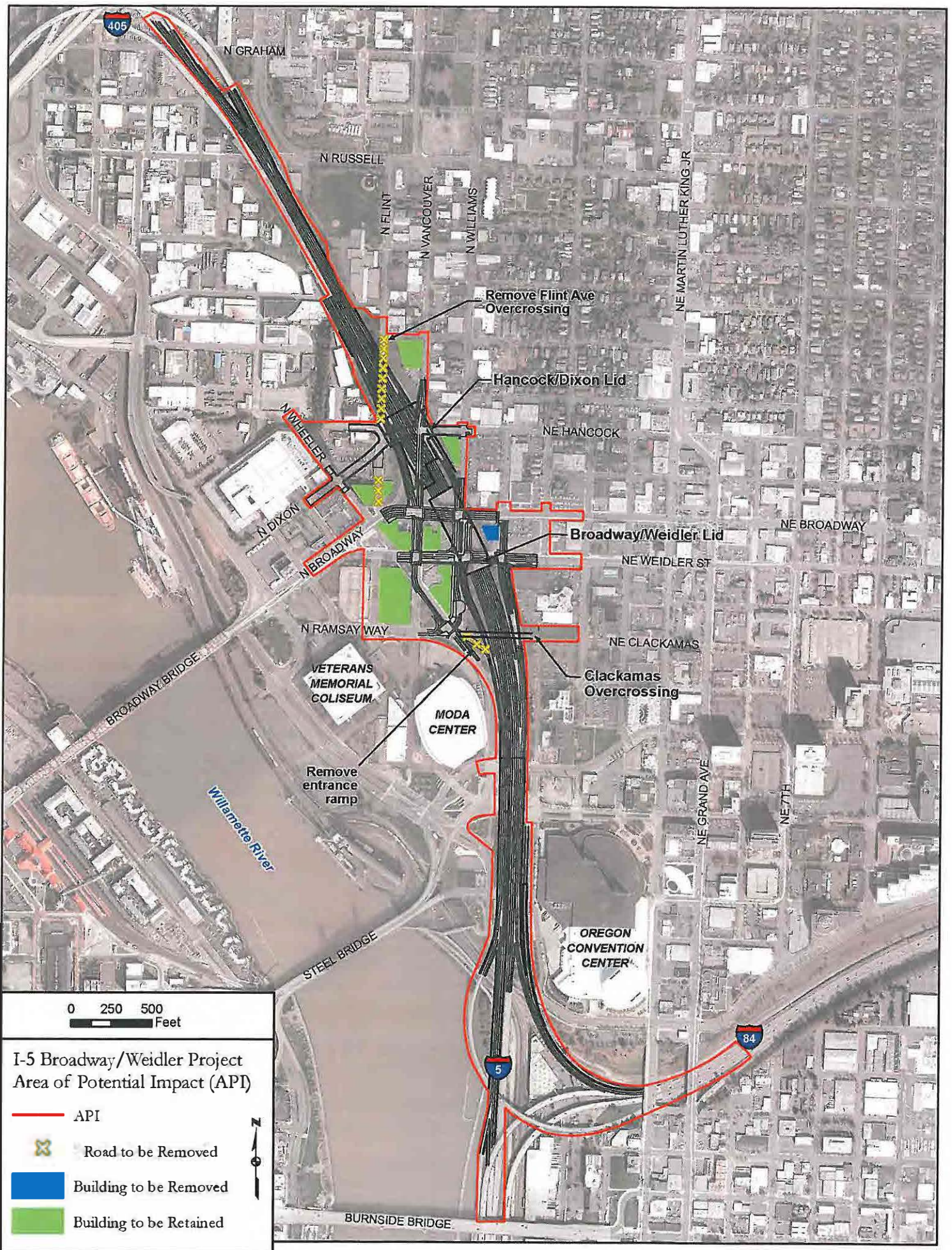
Response should be sent to Emily Cline. If you have any questions about agency roles and responsibilities during preparation of the Environmental Assessment or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact Emily Cline, Environmental Specialist, at Emily.cline@dot.gov or 503-316-2547.

Sincerely,




A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Phillip A. Ditzler". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line extending from the end.

Phillip A. Ditzler
Division Administrator

Enclosure: Project Area Map



**I-5 Broadway/Weidler Project
Area of Potential Impact (API)**

- API
-  Road to be Removed
-  Building to be Removed
-  Building to be Retained

0 250 500
Feet



U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Commander
Thirteenth Coast Guard District

915 Second Avenue
Seattle, WA, 98174-1067
Staff Symbol (dpw)
Phone: (206) 220-7274

16475

MEMORANDUM

JUL 26 2017

From:  J. E. Moriarty
CGD THIRTEEN (dpw)

To: Ms. Emily Cline
Environmental Specialist
Federal Highway Administration, Oregon Division

Subj: USCG PARTICIPATION AS COOPERATING AGENCY

1. We are in receipt of the letter dated 26 July 2017 and accept the invitation to participate as a cooperating agency in accordance with 40 CFR 1501.6 on the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project.
2. I will be Coast Guard District 13's point of contact for this project and look forward to meeting with you and your team to shape a Memorandum of Understanding to specifically delineate our role in this process with regard to expertise, resources and availability. My phone number is above and my email is John.F.Moriarty@uscg.mil.
3. John Greene is an alternate point of contact. His phone number is (206) 220-7277 and email is John.J.Greene@uscg.mil.

#



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Oregon Division

December 20, 2016

530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-399-5749
503-399-5838 (fax)
www.fhwa.dot.gov/ordiv

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-OR.
File:
KN19071

Mr. Roger Roper, Assistant Director
State Historic Preservation Office
725 Summer Street NE, Suite C
Salem, OR 97301-1266

Re: Invitation to Become a Participating Agency on the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project Environmental Assessment

Dear Mr. Roper:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations, and will act as lead agencies under NEPA, for the Interstate 5 (I-5) Broadway/Weidler Interchange Project. The proposed project limits extend approximately from Interstate 84 to the south to Interstate 405 north, in the City of Portland. A project location map is provided as an enclosure to this letter. The project purpose is to improve the safety and operation of I-5 in the vicinity of the NE Broadway and NE Weidler Interchange. Other objectives include enhancing local pedestrian and bicycle routes and improving freight movement.

This letter invites your agency to become a participating agency with FHWA and ODOT in the development of the NEPA Environmental Assessment for this project. You are receiving this letter because consultation with your agency may be needed during the environmental review of this project. Designation as a participating agency does not imply that your agency either supports the proposed project, or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of the Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), participating agencies are responsible to identify, as early as practicable any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental impacts to resources of the built and natural environment, that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval needed for the project. As a participating agency, your role in the development of this project may include, but not be limited to, the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

- Participate in coordination meetings, as appropriate.
- Timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, with comments on project design and anticipated impacts and mitigation measures.

Note that for this project, comments are not being solicited on the project purpose and need, or the development and screening of alternatives for the project. This is because the project purpose and need, and alternatives were reviewed extensively during the planning process which resulted in the current project. Agencies that agree to be participating agencies for this project will receive additional information on the purpose and need and alternatives evaluation process associated with the *I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Facility Plan*, as part of the North/Northeast Quadrant and I-5 Broadway Weidler Plans process.

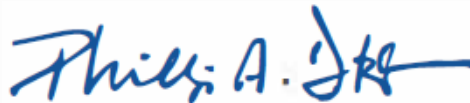
Please respond to FHWA in writing with an acceptance or denial of this invitation by January 31, 2017. If your agency chooses to decline, the written response should state the reason for declining the invitation. Pursuant to SAFETEA-LU 6002, any Federal Agency that chooses to decline the invitation to become a participating agency must specifically state that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to this project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the project; or
- Does not intend to submit comments on the project.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the project, or agency roles and responsibilities during preparation of the Environmental Assessment, please contact Emily Cline at Emily.cline@dot.gov or 503-316-2547.

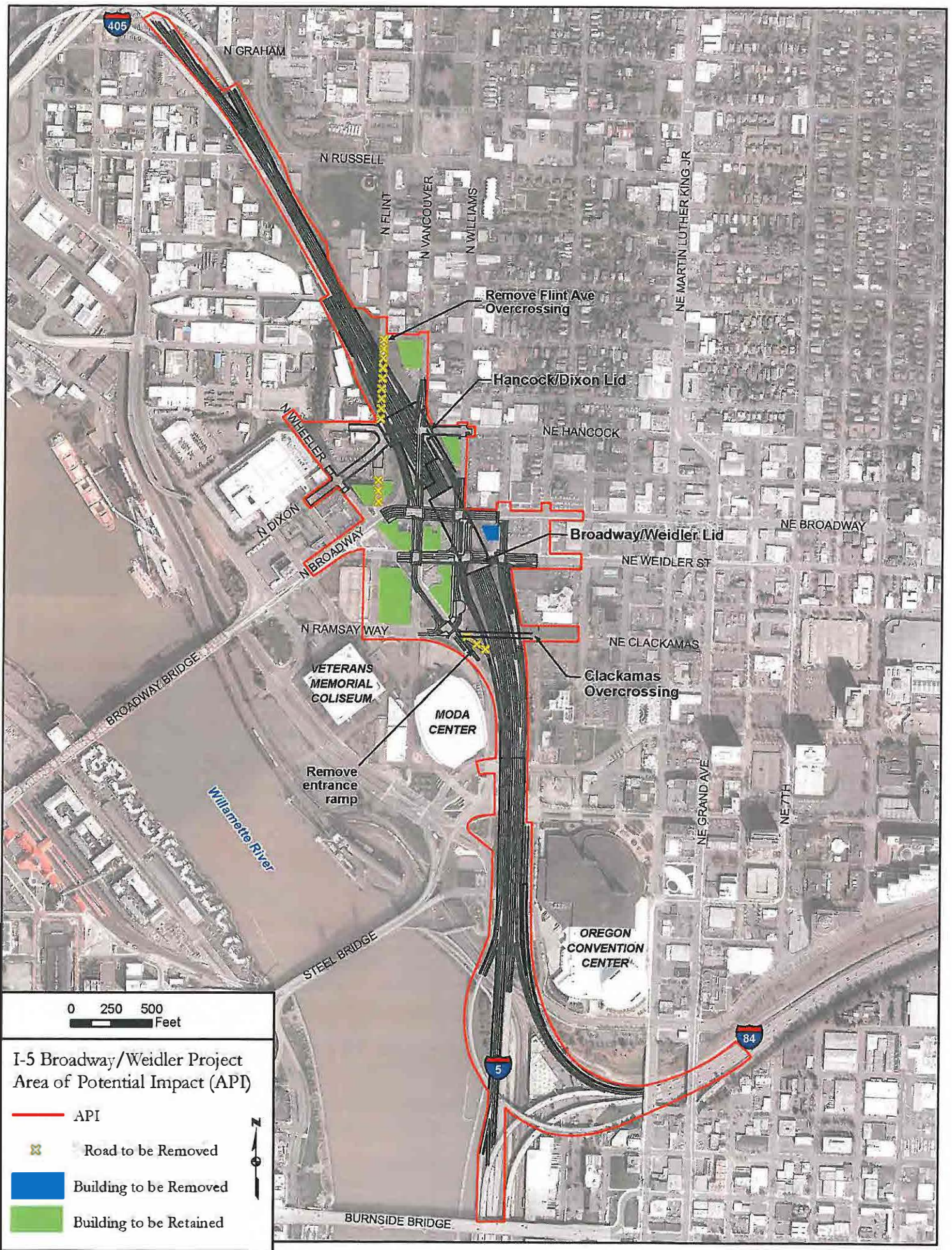
Thank you for your cooperation and potential interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Phillip A. Ditzler
Division Administrator, FHWA

Enclosure: Project Area Map



**I-5 Broadway/Weidler Project
Area of Potential Impact (API)**

- API
- ✕ Road to be Removed
- Building to be Removed
- Building to be Retained

0 250 500
Feet





Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Parks and Recreation Department

State Historic Preservation Office

725 Summer St NE Ste C

Salem, OR 97301-1266

Phone (503) 986-0690

Fax (503) 986-0793

www.oregonheritage.org



January 10, 2017

Mr. Phillip Ditzler
FHA
530 Center St NE Ste 100
Salem, OR 97301

RE: SHPO Case No. 16-2187

FHWA ODOT, I-5 Broadway Weidler Interchange Improvements
Improve safety and operation of I-5, enhance pedestrian, bicycle and freight routes
I-5 Burnside Bridge to I-405, Portland, Multnomah County

Dear Mr. Ditzler:

Thank you for the invitation to become a participating agency in the environmental review process for the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements. The Oregon State Historic Preservation Office elects to become a participating agency and accepts the invitation to take part in the project. Our office looks forward to working with the Federal Highway Administration and the Oregon Department of Transportation to preserve and manage cultural resources associated with the project. Should any questions or concerns arise throughout the course of the project, please feel free to contact us at any time.

Sincerely,

Jessica Gabriel
Historian
(503) 986-0677
Jessica.Gabriel@oregon.gov



U.S. Department
of Transportation
Federal Highway
Administration

Oregon Division
December 20, 2016

530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-399-5749
503-399-5838 (fax)
www.fhwa.dot.gov/ordlv

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-OR.
File:
KN19071

Mr. Neil McFarlane, General Manager
TriMet
1800 SW First Avenue, Suite 300
Portland, OR 97201

Re: Invitation to Become a Participating Agency on the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project Environmental Assessment

Dear Mr. McFarlane:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Assessment under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations for the Interstate 5 (I-5) Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project. FHWA and ODOT will act as the NEPA lead agencies for this document. The proposed project limits extend approximately from Interstate 84 to the south to Interstate 405 north, in the City of Portland. A project location map is provided as an enclosure to this letter. The project purpose is to improve the safety and operation of I-5 in the vicinity of the NE Broadway and NE Weidler Interchange. Other objectives include enhancing local pedestrian and bicycle routes and improving freight movement.

This letter invites your agency to become a participating agency with ODOT and FHWA in the development of the NEPA Environmental Assessment for this project. You are receiving this letter because of your participation in the *I-5 Broadway/Weidler Facility Plan* and the *I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Report* from which the proposed project was developed. Designation as a participating agency does not imply that your agency either supports the proposed project, or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of the Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), participating agencies are responsible to identify, as early as practicable any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental impacts to resources of the built and natural environment, that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval needed for the project. As a participating agency, your role in the development of this project may include, but not be limited to, the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

- Participate in coordination meetings as appropriate

- Timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, with comments on project design and anticipated impacts and mitigation measures.

Note that for this project, comments are not being solicited on the project purpose and need, or the development and screening of alternatives for the project. This is because the project purpose and need, and alternatives, were reviewed extensively during the planning process which resulted in the current project. Agencies that agree to be participating agencies for this project will receive additional information on the purpose and need and alternatives evaluation process associated with the *I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Facility Plan*, as part of the North/Northeast Quadrant and I-5 Broadway Weidler Plans process.

Please respond to FHWA in writing with an acceptance or denial of this invitation by January 31, 2017. This response should state your reason for declining the invitation. Pursuant to SAFETEA-LU 6002, any Federal Agency that chooses to decline the invitation to become a participating agency must specifically state that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to this project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the project; or
- Does not intend to submit comments on the project.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the project, or agency roles and responsibilities during preparation of the Environmental Assessment, please contact Emily Cline at Emily.cline@dot.gov or 503-316-2547.

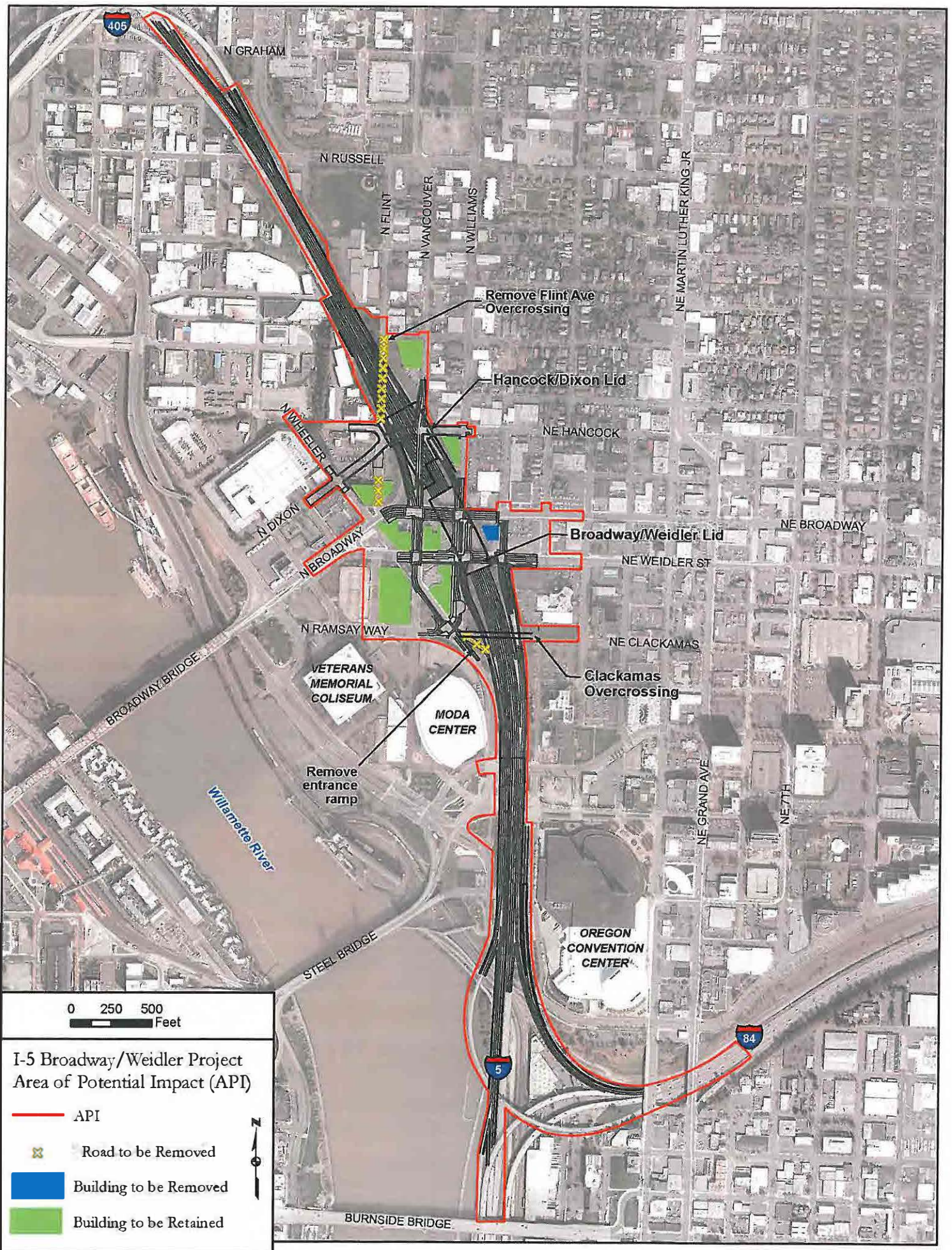
Thank you for your cooperation and potential interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Phillip A. Ditzler
Division Administrator, FHWA

Enclosure: Project Area Map



**I-5 Broadway/Weidler Project
Area of Potential Impact (API)**

- API
- ✘ Road to be Removed
- Building to be Removed
- Building to be Retained

0 250 500
Feet



N GRAHAM
N RUSSELL
N FLINT
N VANCOUVER
N WILLIAMS
NE HANGOCK
NE BROADWAY
NE WEIDLER ST
NE CLACKAMAS
NE GRAND AVE
NE 7TH
N WIEDELER
N DIXON
N BROADWAY
N RAMSAY WAY
VETERANS MEMORIAL COLISEUM
MODA CENTER
OREGON CONVENTION CENTER
Remove Flint Ave Overcrossing
Hancock/Dixon Lid
Broadway/Weidler Lid
Clackamas Overcrossing
Remove entrance ramp

BROADWAY BRIDGE
WILLAMETTE RIVER
STEEL BRIDGE
BURNSIDE BRIDGE

405

5

84

NE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR



U.S. Department
of Transportation
Federal Highway
Administration

Oregon Division
December 20, 2016

530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-399-5749
503-399-5838 (fax)
www.fhwa.dot.gov/ordiv

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-OR.
File:
KN19071

Mr. Tom Hughes, President
Metro Regional Center
600 NE Grand Avenue
Portland, OR 97232

Re: Invitation to Become a Participating Agency on the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project Environmental Assessment

Dear Mr. Hughes:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Assessment under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations for the Interstate 5 (I-5) Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project. FHWA and ODOT will act as the NEPA lead agencies for this document. The proposed project limits extend approximately from Interstate 84 to the south to Interstate 405 north, in the City of Portland. A project location map is provided as an enclosure to this letter. The project purpose is to improve the safety and operation of I-5 in the vicinity of the NE Broadway and NE Weidler Interchange. Other objectives include enhancing local pedestrian and bicycle routes and improving freight movement.

This letter invites your agency to become a participating agency with ODOT and FHWA in the development of the NEPA Environmental Assessment for this project. You are receiving this letter because of your participation in the *I-5 Broadway/Weidler Facility Plan* and the *I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Report* from which the proposed project was developed. Designation as a participating agency does not imply that your agency either supports the proposed project, or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of the Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), participating agencies are responsible to identify, as early as practicable any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental impacts to resources of the built and natural environment, that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval needed for the project. As a participating agency, your role in the development of this project may include, but not be limited to, the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

- Participate in coordination meetings as appropriate

- Timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, with comments on project design and anticipated impacts and mitigation measures.

Note that for this project, comments are not being solicited on the project purpose and need, or the development and screening of alternatives for the project. This is because the project purpose and need, and alternatives, were reviewed extensively during the planning process which resulted in the current project. Agencies that agree to be participating agencies for this project will receive additional information on the purpose and need and alternatives evaluation process associated with the *I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Facility Plan*, as part of the North/Northeast Quadrant and I-5 Broadway Weidler Plans process.

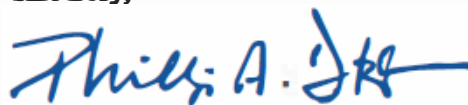
Please respond to FHWA in writing with an acceptance or denial of this invitation by January 31, 2017. This response should state your reason for declining the invitation. Pursuant to SAFETEA-LU 6002, any Federal Agency that chooses to decline the invitation to become a participating agency must specifically state that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to this project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the project; or
- Does not intend to submit comments on the project.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the project, or agency roles and responsibilities during preparation of the Environmental Assessment, please contact Emily Cline at Emily.cline@dot.gov or 503-316-2547.

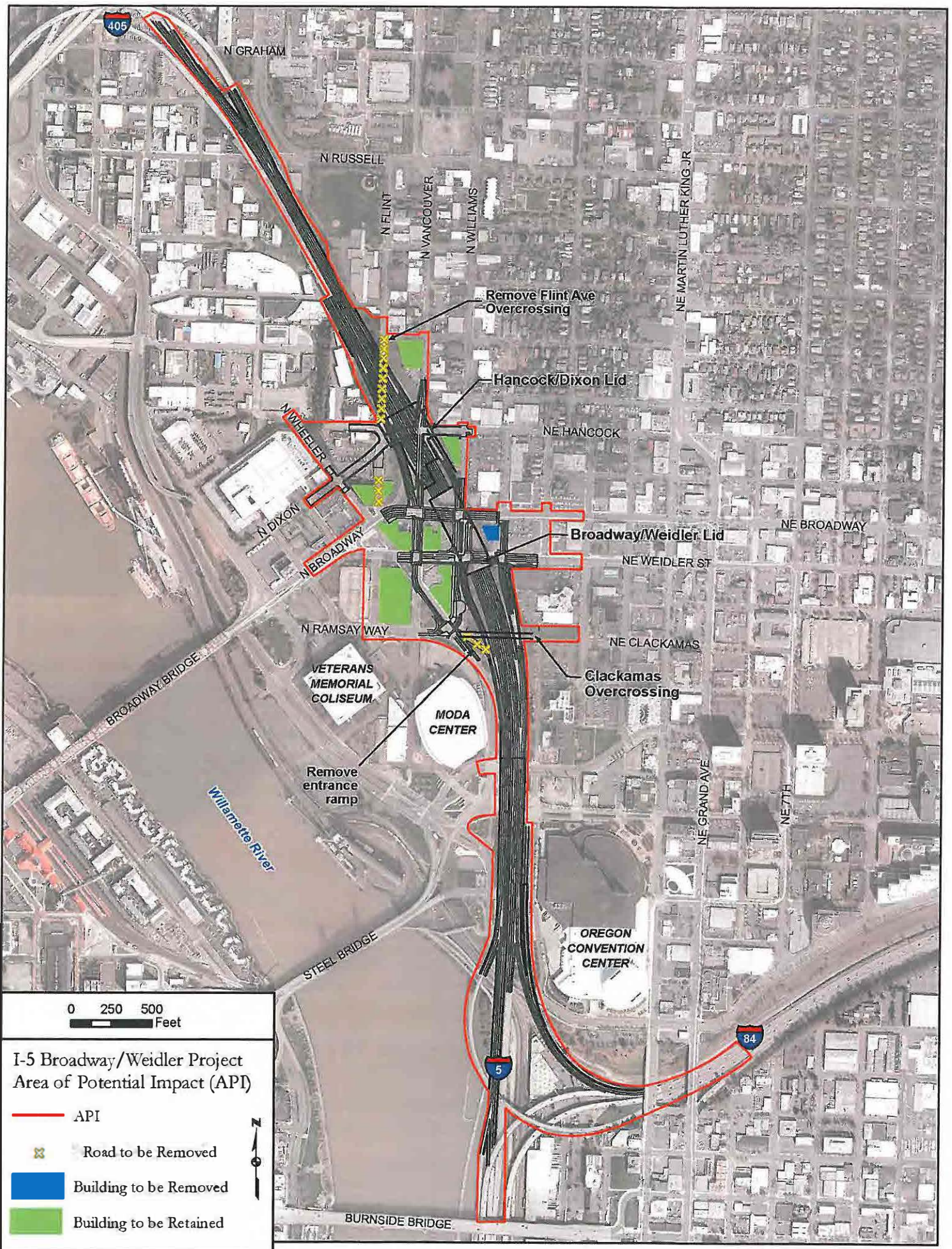
Thank you for your cooperation and potential interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Phillip A. Ditzler
Division Administrator, FHWA

Enclosure: Project Area Map





600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232-2736
oregonmetro.gov

January 10, 2017

Phillip A. Ditzler
Division Administrator, FHWA
530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Mr. Ditzler:

Thank you for inviting Metro to be a participating agency in the development of the NEPA Environmental Assessment for the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project, which is being led by FHWA and ODOT. This letter confirms our acceptance of the invitation to become a participating agency.

The lead contact for our agency will be Anthony Buczek, Transportation Engineer. Mr. Buczek can be reached at anthony.buczek@oregonmetro.gov. We appreciate the opportunity to be involved in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elissa Gertler".

Elissa Gertler
Planning and Development Director

Cc: Malu Wilkinson, Metro
Anthony Buczek, Metro



U.S. Department
Of Transportation
Federal Highway
Administration

Oregon Division
December 20, 2016

530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-399-5749
503-399-5838 (fax)
www.fhwa.dot.gov/ordiv

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-OR.
File:
KN19071

Ms. Leah Treat, Director
Portland Bureau of
Transportation 1120 SW Fifth
Avenue, Suite 800 Portland, OR
97204

Re: Invitation to Become a Participating Agency on the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project Environmental Assessment

Dear Ms. Treat:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Assessment under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations for the Interstate 5 (I-5) Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project. FHWA and ODOT will act as the NEPA lead agencies for this document. The proposed project limits extend approximately from Interstate 84 to the south to Interstate 405 north, in the City of Portland. A project location map is provided as an enclosure to this letter. The project purpose is to improve the safety and operation of I-5 in the vicinity of the NE Broadway and NE Weidler Interchange. Other objectives include enhancing local pedestrian and bicycle routes and improving freight movement.

This letter invites your agency to become a participating agency with ODOT and FHWA in the development of the NEPA Environmental Assessment for this project. You are receiving this letter because of your participation in the *I-5 Broadway/Weidler Facility Plan* and the *I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Report* from which the proposed project was developed. Designation as a participating agency does not imply that your agency either supports the proposed project, or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of the Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), participating agencies are responsible to identify, as early as practicable any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental impacts to resources of the built and natural environment, that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval needed for the project. As a participating agency, your role in the development of this project may include, but not be limited to, the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

- Participate in coordination meetings as appropriate

- Timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, with comments on project design and anticipated impacts and mitigation measures.

Note that for this project, comments are not being solicited on the project purpose and need, or the development and screening of alternatives for the project. This is because the project purpose and need, and alternatives, were reviewed extensively during the planning process which resulted in the current project. Agencies that agree to be participating agencies for this project will receive additional information on the purpose and need and alternatives evaluation process associated with the *I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Facility Plan*, as part of the North/Northeast Quadrant and I-5 Broadway Weidler Plans process.

Please respond to FHWA in writing with an acceptance or denial of this invitation by January 31, 2017. This response should state your reason for declining the invitation. Pursuant to SAFETEA-LU 6002, any Federal Agency that chooses to decline the invitation to become a participating agency must specifically state that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to this project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the project; or
- Does not intend to submit comments on the project.

Please note that it is expected that other City of Portland Bureaus may be interested in this project and you may wish to share this letter with them to determine their interest in this project. If it is determined that it would be appropriate for their participation to take place separately from your bureau/department, please indicate this in your response, and have the appropriate department head sign the letter, along with your signature.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the project, or agency roles and responsibilities during preparation of the Environmental Assessment, please contact Emily Cline at Emily.cline@dot.gov or 503-316-2547.

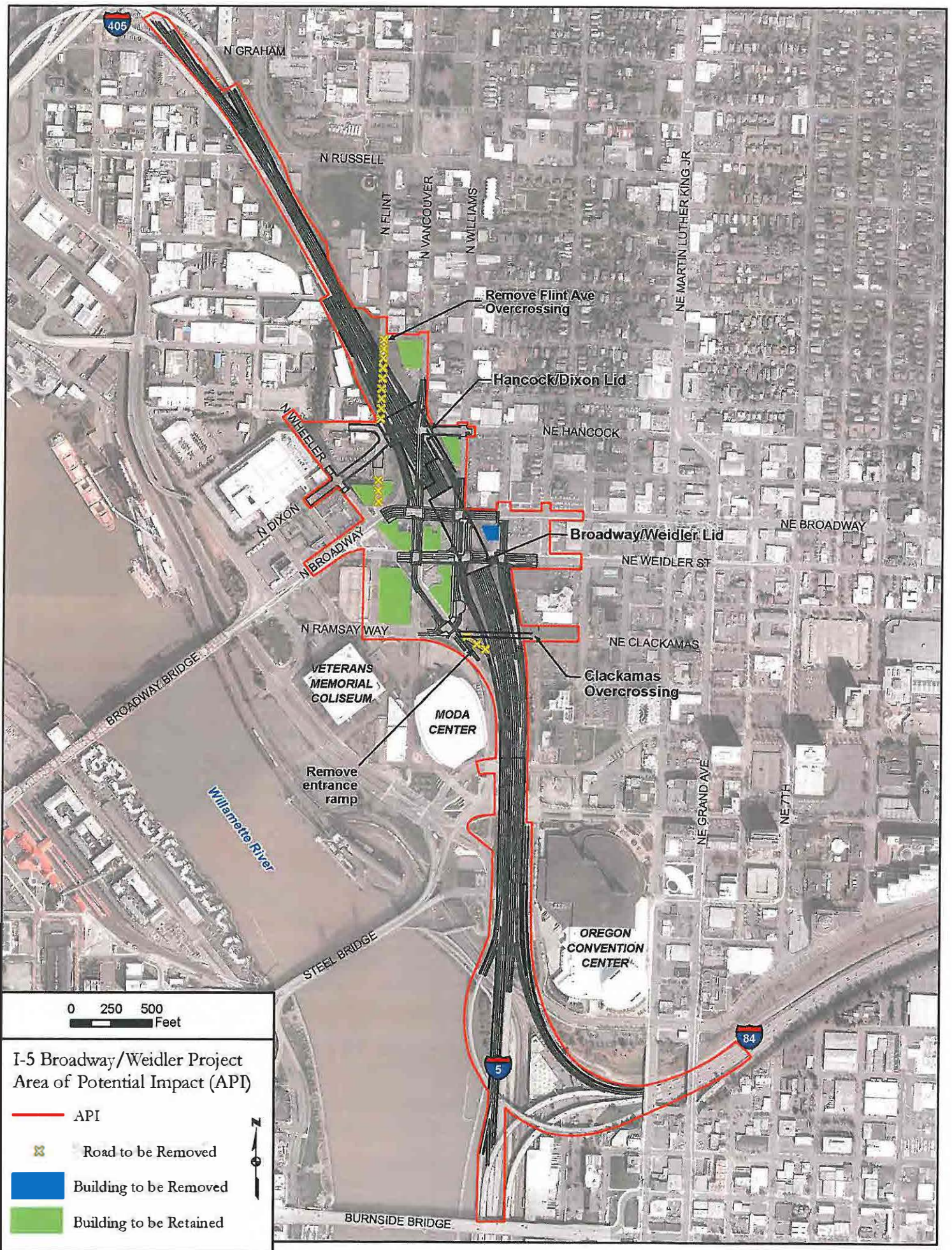
Thank you for your cooperation and potential interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Phillip A. Ditzler
Division Administrator, FHWA

Enclosure: Project Area Map



0 250 500
Feet

**I-5 Broadway/Weidler Project
Area of Potential Impact (API)**

- API
- ✕ Road to be Removed
- Building to be Removed
- Building to be Retained





U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Oregon Division

December 20, 2016

530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-399-5749
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www.fhwa.dot.gov/ordiv

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-OR.
File:
KN19071

Ms. Susan Anderson, Director
Portland Planning and Sustainability
1900 SW Fourth Avenue, Suite 7100
Portland, OR 97201

Re: Invitation to Become a Participating Agency on the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project Environmental Assessment

Dear Ms. Anderson:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Assessment under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations for the Interstate 5 (I-5) Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project. FHWA and ODOT will act as the NEPA lead agencies for this document. The proposed project limits extend approximately from Interstate 84 to the south to Interstate 405 north, in the City of Portland. A project location map is provided as an enclosure to this letter. The project purpose is to improve the safety and operation of I-5 in the vicinity of the NE Broadway and NE Weidler Interchange. Other objectives include enhancing local pedestrian and bicycle routes and improving freight movement.

This letter invites your agency to become a participating agency with ODOT and FHWA in the development of the NEPA Environmental Assessment for this project. You are receiving this letter because of your participation in the *I-5 Broadway/Weidler Facility Plan* and the *I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Report* from which the proposed project was developed. Designation as a participating agency does not imply that your agency either supports the proposed project, or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of the Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), participating agencies are responsible to identify, as early as practicable any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental impacts to resources of the built and natural environment, that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval needed for the project. As a participating agency, your role in the development of this project may include, but not be limited to, the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

- Participate in coordination meetings as appropriate

- Timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, with comments on project design and anticipated impacts and mitigation measures.

Note that for this project, comments are not being solicited on the project purpose and need, or the development and screening of alternatives for the project. This is because the project purpose and need, and alternatives, were reviewed extensively during the planning process which resulted in the current project. Agencies that agree to be participating agencies for this project will receive additional information on the purpose and need and alternatives evaluation process associated with the *I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Facility Plan*, as part of the North/Northeast Quadrant and I-5 Broadway Weidler Plans process.

Please respond to FHWA in writing with an acceptance or denial of this invitation by January 31, 2017. This response should state your reason for declining the invitation. Pursuant to SAFETEA-LU 6002, any Federal Agency that chooses to decline the invitation to become a participating agency must specifically state that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to this project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the project; or
- Does not intend to submit comments on the project.

Please note that it is expected that other City of Portland Bureaus may be interested in this project and you may wish to share this letter with them to determine their interest in this project. If it is determined that it would be appropriate for their participation to take place separately from your bureau/department, please indicate this in your response, and have the appropriate department head sign the letter, along with your signature.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the project, or agency roles and responsibilities during preparation of the Environmental Assessment, please contact Emily Cline at Emily.cline@dot.gov or 503-316-2547.

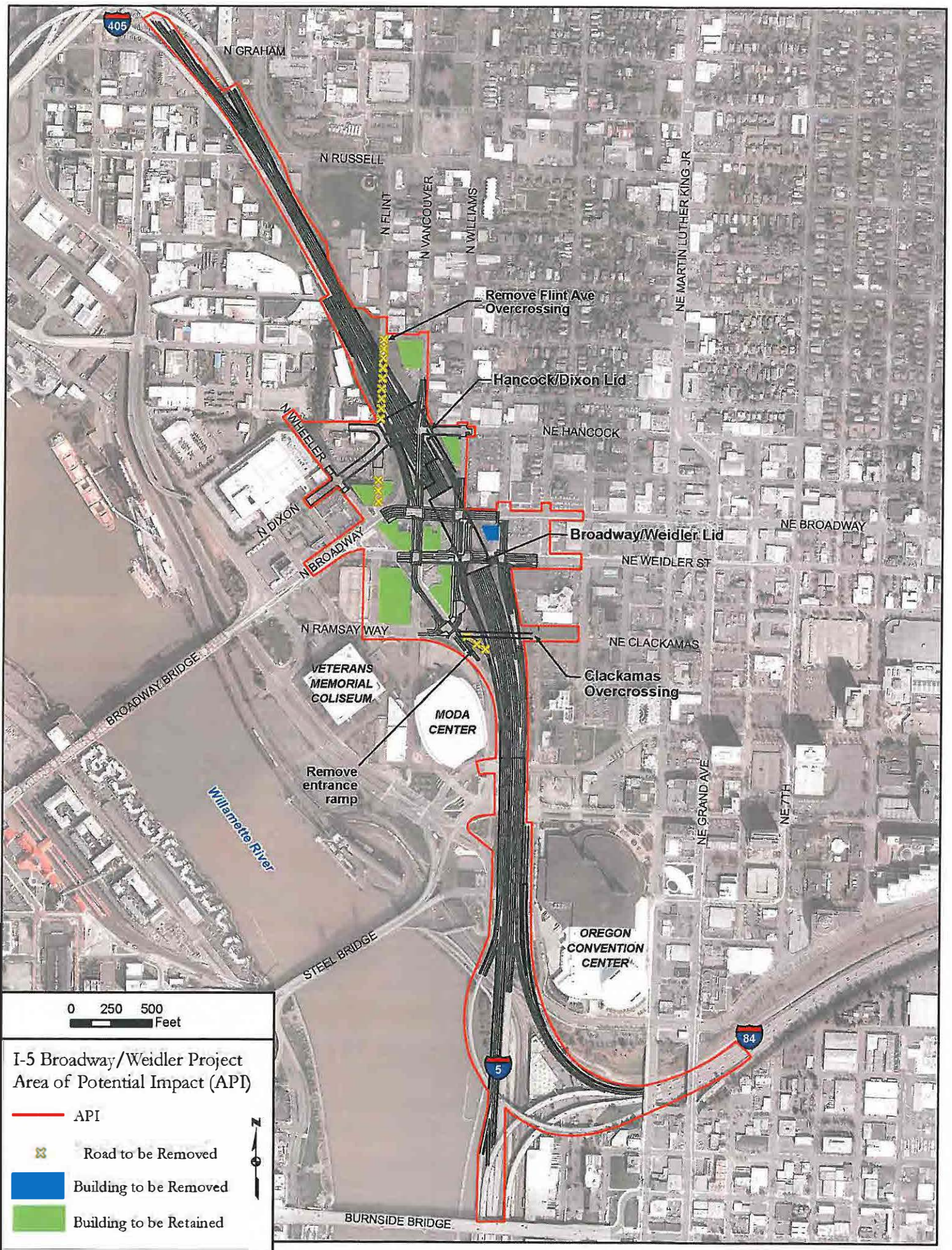
Thank you for your cooperation and potential interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Phillip A. Ditzler
Division Administrator, FHWA

Enclosure: Project Area Map





U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Oregon Division
December 20, 2016

530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-399-5749
503-399-5838 (fax)
www.fhwa.dot.gov/ordiv

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-OR.
File:
KN19071

Mr. Michael Stuhr, Director
Portland Water Bureau
1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 600
Portland, OR 97204

Re: Invitation to Become a Participating Agency on the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements

Dear Mr. Stuhr:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Assessment under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations for the Interstate 5 (I-5) Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project. FHWA and ODOT will act as the NEPA lead agencies for this document. The proposed project limits extend approximately from Interstate 84 to the south to Interstate 405 north, in the City of Portland. A project location map is provided as an enclosure to this letter. The project purpose is to improve the safety and operation of I-5 in the vicinity of the NE Broadway and NE Weidler Interchange. Other objectives include enhancing local pedestrian and bicycle routes and improving freight movement.

This letter invites your agency to become a participating agency with ODOT and FHWA in the development of the NEPA Environmental Assessment for this project. You are receiving this letter because of your participation in the *I-5 Broadway/Weidler Facility Plan* and the *I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Report* from which the proposed project was developed. Designation as a participating agency does not imply that your agency either supports the proposed project, or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the project.

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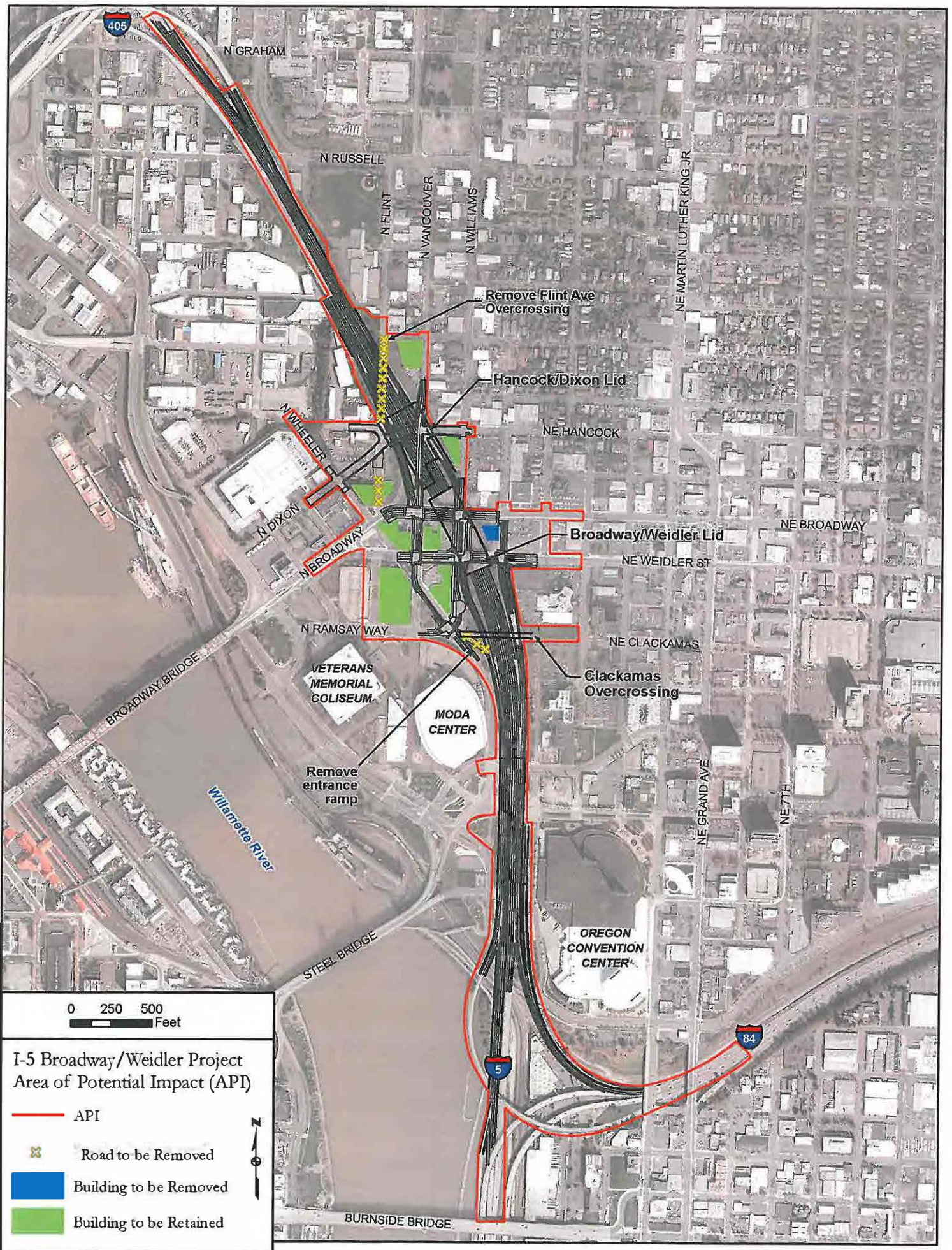
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Sincerely,



Phillip A. Ditzler
Division Administrator, FHWA

Enclosure: Project Area Map





U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Oregon Division

December 20, 2016

530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-399-5749
503-399-6838 (fax)
www.fhwa.dot.gov/ordiv

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-OR.
File:
KN19071

Mr. Michael Jordan, Director
Portland Environmental Services
1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Room 1000
Portland, OR 97204

Re: Invitation to Become a Participating Agency on the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project Environmental Assessment

Dear Mr. Jordan:

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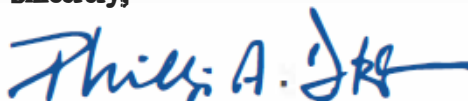
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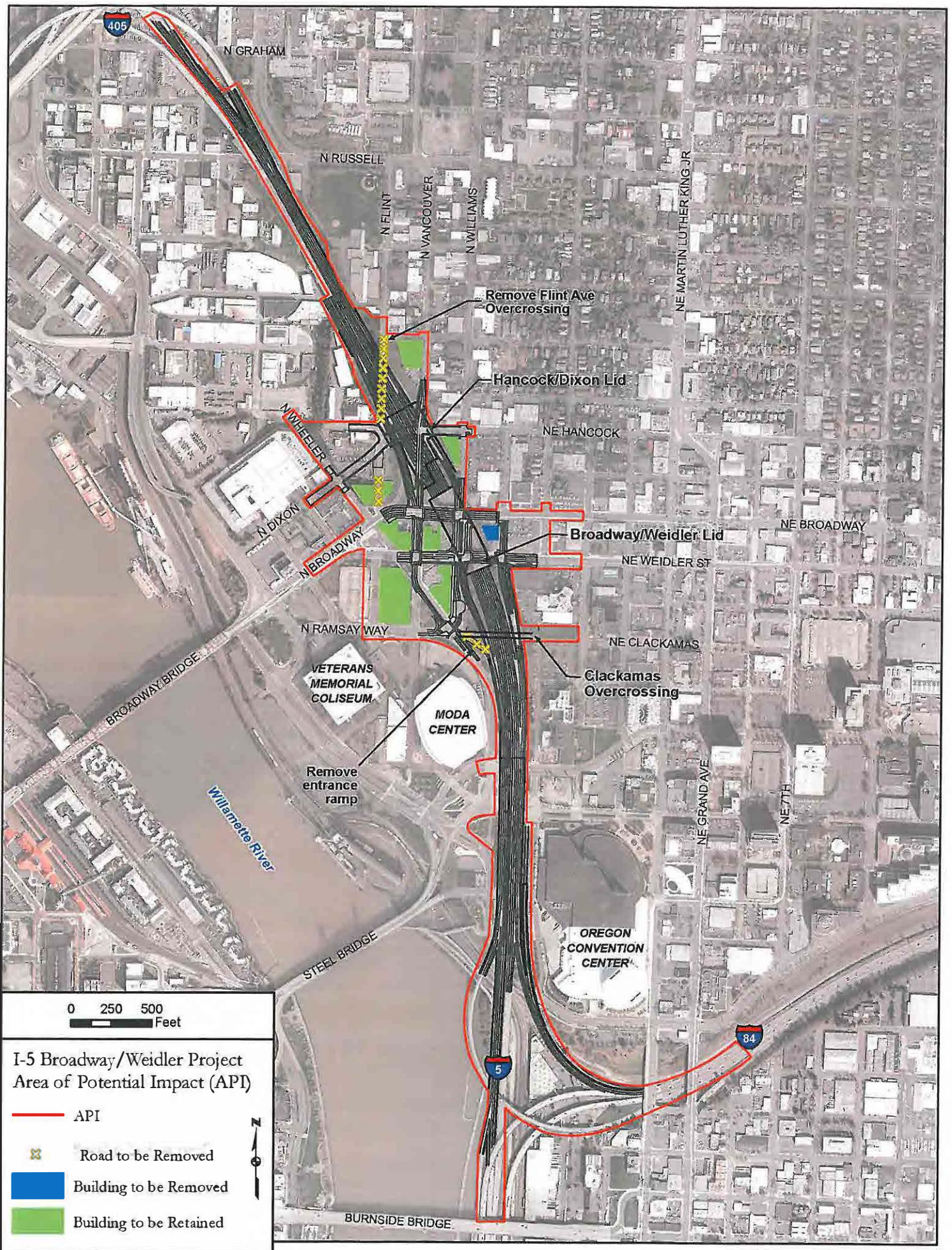
Thank you for your cooperation and potential interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Phillip A. Ditzler
Division Administrator, FHWA

Enclosure: Project Area Map



**I-5 Broadway/Weidler Project
Area of Potential Impact (API)**

- API
- ✕ Road to be Removed
- Building to be Removed
- Building to be Retained

0 250 500
Feet





U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Oregon Division
December 20, 2016

530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-399-5749
503-399-5838 (fax)
www.fhwa.dot.gov/ordiv

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-OR.
File:
KN19071

Mr. Mike Abbate, Director
Portland Parks and Recreation
1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 1302
Portland, OR 97204

Re: Invitation to Become a Participating Agency on the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project Environmental Assessment

Dear Mr. Abbate:

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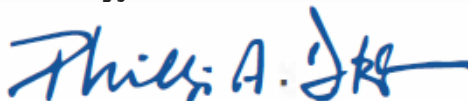
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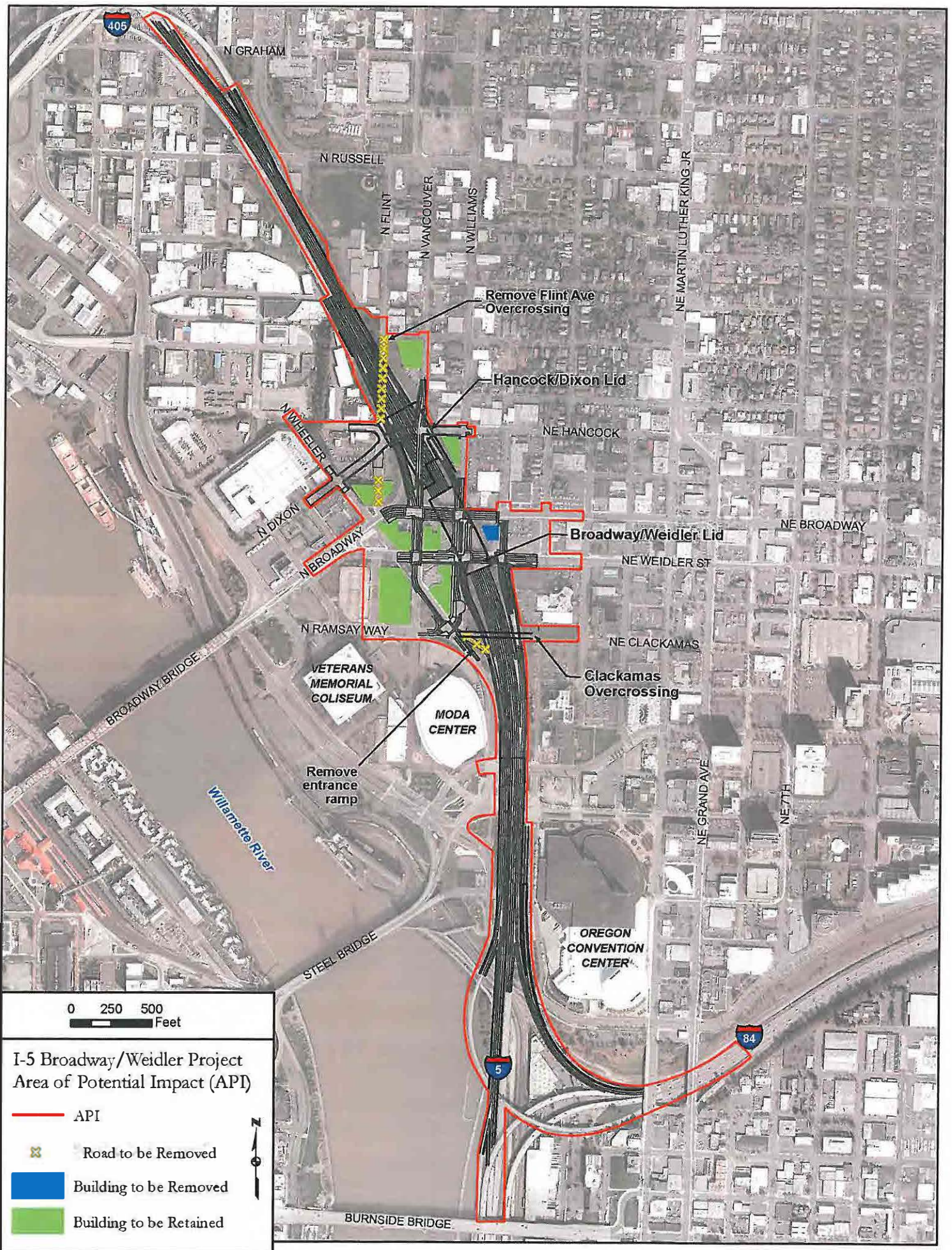
Thank you for your cooperation and potential interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Phillip A. Ditzler
Division Administrator, FHWA

Enclosure: Project Area Map



**I-5 Broadway/Weidler Project
Area of Potential Impact (API)**

- API
- ✕ Road to be Removed
- Building to be Removed
- Building to be Retained

0 250 500
Feet



N GRAHAM
N RUSSELL
N FLINT
N VANCOUVER
N WILLIAMS
NE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR
NE HANGCOCK
NE BROADWAY
NE WEIDLER ST
NE CLACKAMAS
NE GRAND AVE
NE 7TH
BURNSIDE BRIDGE

N WEIDLER
N DIXON
N BROADWAY
N RAMSAY WAY

VETERANS
MEMORIAL
COLISEUM

MODA
CENTER

OREGON
CONVENTION
CENTER

Remove Flint Ave
Overcrossing

Hancock/Dixon Lid

Broadway/Weidler Lid

Clackamas
Overcrossing

Remove
entrance
ramp

BROADWAY BRIDGE

Willamette River

STEEL BRIDGE

405

5

84

PBOT

PORTLAND BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION

1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 800 Portland, OR 97204 503.823.5185
Fax 503.823.7576 TTY 503.823.6868 www.portlandoregon.gov/transportation

Dan Saltzman Commissioner **Leah Treat** Director

January 30, 2017

Phillip Ditzler
Division Administrator
FHWA, Oregon Division
530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem OR 97301

SUBJECT: Invitation to Become a Participating Agency on the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project Environmental Assessment

Dear Mr. Ditzler:

The City of Portland welcomes the opportunity to be involved in the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project (Project) as Participating Agency. Successful design and implementation of these improvements will increase safety and operations on I-5. They are also vital components to the continued success of the Lloyd/Rose Quarter area which is a major employment, residential and entertainment district in the City of Portland.

Coordination

The administrative structure of the City of Portland is comprised of bureaus, each of which has a mission and responsibility to plan and manage assets and services such as land use planning, transportation, environmental services, parks and recreation, among others. For participation in the EA process the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) will be the point of contact for the City and responsible for coordinating and organizing the review and comments of the various bureaus as topical expertise requires. The staff person at PBOT responsible for managing the City's involvement throughout the environmental analysis phase is Teresa Boyle, Senior Transit Engineer/Major Projects Manager. She can be reached at (503) 823-6197 or at teresa.boyle@portlandoregon.gov. The exception to this will be Portland Streetcar, a PBOT transportation asset that will be a stand-alone participating agency.

Purpose and Need

The city strongly supports the ODOT I-5 Broadway/Weidler Facility Plan (Facility Plan) and the City's North/Northeast Quadrant Plan which were developed in collaboration to integrate long-range land use, urban design and local transportation planning for the area. The Facility Plan serves as the basis for the proposed improvements to the I-5 Broadway/ Weidler interchange area identified as fundamental components of the Project. The Project incorporates essential City goals and objectives identified in our Quadrant Plan and as a result all of its elements are important to the City. As a partner with ODOT in the Project, it is Portland's expectation that it will deliver all elements identified in the Facility Plan.



The Portland Bureau of Transportation fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the ADA Title II, and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. For accommodations, complaints and information, call (503) 823-5185, City TTY (503) 823-6868, or use Oregon Relay Service: 711.

Having all of the identified scope evaluated for environmental impacts is an important first step to realizing the entire Project.

Issues of Concern

The City supports the alternative identified in the Facility Plan and have actively participated with ODOT in the refinement of that plan. There are several issues of concern that must be addressed as the Environmental Assessment for the Project moves forward.

Construction Impacts:

As with any project of this size and complexity there will be significant short term construction impacts. The City looks forward to working with other members of the Project team to limit the effects of construction activities on the local street network and surrounding neighbors as much as possible. It is anticipated that the project construction will use the City of Portland standards for pedestrian and bicycle connectivity during construction and will be as basis for construction phasing assumptions.

Of particular concern will be impacts to the operation of Portland Streetcar. Portland Streetcar is a critical City transportation asset and its continued ability to serve the community is a major consideration when planning Project construction sequencing.

The district is also home to the Moda Center and Memorial Coliseum, two of the largest entertainment facilities in the State of Oregon. Providing safe and efficient access to these facilities at all times will be an essential criteria for the City. The local business and neighborhood associations along with the Lloyd District Transportation Management Association will be some of the important stakeholders to involve in evaluating alternative construction schemes to ensure that overall connectivity from downtown to the area is maintained.

Additionally, N Williams Ave and NE Broadway Weidler are two City's major bikeways that carry over 4,000 daily users. The Project construction phasing must continue to provide safe and efficient bicycle access to and through the area for these cyclists.

Impacts to City Facilities

The conceptual engineering work for the Project has identified the potential for NE Weidler to be raised by up to 5 feet higher than its existing grade to match the proposed highway lid. This is a significant vertical increase. Environmental assessment of Project impact must take into account the additional reconstruction of the roadway and utilities that would be necessary to raise the street's elevation, including rebuilding connections to intersecting streets and private properties. While this is still an evolving design issue, its early resolution is important to the City and our stakeholders. Raising Weidler has potential for significant circulation and connectivity impacts during construction while providing opportunity to bring sidewalks of substandard width and/or access for the disability community up to current City standard. As a result the possibility of this scenario is now impacting new private development projects being proposed in the corridor due to the uncertainty of the future roadway configuration.

The Project area is experiencing significant new development; with several undeveloped parcels that trend is likely to continue. The environmental process will need to assess the potential impact of Project construction to the development potential of those parcels. Much of the surrounding properties are currently zoned residential or mixed use. Addressing the concerns of existing and future residents will be important to the city.

Impacts to existing stormwater, sewer, and water utilities due to Project construction must also be evaluated and phasing assumptions should assume maintenance of service throughout.

Design Considerations

One area of City focus is the intended function and design of the Broadway-Weidler and Hancock-Dixon lids. The Project will need to pay careful attention to their urban design character and associated uses to assure that they complement and enhance the character of the neighborhood.

The environmental process should be aware of the City's new transportation policies, especially mode split goals, and the "hierarchy policy" along with PBOT's Vision Zero action plan. These place priority on pedestrian and bicycle safety over single occupancy vehicle convenience. PBOT, as the City permitting agency for Project construction in the local street network will use these policy criteria to determine the acceptability of proposed changes. This could become an important factor for decisions about facility design and should be used as a screening tool for evaluation of the alternatives.

The City of Portland looks forward to working with ODOT and FHWA on the development of this important project.

Sincerely,



Leah Treat, Director
Portland Bureau of Transportation

C: Susan Anderson, Bureau of Planning and Sustainability
Michael Stuhr, Portland Water Bureau
Michael Jordan, Bureau of Environmental Services
Michael Abbate, Bureau of Parks and Recreation
Dan Bower, Portland Streetcar Inc
Teresa Boyle



Bureau of Planning and Sustainability
Innovation. Collaboration. Practical Solutions.

RECEIVED
JAN 25 2017
FHWA
OREGON DIVISION

January 17, 2017

Phillip Ditzler
ODOT Division Administrator
530 Center Street, NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Mr. Ditzler,

Thank you for your letter of December 20, 2016, inviting the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability to be a participating agency on the I-5 Broadway/Wielder Interchange Improvement Environmental Assessment.

Nicholas Starin and Mindy Brooks will represent our bureau. Nicholas was one of the primary planners on the N/NE Quadrant Plan, and Mindy Brooks conducted the Natural Resource Inventory for the Central City.

You can reach them as follows:

- Nicholas Starin: Nicholas.Starin@portlandoregon.gov / 503-823-5837
- Mindy Brooks: Mindy.Brooks@portlandoregon.gov / 503-823-7831

Sincerely,

Susan Anderson

Cc: Leah Treat
Nicholas Starin
Mindy Brooks



City of Portland, Oregon | Bureau of Planning and Sustainability | www.portlandoregon.gov/bps
1900 SW 4th Avenue, Suite 7100, Portland, OR 97201 | phone: 503-823-7700 | fax: 503-823-7800 | tty: 503-823-6868

Printed on 100% post-consumer waste recycled paper.



— CITY OF PORTLAND —
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Room 1000, Portland, Oregon 97204 ■ Nick Fish, Commissioner ■ Michael Jordan, Director

January 25, 2017

Phillip A. Ditzler
Division Administrator, FHWA
US Department of Transportation
530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301

In Reference to: HAD-OR.KN19071

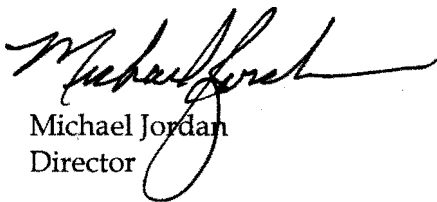
Re: Invitation to Become a Participating Agency on the I-5 Broadway/Weidler
Interchange Improvements Project Environmental Assessment

Dear Mr. Ditzler:

The Bureau of Environmental Services, City of Portland is very interested in participating with ODOT and FHWA in the development of the NEPA Environmental Assessment for this project.

Please contact my assistant, Peggy Miner, for scheduling assistance. She can be reached at peggy.miner@portlandoregon.gov or 503-823-7757.

Sincerely,



Michael Jordan
Director

Mike.jordan@portlandoregon.gov
503-823-7769



PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION

Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland

RECEIVED
JAN 23 2017
FHWA
OREGON DIVISION

January 18, 2017

HAD-OR
File: KNI9071

US Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration
530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Invitation to Become a Participating Agency on the I-5 Broadway/Weidler
Interchange Improvements Project Environmental Assessment

Dear Mr. Ditzler,

Portland Parks & Recreation is responding to your request regarding our participation with ODOT and FHWA in development of the NEPA Environmental Assessment for the above captioned project.

We are declining your invitation to become a participating agency due to the fact that:

- We have no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the project;

Sincerely,

Mike Abbaté, FASLA
Director

Administration

1120 S.W. 5th Ave., Suite 1302
Portland, OR 97204
Tel: (503) 823-7529 Fax: (503) 823-6007

www.PortlandParks.org
Amanda Fritz, Commissioner
Mike Abbaté, Director

Sustaining a healthy park and recreation system to make Portland a great place to live, work and play.





U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Oregon Division
December 20, 2016

530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-399-5749
503-399-5836 (fax)
www.fhwa.dot.gov/ordiv

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-OR.
File:
KN19071

Mr. Bill Wyatt, Executive
Director Port of Portland
P.O. Box 3529
Portland, OR 97208-3529

Re: Invitation to Become a Participating Agency on the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project Environmental Assessment

Dear Mr. Wyatt:

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Please respond to FHWA in writing with an acceptance or denial of this invitation by January 31, 2017. This response should state your reason for declining the invitation. Pursuant to SAFETEA-LU 6002, any Federal Agency that chooses to decline the invitation to become a participating agency must specifically state that your agency:

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- Does not intend to submit comments on the project.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the project, or agency roles and responsibilities during preparation of the Environmental Assessment, please contact Emily Cline at Emily.cline@dot.gov or 503-316-2547.

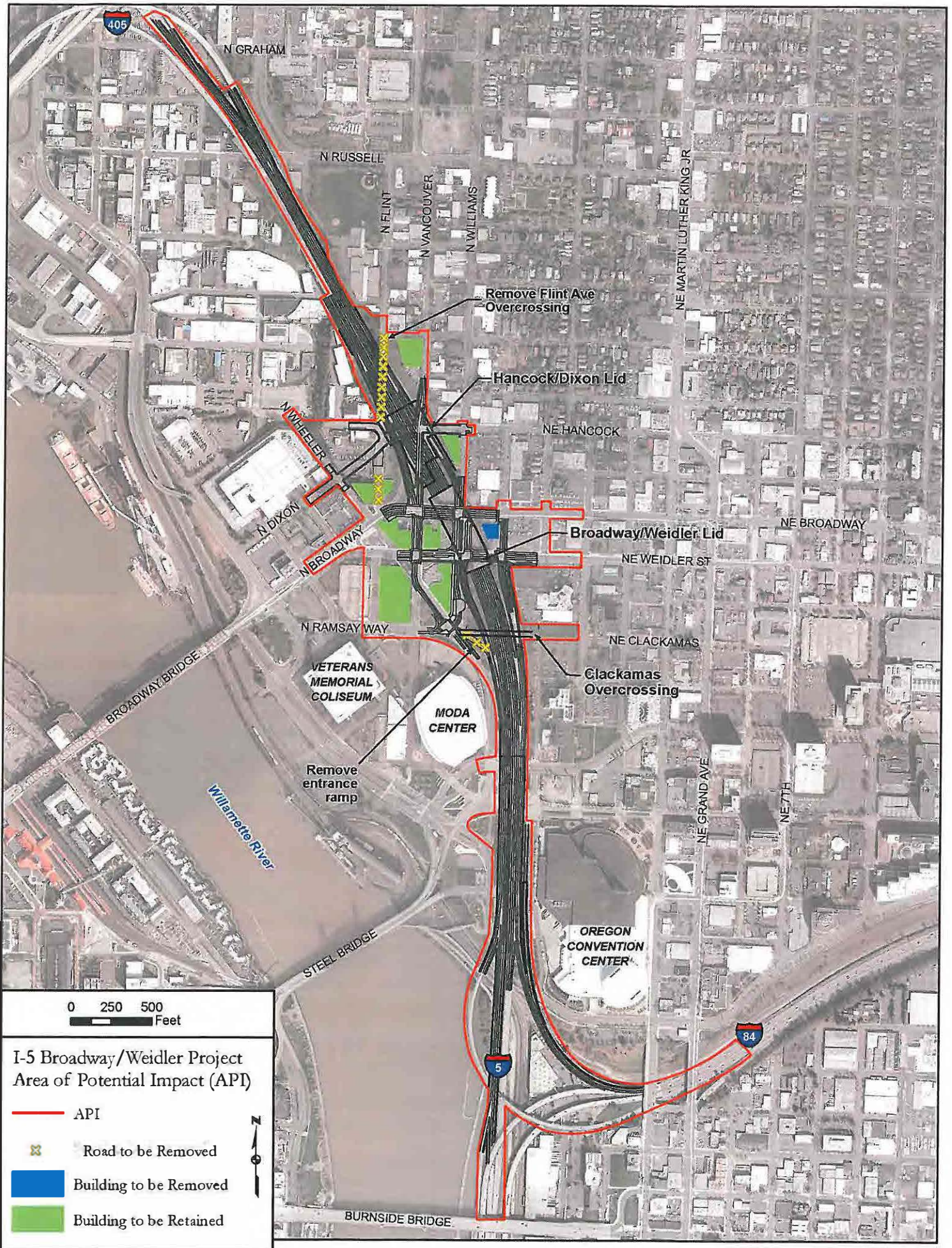
Thank you for your cooperation and potential interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Phillip A. Ditzler
Division Administrator, FHWA

Enclosure: Project Area Map



**I-5 Broadway/Weidler Project
Area of Potential Impact (API)**

- API
- ✕ Road to be Removed
- Building to be Removed
- Building to be Retained

0 250 500
Feet



Mission: To enhance the region's economy and quality of life by providing efficient cargo and air passenger access to national and global markets.



January 23, 2017

Mr. Phillip A. Ditzler, Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Invitation to Become a Participating Agency on the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project Environmental Assessment (HDA-OR, File KN19071)

Dear Mr. Ditzler:

This letter is in response to your invitation for the Port of Portland to become a participating agency on the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project.

The Port views the project area as one of the top bottlenecks in the Portland region. As an agency whose mission is to provide cargo and passenger access within and beyond the region the importance of this project is paramount to us.

Therefore the Port of Portland accepts your invitation to be a participating agency in the development of the NEPA Environmental Assessment for the project.

The Port of Portland's point of contact for this project will be Phil Healy, Senior Transportation Planner, philip.healy@portofportland.com or 503-415-6512.

Thank-you for the offer to participate on this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Bill Wyatt'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping 'W'.

Bill Wyatt
Executive Director



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Oregon Division
December 20, 2016

530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-399-5749
503-399-5838 (fax)
www.fhwa.dot.gov/ordlv

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-OR.
File:
KN19071

Mr. Dan Bower, Executive
Director Portland Streetcar
1031 NW 11 Avenueth
Portland, OR 97209

Re: Invitation to Become a Participating Agency on the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project Environmental Assessment

Dear Mr. Bower:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Assessment under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations for the Interstate 5 (I-5) Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project. FHWA and ODOT will act as the NEPA lead agencies for this document. The proposed project limits extend approximately from Interstate 84 to the south to Interstate 405 north, in the City of Portland. A project location map is provided as an enclosure to this letter. The project purpose is to improve the safety and operation of I-5 in the vicinity of the NE Broadway and NE Weidler Interchange. Other objectives include enhancing local pedestrian and bicycle routes and improving freight movement.

This letter invites your agency to become a participating agency with ODOT and FHWA in the development of the NEPA Environmental Assessment for this project. You are receiving this letter because of your participation in the *I-5 Broadway/Weidler Facility Plan* and the *I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Report* from which the proposed project was developed. Designation as a participating agency does not imply that your agency either supports the proposed project, or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of the Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), participating agencies are responsible to identify, as early as practicable any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental impacts to resources of the built and natural environment, that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval needed for the project. As a participating agency, your role in the development of this project may include, but not be limited to, the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

- Participate in coordination meetings as appropriate

- Timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, with comments on project design and anticipated impacts and mitigation measures.

Note that for this project, comments are not being solicited on the project purpose and need, or the development and screening of alternatives for the project. This is because the project purpose and need, and alternatives, were reviewed extensively during the planning process which resulted in the current project. Agencies that agree to be participating agencies for this project will receive additional information on the purpose and need and alternatives evaluation process associated with the *I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Facility Plan*, as part of the North/Northeast Quadrant and I-5 Broadway Weidler Plans process.

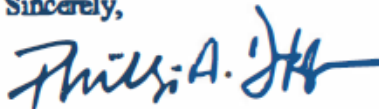
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- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to this project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the project; or
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If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the project, or agency roles and responsibilities during preparation of the Environmental Assessment, please contact Emily Cline at 503-316-2547.

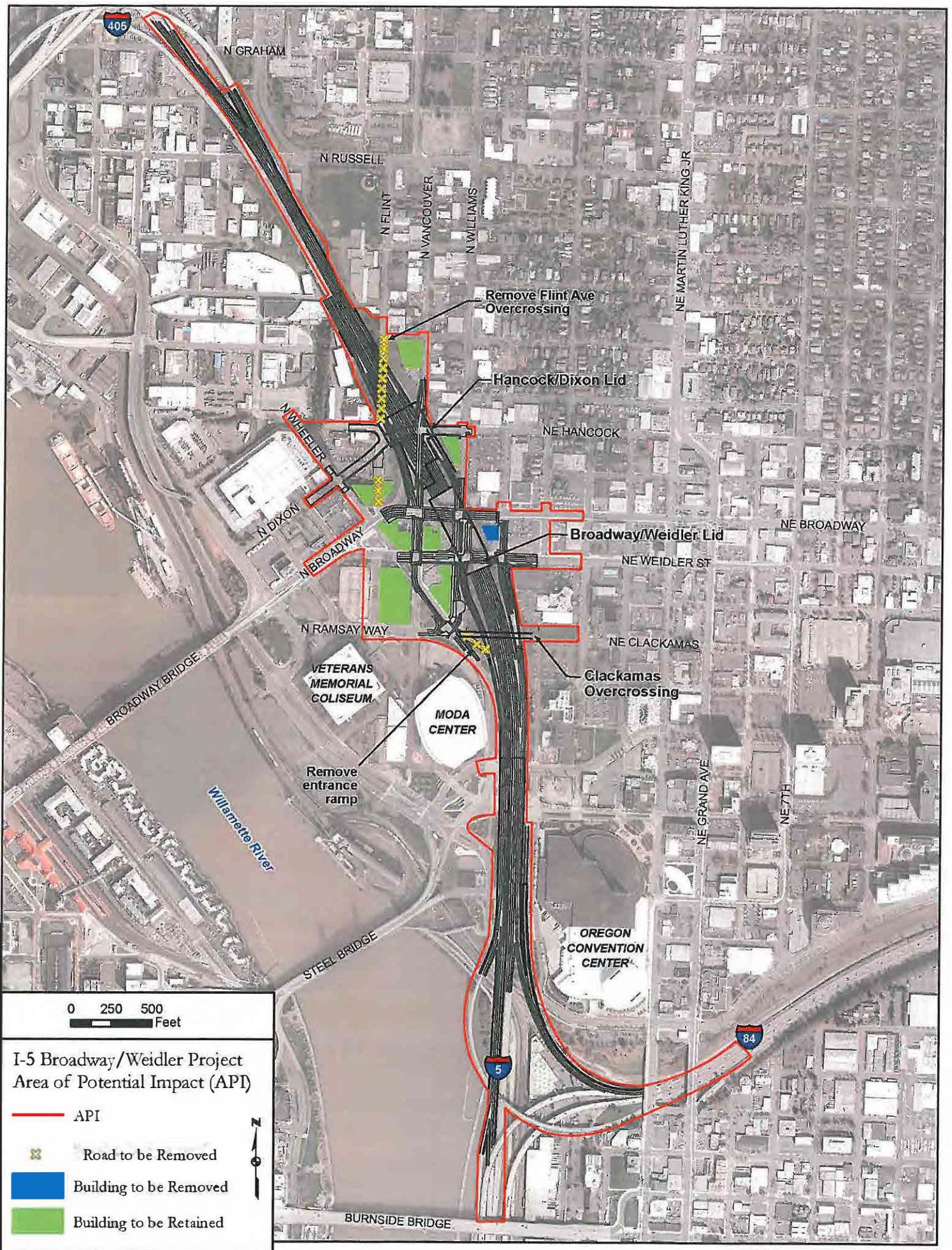
Thank you for your cooperation and potential interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Phillip A. Ditzler
Division Administrator, FHWA

Enclosure: Project Area Map





1031 NW 11th Avenue
Portland, OR 97209
503-222-4200

www.portlandstreetcar.org

January 27, 2017

Phillip A Ditzler
Division Administrator, FHWA
530 Center Street NE Suite 420
Salem, OR 97301

Mr. Ditzler,

I'm writing today to acknowledge and accept your invitation to be a participating agency on the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project Environmental Assessment. On behalf of Portland Streetcar, I look forward to working with you and the project team as this important project advances.

The Portland Streetcar is one of the most productive transit systems on the west coast, carrying over 15,000 passengers each weekday. Our users are as diverse as the neighborhoods in which we operate; in and in our most recent study (2015) over 38% of our daily users come from car-free households. Similarly, the streetcar deploys its ADA mobility ramps at a rate five times that a traditional transit system; an indication of the number and frequency with which we are used by persons in mobility devices.

Certainly, we will be closely monitoring the development of plans for construction mitigation and longer terms opportunities for the streetcar. It is our belief, as has been demonstrated time and again in major capital projects, that maintaining service throughout the majority of the construction period is both feasible and cost effective. We understand there will be brief periods in which maintaining streetcar service will not be feasible, however it is our expectation that the project team will endeavor to maintain service for our growing customer base as much as possible. To that end, we have developed conceptual alternatives for both construction phasing and mitigation, as well as a preferred alignment and lane assignment for the permanent structures on Broadway and Weidler where we run today.

I will serve as your main point of contact for matters relating to the Portland Streetcar.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Bower', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dan Bower
Executive Director
Portland Streetcar, Inc.
503-869-0820



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Oregon Division

December 20, 2016

580 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-399-5749
503-399-5838 (fax)
www.fhwa.dot.gov/ordiv

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-OR.
File:
KN19071

Dr. Paul Henson, Ph.D., State Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Portland Oregon Fish and Wildlife Office
2600 SE 98th Avenue, Suite 100
Portland, OR 97266

**Re: Invitation to Become a Participating Agency on the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange
Improvements Project Environmental Assessment**

Dear Dr. Henson:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations, and will act as lead agencies under NEPA, for the Interstate 5 (I-5) Broadway/Weidler Interchange Project. The proposed project limits extend approximately from Interstate 84 to the south to Interstate 405 north, in the City of Portland. A project location map is provided as an enclosure to this letter. The project purpose is to improve the safety and operation of I-5 in the vicinity of the NE Broadway and NE Weidler Interchange. Other objectives include enhancing local pedestrian and bicycle routes and improving freight movement.

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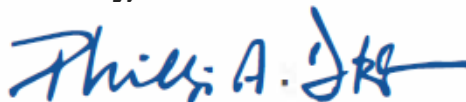
Please respond to FHWA in writing with an acceptance or denial of this invitation by **January 31, 2017**. If your agency chooses to decline, the written response should state the reason for declining the invitation. Pursuant to SAFETEA-LU 6002, any Federal Agency that chooses to decline the invitation to become a participating agency must specifically state that your agency:

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If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the project, or agency roles and responsibilities during preparation of the Environmental Assessment, please contact Emily Cline at Emily.cline@dot.gov or 503-316-2547.

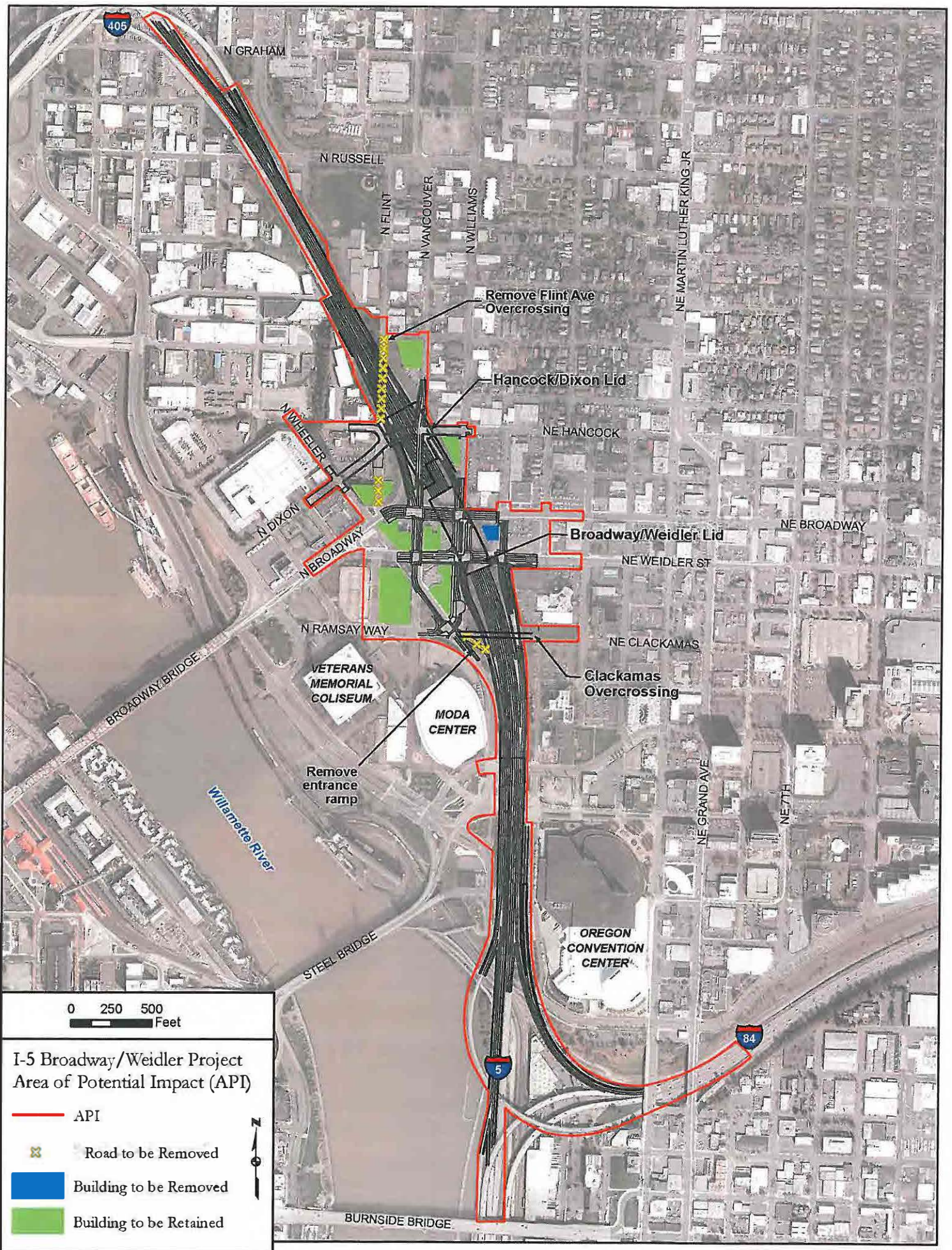
Thank you for your cooperation and potential interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Phillip A. Ditzler
Division Administrator, FHWA

Enclosure: Project Area Map



**I-5 Broadway/Weidler Project
Area of Potential Impact (API)**

- API
- ✕ Road to be Removed
- Building to be Removed
- Building to be Retained

0 250 500
Feet



From: [Maurice, Kevin](#)
To: [CLINE Emily](#)
Subject: I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Project EA
Date: Monday, January 23, 2017 1:14:27 PM

Hi Emily.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) respectfully declines the invitation to become a participating agency on this project. It appears the project has minimal potential to impact trust resources, or their habitats, that are under the Service's jurisdiction. In addition, the Service has limited capacity to provide expertise or information relevant to the project that is not already available within the Federal Highway Administration or from other participants. Consequently, the Service does not intend to submit comments on the project. As additional information becomes available, we will reassess these issues and our participation, as appropriate.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact myself or this office. KJM

--

Kevin J. Maurice, Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Oregon Fish & Wildlife Office
2600 SE 98th Ave., Suite 100
Portland, OR 97266
(503) 231-6179



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Oregon Division
December 20, 2018

580 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-399-5749
503-399-5838 (fax)
www.fhwa.dot.gov/ordiv

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-OR
File:
KN19071

Ms. Kim Peoples, Director
Multnomah County Department of Community Services
1600 SE 190th Avenue
Portland, OR 97233

Re: Invitation to Become a Participating Agency on the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project Environmental Assessment

Dear Ms. Peoples:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Assessment under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations for the Interstate 5 (I-5) Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project. FHWA and ODOT will act as the NEPA lead agencies for this document. The proposed project limits extend approximately from Interstate 84 to the south to Interstate 405 north, in the City of Portland. A project location map is provided as an enclosure to this letter. The project purpose is to improve the safety and operation of I-5 in the vicinity of the NE Broadway and NE Weidler Interchange. Other objectives include enhancing local pedestrian and bicycle routes and improving freight movement.

This letter invites your agency to become a participating agency with ODOT and FHWA in the development of the NEPA Environmental Assessment for this project. You are receiving this letter because of your participation in the *I-5 Broadway/Weidler Facility Plan* and the *I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Report* from which the proposed project was developed. Designation as a participating agency does not imply that your agency either supports the proposed project, or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the project.

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Please respond to FHWA in writing with an acceptance or denial of this invitation by **January 31, 2017**. This response should state your reason for declining the invitation. Pursuant to SAFETEA-LU 6002, any Federal Agency that chooses to decline the invitation to become a participating agency must specifically state that your agency:

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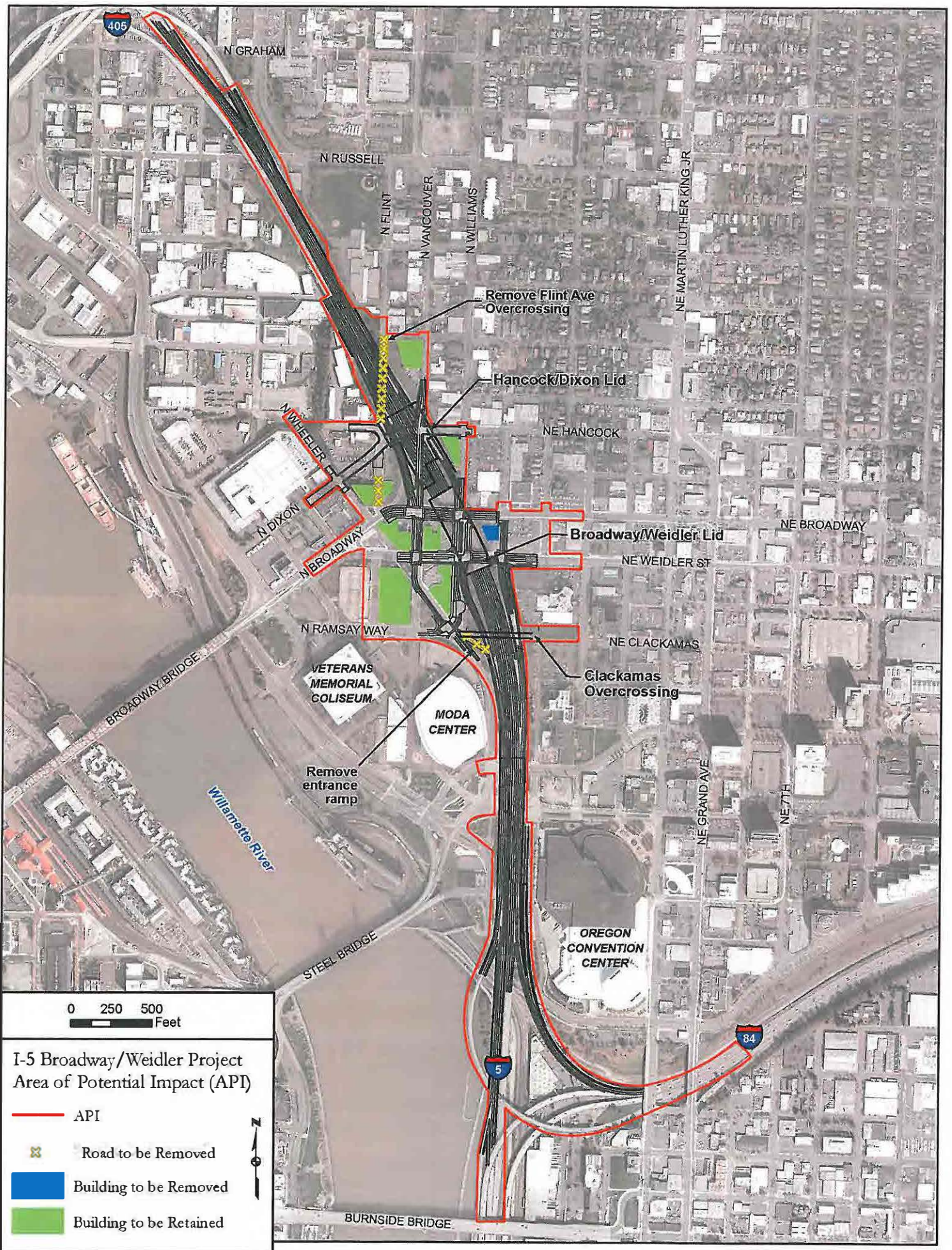
Thank you for your cooperation and potential interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Phillip A. Ditzler
Division Administrator, FHWA

Enclosure: Project Area Map



**I-5 Broadway/Weidler Project
Area of Potential Impact (API)**

- API
- ✕ Road to be Removed
- Building to be Removed
- Building to be Retained

0 250 500
Feet





U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Oregon Division

December 20, 2018

530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-399-5749
503-399-5838 (fax)
www.fhwa.dot.gov/ordiv

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-OR.
File:
KN19071

Mr. Pete Shepherd, Interim Director
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
811 SW Sixth Avenue
Portland, OR 97204-1390

Re: Invitation to Become a Participating Agency on the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project Environmental Assessment

Dear Mr. Shepherd:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations, and will act as lead agencies under NEPA, for the Interstate 5 (I-5) Broadway/Weidler Interchange Project. The proposed project limits extend approximately from Interstate 84 to the south to Interstate 405 north, in the City of Portland. A project location map is provided as an enclosure to this letter. The project purpose is to improve the safety and operation of I-5 in the vicinity of the NE Broadway and NE Weidler Interchange. Other objectives include enhancing local pedestrian and bicycle routes and improving freight movement.

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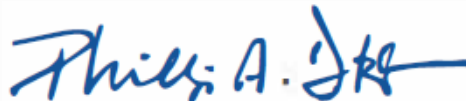
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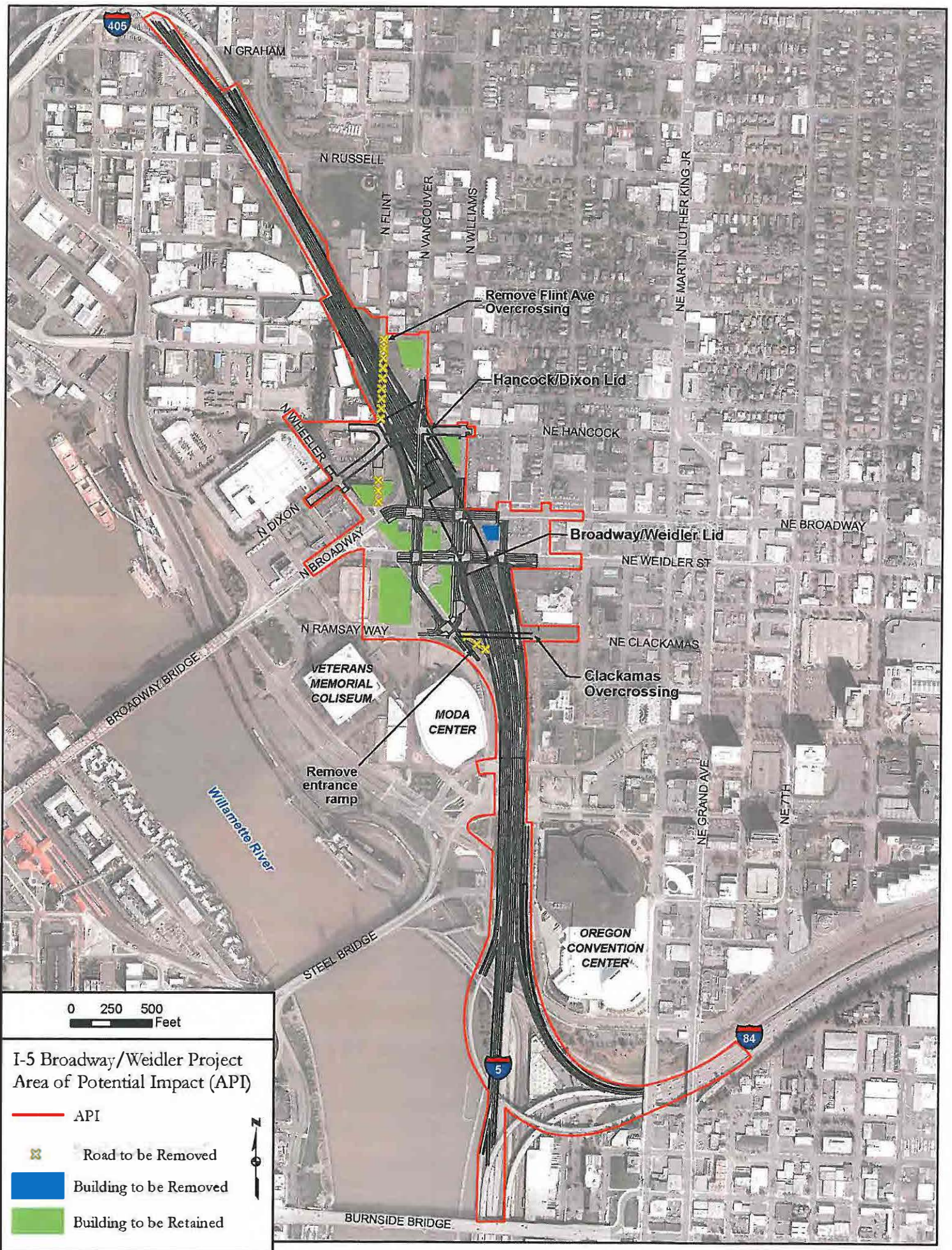
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Phillip A. Ditzler
Division Administrator, FHWA

Enclosure: Project Area Map



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U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Oregon Division

December 20, 2016

530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-399-5749
503-399-6838 (fax)
www.fhwa.dot.gov/ordiv

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-OR
File:
KN19071

Mr. Reyn Leno, Tribal Chairperson
Confederated Tribes of Grand
Ronde Tribal Headquarters
9615 Grand Ronde Road
Grand Ronde, OR 97347

Re: Invitation to Become a Participating Agency on the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange
Improvements Pro

Dear Chairperson Leno:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Assessment under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations for the Interstate 5 (I-5) Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project. FHWA and ODOT will act as the NEPA lead agencies for this document. The proposed project limits extend approximately from Interstate 84 to the south to Interstate 405 north, in the City of Portland. A project location map is provided as an enclosure to this letter. The project purpose is to improve the safety and operation of I-5 in the vicinity of the NE Broadway and NE Weidler Interchange. Other objectives include enhancing local pedestrian and bicycle routes and improving freight movement.

The Tribe has been identified as having a potential interest in the project because it may affect land within the tribe's jurisdiction. This letter invites the Tribe to become a participating agency with FHWA and ODOT in the development of the NEPA Environmental Assessment for this project. Designation as a participating agency does not replace formal government-to-government or Section 106 tribal consultation. Federal legislation under SAFETEA-LU 6002 requires that federal lead agencies invite tribes to be designated as participating parties in addition to formal consultation. Designation as a participating agency does not imply that the Tribe supports the proposed project, or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the project.

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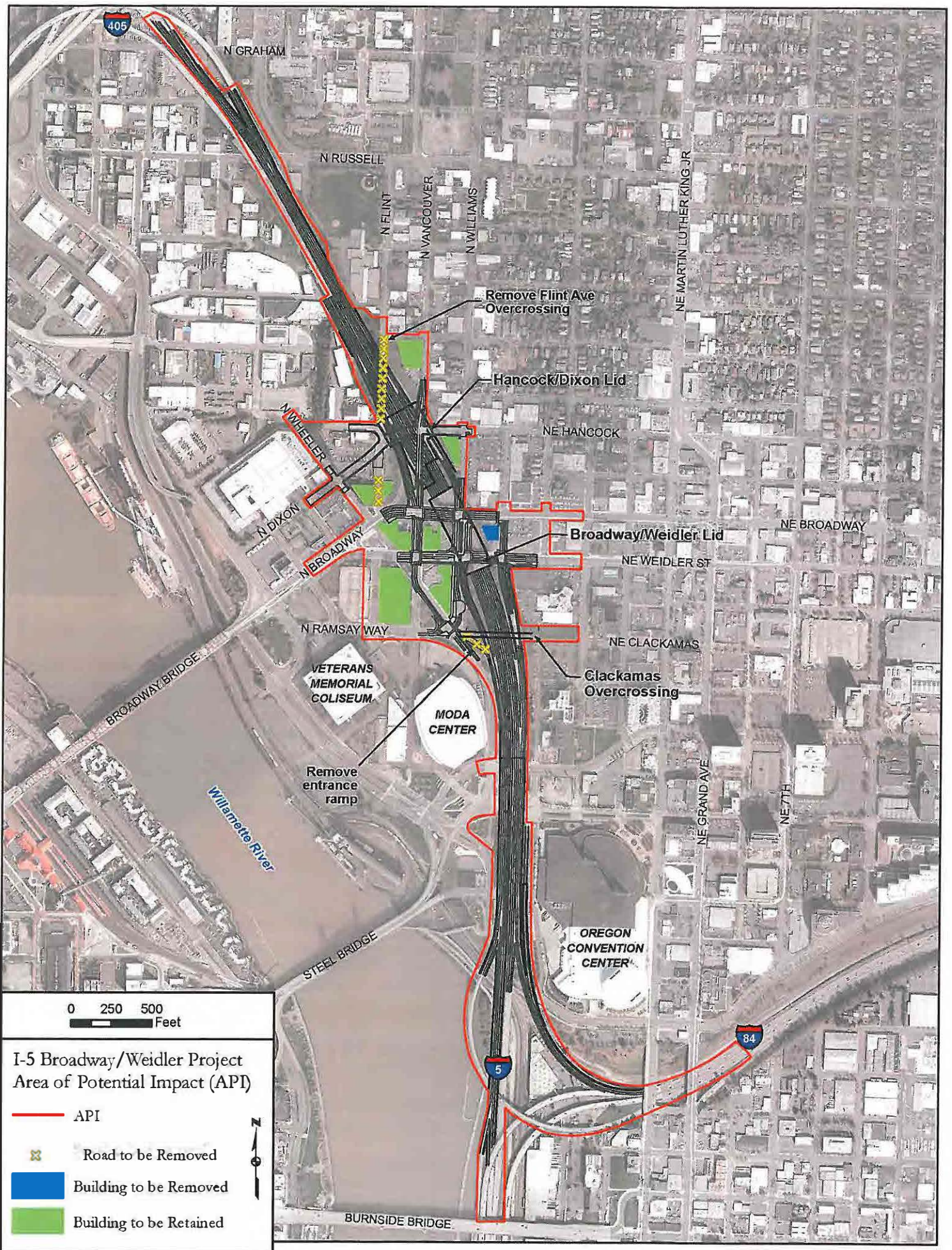
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Phillip A. Ditzler
Division Administrator, FHWA

Enclosure: Project Area Map



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Area of Potential Impact (API)**

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U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Oregon Division

December 20, 2016

530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-399-5749
503-399-5838 (fax)
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In Reply Refer To:
HDA-OR.
File:
KN19071

Ms. Delores Pigsley, Tribal Chairperson
Confederated Tribes of Siletz
P.O. 549
Siletz, OR 97380

**Re: Invitation to Become a Participating Agency on the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange
Improvements Project Environmental Assessment**

Dear Chairperson Pigsley:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Assessment under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations for the Interstate 5 (I-5) Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project. FHWA and ODOT will act as the NEPA lead agencies for this document. The proposed project limits extend approximately from Interstate 84 to the south to Interstate 405 north, in the City of Portland. A project location map is provided as an enclosure to this letter. The project purpose is to improve the safety and operation of I-5 in the vicinity of the NE Broadway and NE Weidler Interchange. Other objectives include enhancing local pedestrian and bicycle routes and improving freight movement.

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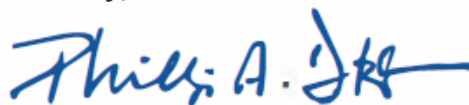
Please respond to FHWA in writing with an acceptance or denial of this invitation by January 31, 2017. If your agency chooses to decline, the written response should state the reason for declining the invitation. Pursuant to SAFETEA-LU 6002, any agency that chooses to decline the invitation to become a participating agency must specifically state that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to this project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the project; or
- Does not intend to submit comments on the project.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the project, or agency roles and responsibilities during preparation of the Environmental Assessment, please contact Emily Cline at Emily.cline@dot.gov or 503-316-2547.

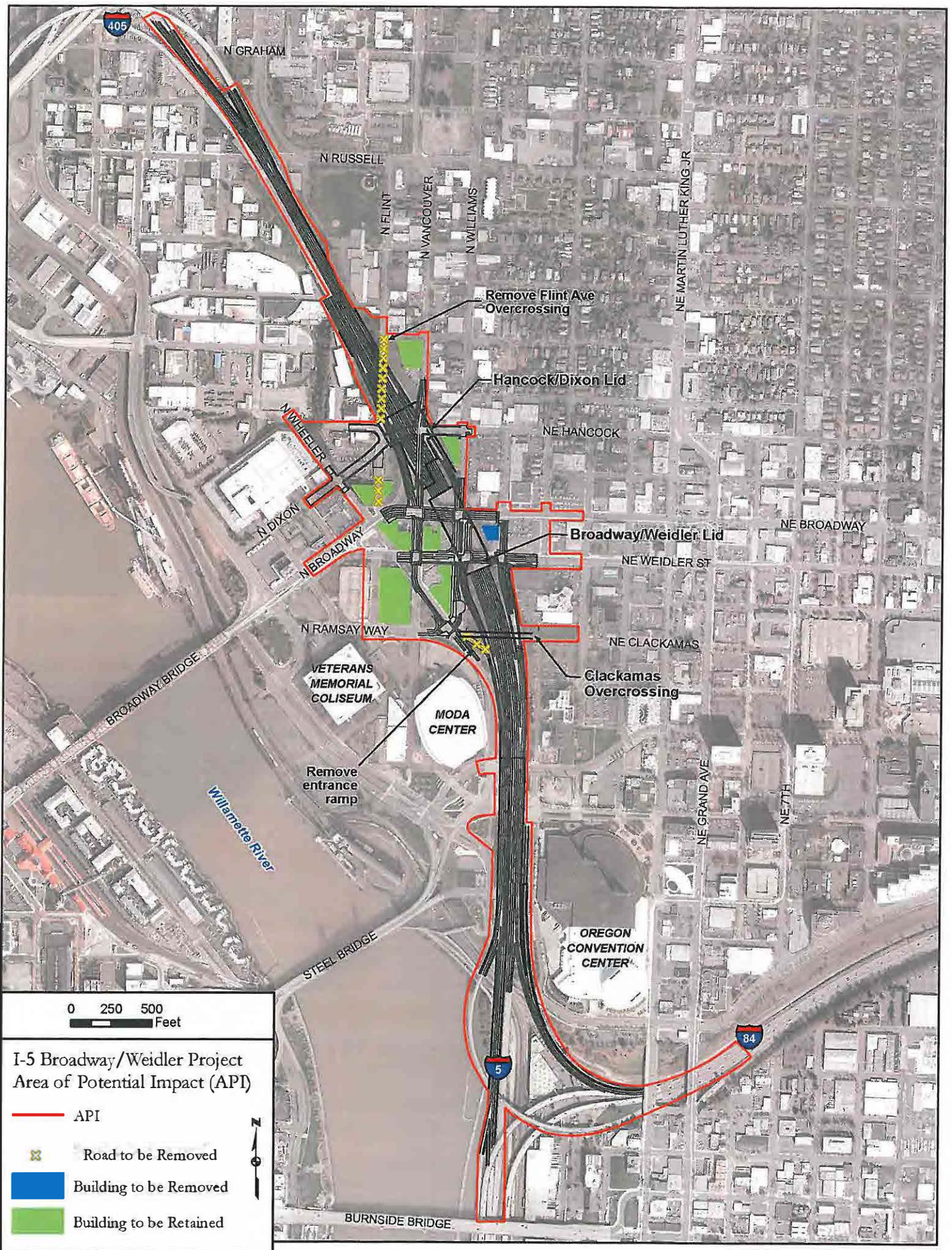
Thank you for your cooperation and potential interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Phillip A. Ditzler
Division Administrator, FHWA

Enclosure: Project Area Map



**I-5 Broadway/Weidler Project
Area of Potential Impact (API)**

- API
- ✕ Road to be Removed
- Building to be Removed
- Building to be Retained

0 250 500
Feet





U.S. Department
of Transportation
Federal Highway
Administration

Oregon Division
December 20, 2016

530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-399-5749
503-399-5838 (fax)
www.fhwa.dot.gov/ordiv

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-OR.
File:
KN19071

Mr. Austin Greene Jr., Tribal Chairperson
Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
1233 Veterans Street
P.O. Box C
Warm Springs, OR 97761

Re: Invitation to Become a Participating Agency on the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project Environmental Assessment

Dear Chairperson Greene:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Assessment under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations for the Interstate 5 (I-5) Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project. FHWA and ODOT will act as the NEPA lead agencies for this document. The proposed project limits extend approximately from Interstate 84 to the south to Interstate 405 north, in the City of Portland. A project location map is provided as an enclosure to this letter. The project purpose is to improve the safety and operation of I-5 in the vicinity of the NE Broadway and NE Weidler Interchange. Other objectives include enhancing local pedestrian and bicycle routes and improving freight movement.

The Tribe has been identified as having a potential interest in the project because it may affect land within the tribe's jurisdiction. This letter invites the Tribe to become a participating agency with FHWA and ODOT in the development of the NEPA Environmental Assessment for this project. Designation as a participating agency does not replace formal government-to-government or Section 106 tribal consultation. Federal legislation under SAFETEA-LU 6002 requires that federal lead agencies invite tribes to be designated as participating parties in addition to formal consultation. Designation as a participating agency does not imply that the Tribe supports the proposed project, or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of the Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), participating agencies are responsible to identify, as early as practicable any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental impacts to resources of the built and natural environment, that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval needed for the project. As a participating agency, your role in the development of this project may include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

- **Timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, with comments on project design and anticipated impacts and mitigation measures.**

Note that for this project, comments are not being solicited on the project purpose and need, or the development and screening of alternatives for the project. This is because the project purpose and need, and alternatives were reviewed extensively during the planning process which resulted in the current project. Agencies that agree to be participating agencies for this project will receive additional information on the purpose and need and alternatives evaluation process associated with the *I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Facility Plan*, as part of the North/Northeast Quadrant and I-5 Broadway Weidler Plans process.

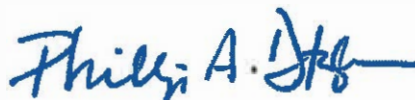
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- **Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to this project;**
- **Has no expertise or information relevant to the project; or**
- **Does not intend to submit comments on the project.**

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the project, or agency roles and responsibilities during preparation of the Environmental Assessment, please contact Emily Cline at 503-316-2547.

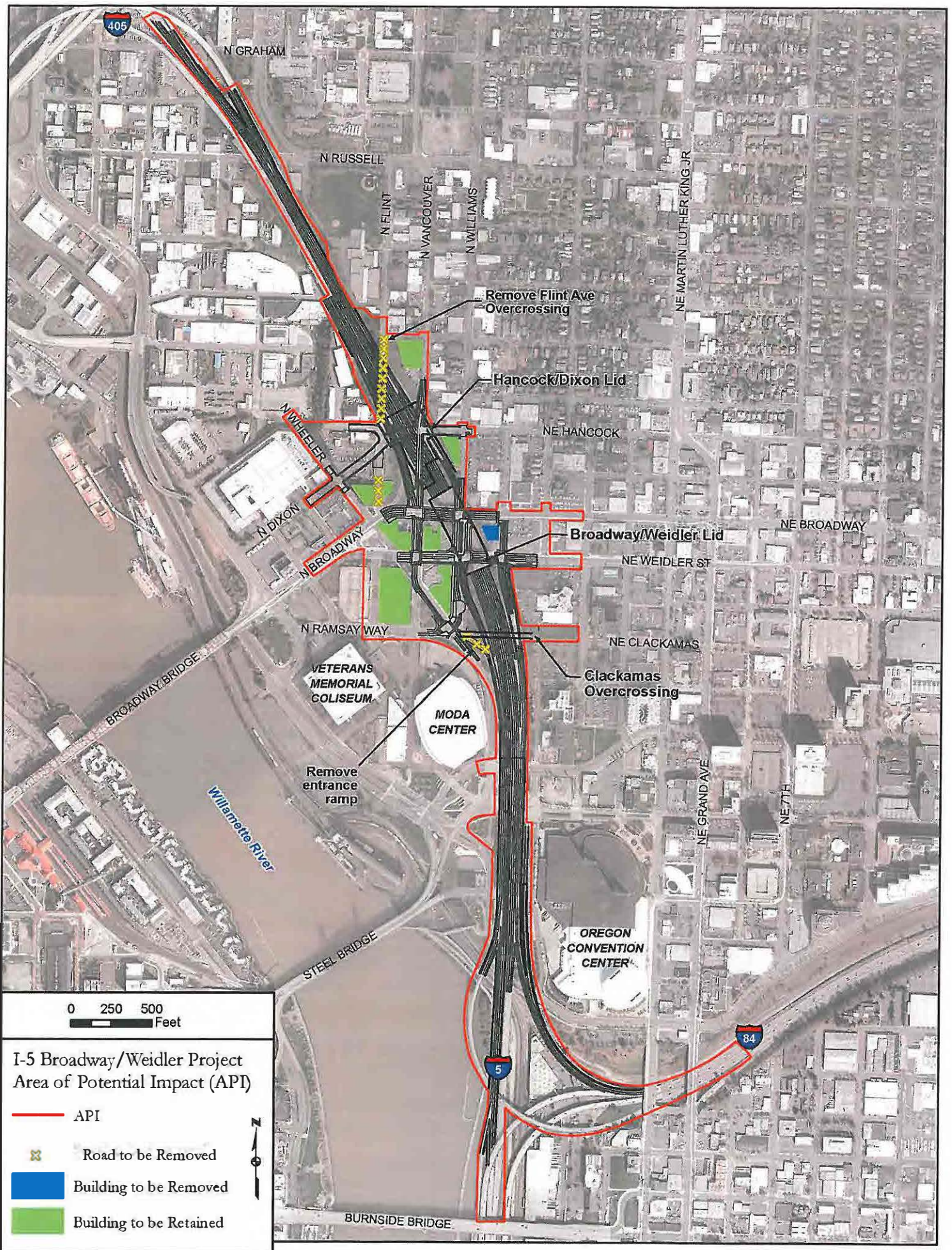
Thank you for your cooperation and potential interest in this project.

Sincerely,



**Phillip A. Ditzler
Division Administrator, FHWA**

Enclosure: Project Area Map



**I-5 Broadway/Weidler Project
Area of Potential Impact (API)**

- API
- ✘ Road to be Removed
- Building to be Removed
- Building to be Retained

0 250 500
Feet



N GRAHAM
N RUSSELL
N FLINT
N VANCOUVER
N WILLIAMS
NE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR
NE HANGOCK
NE BROADWAY
NE WEIDLER ST
NE CLACKAMAS
NE GRAND AVE
NE 7TH
N WIEDELER
N DIXON
N BROADWAY
N RAMSAY WAY
VETERANS MEMORIAL COLISEUM
MODA CENTER
OREGON CONVENTION CENTER
Remove Flint Ave Overcrossing
Hancock/Dixon Lid
Broadway/Weidler Lid
Clackamas Overcrossing
Remove entrance ramp

BROADWAY BRIDGE
WILLAMETTE RIVER
STEEL BRIDGE
BURNSIDE BRIDGE

405

5

84



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Oregon Division
December 20, 2016

530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-399-5749
503-399-5838 (fax)
www.fhwa.dot.gov/ordiv

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-OR.
File:
KN19071

Mr. William Iyall, Tribal Chairperson
Cowlitz Indian Tribe
P.O. Box 2547
Longview, WA 98632

Re: Invitation to Become a Participating Agency on the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project Environmental Assessment

Dear Chairperson Iyall:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Assessment under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations for the Interstate 5 (I-5) Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Project. FHWA and ODOT will act as the NEPA lead agencies for this document. The proposed project limits extend approximately from Interstate 84 to the south to Interstate 405 north, in the City of Portland. A project location map is provided as an enclosure to this letter. The project purpose is to improve the safety and operation of I-5 in the vicinity of the NE Broadway and NE Weidler Interchange. Other objectives include enhancing local pedestrian and bicycle routes and improving freight movement.

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Pursuant to Section 6002 of the Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), participating agencies are responsible to identify, as early as practicable any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental impacts to resources of the built and natural environment, that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval needed for the project. As a participating agency, your role in the development of this project may include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

- Participate in coordination meetings, as appropriate.

- Timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, with comments on project design and anticipated impacts and mitigation measures.

Note that for this project, comments are not being solicited on the project purpose and need, or the development and screening of alternatives for the project. This is because the project purpose and need, and alternatives, were reviewed extensively during the planning process which resulted in the current project. Agencies that agree to be participating agencies for this project will receive additional information on the purpose and need and alternatives evaluation process associated with the *I-5 Broadway/Weidler Interchange Improvements Facility Plan*, as part of the North/Northeast Quadrant and I-5 Broadway Weidler Plans process.

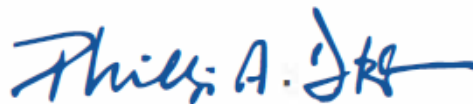
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If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the project, or agency roles and responsibilities during preparation of the Environmental Assessment, please contact Emily Cline at Emily.cline@dot.gov or 503-316-2547.

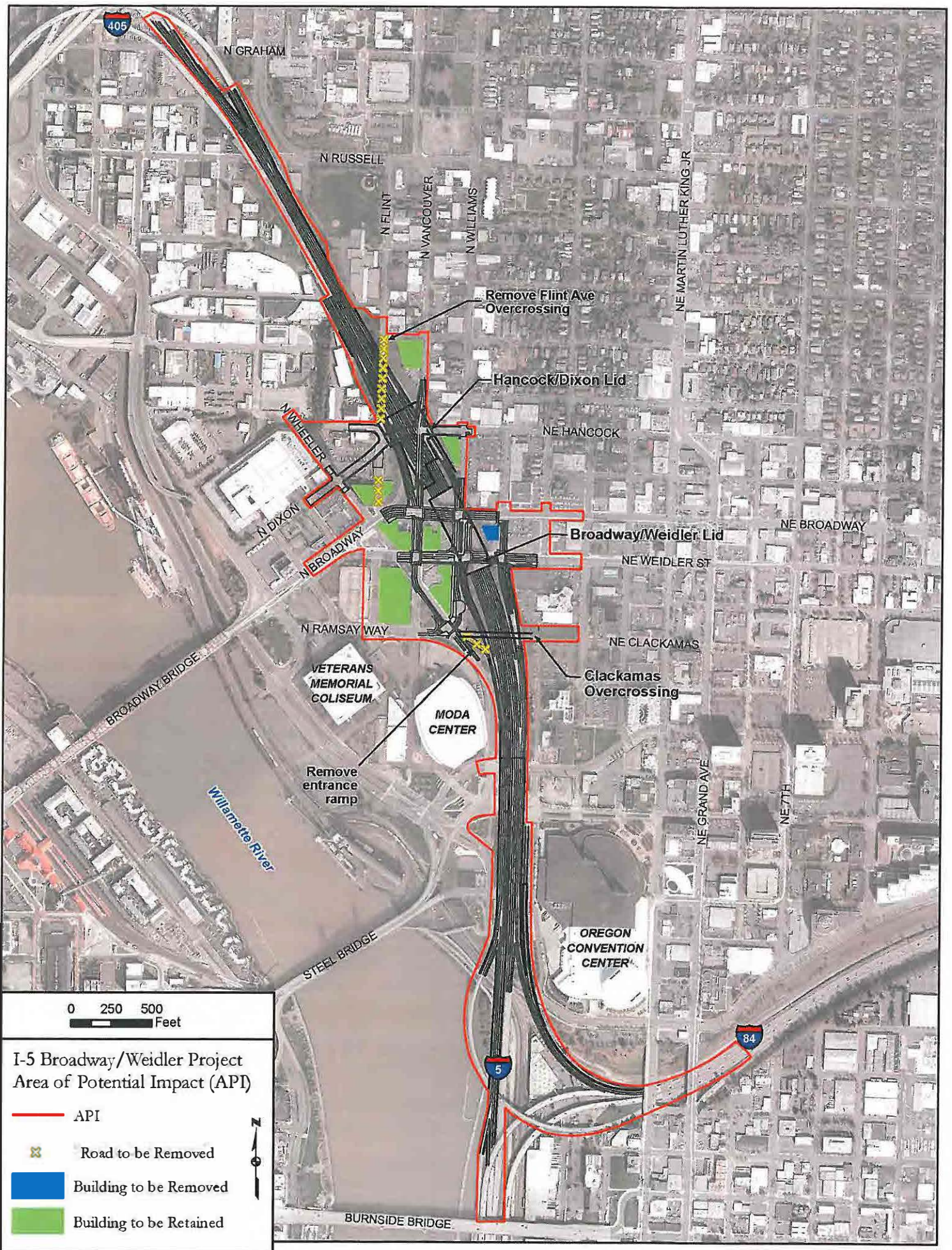
Thank you for your cooperation and potential interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Phillip A. Ditzler
Division Administrator, FHWA

Enclosure: Project Area Map



**I-5 Broadway/Weidler Project
Area of Potential Impact (API)**

- API
- ✕ Road to be Removed
- Building to be Removed
- Building to be Retained



0 250 500
Feet



Commissioner Chloe Eudaly
City of Portland

October 15, 2020

Phillip Ditzler, Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Participating Agency status on I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Environmental Assessment

Dear Mr. Ditzler:

In 2017, the City of Portland welcomed an opportunity to be involved in the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project (Project) as a Participating Agency. This was seen as an important first step in realizing the outcomes identified in the N/NE Quadrant Plan and the I-5 Broadway/Weidler Facility Plan, which were developed in collaboration with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to integrate long-range land use, urban design and local transportation planning for the area.

As the Commissioner-In-Charge of the Portland Bureau of Transportation, I am writing to notify the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) that the City is now withdrawing its support of the Project as currently envisioned, and of the EA itself.

The City of Portland has not been a participating agency in the process since the Portland City Council issued a Project stop work directive on July 6, 2020 (attached).

As a former Project partner, we felt it important to ensure the FHWA is aware of the current lack of local jurisdictional and stakeholder support. ODOT's continuation with the current EA process creates uncertainty regarding the path to address Environmental Justice, racial justice and local street improvement issues.

In the City's letter to the FHWA accepting partner agency status dated January 30, 2017, we documented several issues of concern that needed to be addressed as the EA moved forward. These issues related to negative short- and long-term construction impacts with the potential to disproportionately impact our most vulnerable road users and communities of color; impacts to City facilities including changing road grades and ability to address concerns of existing and future residents and users of the area; and a number of design issues grounded in PBOT's guiding transportation policies that prioritize multimodal improvements for people walking, taking transit, and biking.

Not only have these items not been sufficiently addressed, but some of the City's comments within the EA technical topics provided April 1, 2019 remain unresolved. Further, ODOT has not been successful in incorporating feedback from community and partner agencies regarding issues identified through the Environmental Justice process.

In partnership with Multnomah County, Metro and the Albina Vision Trust, the City of Portland provided testimony to the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) and ODOT on a number of occasions as the OTC considered a path forward for the project through the NEPA process. Testimony was provided on December 12, 2019, January 23, 2020 and March 27, 2020 that continually called on project leaders to develop an alternative outcomes-based process and partnership agreement that could demonstrate shared values and public benefit and/or proceed with an Environmental Impact Statement to take full account of the issues identified and address stated desired outcomes.

The land below and around Interstate-5 (I-5) in this area is special. Before the highway, Albina was the heart of Oregon's African American community. The project area encompasses Harriet Tubman Middle School, which preceded the construction of I-5. The forced displacement and associated disinvestment in the decades following I-5 construction is our shared history. This Project provided an opportunity to tell stories from Albina's rich history, create new transportation systems that help heal and connect us, and demonstrate responsibility for the past and commitment to a shared future. Unfortunately, the Project has not leaned into this opportunity and ODOT's efforts have fallen short.

Due to this lack of forward and transformational movement by ODOT, the Project concept as defined in the EA is not aligned with the values of the City as articulated in our Comprehensive Plan (Central City 2035), Racial Equity Plan or Climate Emergency Resolution.

We want to ensure that FHWA leadership and staff also consider suggestions made by the panel commissioned to provide an Environmental Assessment Peer Review (June 2020). The focus of their review was around concerns raised about the sufficiency of the noise, air quality and climate analysis performed for the EA. However, the panel acknowledged the level of controversy from partner agencies and community organizations in their deliberations. Panelists made a number of recommendations regarding how ODOT could proceed in a way to build partnership and support, all of which are relevant and most of which have not been acted upon, including:

- *“the collaborative involvement of the Albina Vision Trust, City of Portland, Multnomah County, Metro and others will be essential in helping to determine the use of this “new land” created by the I-5 cover and adjoining properties. A commitment to affordable housing, community development, and strategic land use planning/zoning needs to accompany the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project planning.” (p. 9)*
- *“A Community Benefits Agreement or Funding Framework Agreement should be put in place with all parties represented. This would allow commitments from ODOT, the contractor, the City, Metro, Tri-Met, Portland Trail Blazers, the Faith community, neighborhoods, local business associations and anyone else to be gathered in a single agreement. An auditor could be assigned to report back to all parties to ensure the bigger package of investments is made.” (p. 10)*



Commissioner Chloe Eudaly
City of Portland

Bringing these issues to you in our role as a partner agency is unprecedented in our region's history. Nonetheless, we hope that agency leadership will take them seriously. We would welcome further discussion with you about how to best address our concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chloe Eudaly". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chloe Eudaly
Commissioner, City of Portland



City of Portland

July 6, 2020

City Bureau Directors,

As evidenced by [Commissioner Eudaly](#) and my June 30, 2020 statements, ODOT's I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project is not currently aligned with the values of the City as articulated in Central City 2035, the Racial Equity Plan and the Climate Emergency Resolution.

Effectively immediately, we are directing all City Bureaus to suspend all operations until further notice related to the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project. This includes attending meetings, providing technical support or responding to project emails.

Any resumption of City staff services will be at the direction of the Portland City Council.

Sincerely,

Mayor Ted Wheeler

Commissioner Chloe Eudaly

Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty

Commissioner Amanda Fritz