



Washington State
Transportation Commission



I-5 Bridge Tolling Update

Joint Transportation Committee

October 17, 2024

Overview of Bi-State Tolling

I-5 Bridge Toll Authorization

Washington

- The Washington State Legislature authorized tolling for the Interstate 5 bridge replacement project in 2023 (RCW 47.56.902)

Oregon

- The Oregon State Legislature authorized tolling of state highways and provided specific direction to ODOT and the Oregon Transportation Commission (ORS 383).
- The 2013 Oregon bill authorizing the Columbia River Crossing project included language related to tolling the Interstate Bridge (*HB 2800*).

Washington Toll Authorization

- Authorizes tolling on the existing and replacement I-5 bridges.
- Toll revenues must be spent on construction, maintenance and operation of the toll facility.
- Prohibits tolls on the Washington portion of I-205.
- Toll rates cannot exceed highest existing toll rates in Washington.

Oregon Toll Authorization

- Tolls are to be used only to fund the project, must meet requirements for debt issued for the project and must pay for maintenance and operation of the project.
- Tolls must consider traffic demand management.
- Tolls must be reduced after paying off construction.

Bi-State Tolling Subcommittee

- The I-5 Bridge Bi-State Tolling Subcommittee was formed in accordance with the I-5 Bridge Bi-State Tolling Agreement the Commissions of each state agreed to in January 2024.
- The subcommittee recommends toll rates and policies to their respective full Commissions for rate-setting and periodic review.
- The subcommittee informs the full Commission's rate-setting decisions with updates on toll-setting work for the I-5 bridge, and on related research and analysis.
- Toll rates and policies must comply with state law and applicable bond covenants.



WA Vice Chair
Jim Restucci



OR Vice Chair
Lee Beyer



WA Comm.
Roy Jennings



OR Comm.
Alicia Chapman

Bi-State Toll Subcommittee Toll Rate & Policy Considerations

In addition to addressing funding requirements and existing laws in each state, the bi-state subcommittee will consider the following in advancing toll rates and policies:

- **Safe and Efficient Mobility:** Improve corridor mobility and efficient operations.
- **Equity:** Minimize effects on vulnerable populations and overburdened communities.
- **Environmental Quality:** Contribute to the reduction of air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Economic Vitality:** Support the efficient movement of goods and services across the bridge.



Current Status and Next Steps

Key Process Milestones To Date

- **March – April 2024:** Reviewed level 2 toll scenario analysis results and assumptions.
- **May – June 2024:** Considered and identified preliminary level 3 toll scenario recommendations.
- **July 2024:** Advanced level 3 toll scenario recommendations for approval by the Washington and Oregon Transportation Commissions.
- **October 2024:** Washington and Oregon Transportation Commissions approved recommended toll scenarios for level 3 analysis.





Developing Toll Scenarios

Level 3 toll analysis will provide detailed traffic and revenue projections sufficient to:

- Inform toll rate setting by the two Commissions.
- Leverage at least \$1.24 billion in capital funding.
- Meet all financial obligations over the forecast horizon.
- Eventually obtain an “investment-grade” credit rating to secure financing.

Toll Scenario Considerations & Attributes

There are two primary considerations informing development of the toll rate scenarios:

- Operating performance impacts
- Revenue generation levels

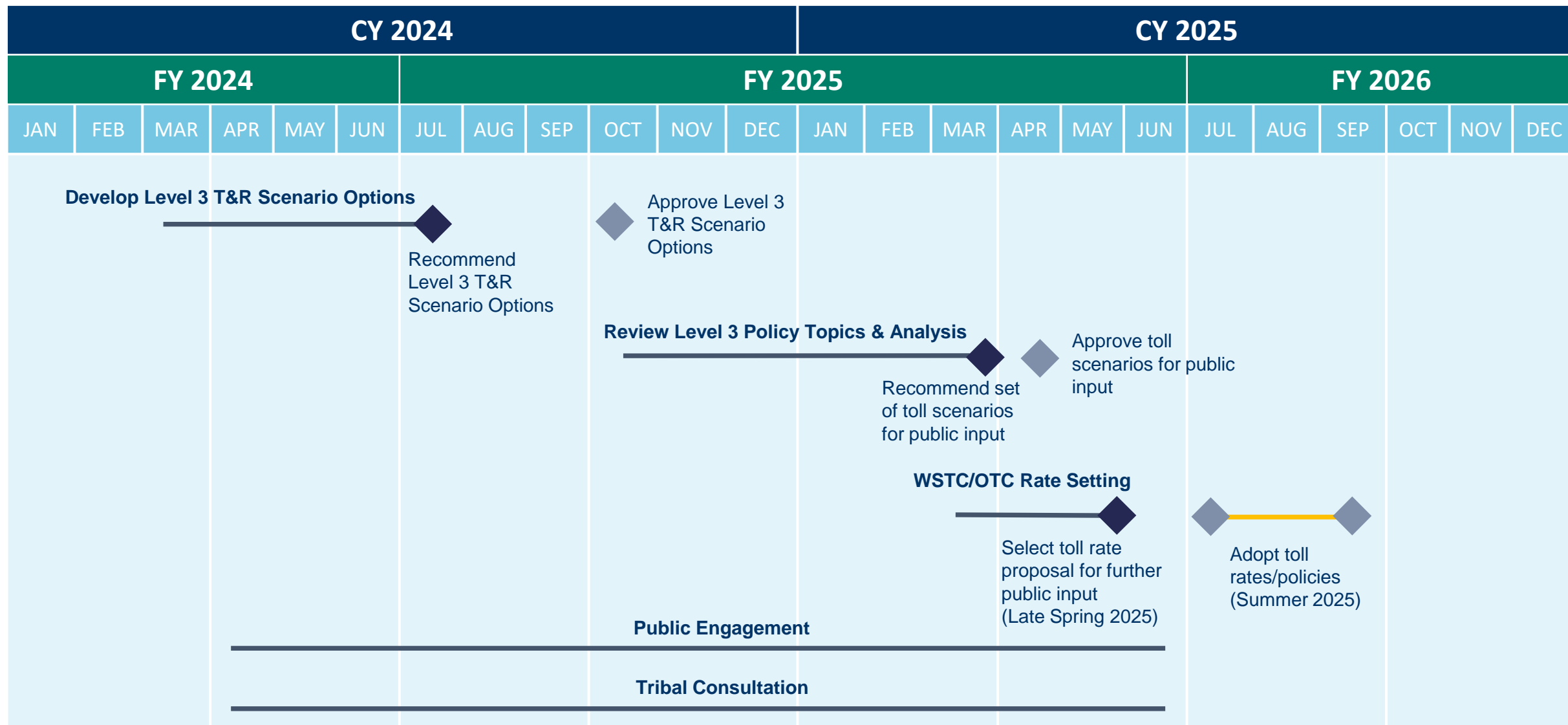
Key toll scenario attributes:

- Toll rate variability by time of day / day of week
- Truck toll multipliers
- Toll escalation
- Low-income benefit program / discount rate / eligibility threshold
- Pre-completion tolling vs post-completion


Toll Scenarios Advancing for Level 3 Analysis

1	Weekday Toll Rates & Hours (2026 \$)		Weekend Toll Rates & Hours (2026 \$)	Truck Toll Multipliers	Toll Escalation	Low-Income Toll Program
	Pre-Completion	Post Completion				
	\$1.55 - 3.20	\$1.55 - 3.65	Two Step (Min/Midday)	2.0x / 4.0x	2.15% Annually	50% Discount when New Bridge Opens
2	Weekday Toll Rates & Hours (2026 \$)		Weekend Toll Rates & Hours (2026 \$)	Truck Toll Multipliers	Toll Escalation	Low-Income Toll Program
	Pre-Completion	Post Completion				
	\$1.55 - 3.65	\$1.65 - 3.90	Three Step (Min/Mid/Peak)	1.5x / 3.0x	2.15% Annually	50% Discount when New Bridge Opens
3	Weekday Toll Rates & Hours (2026 \$)		Weekend Toll Rates & Hours (2026 \$)	Truck Toll Multipliers	Toll Escalation	Low-Income Toll Program
	Pre-Completion	Post Completion				
	\$1.65 - 3.90	\$1.65 - 3.90	Two Step (Min/Midday)	1.5x / 3.0x	2.15% Annually	50% Discount <i>as soon as practical</i>
4	Weekday Toll Rates & Hours (2026 \$)		Weekend Toll Rates & Hours (2026 \$)	Truck Toll Multipliers	Toll Escalation	Low-Income Toll Program
	Pre-Completion	Post Completion				
	\$2.00 - \$4.70	\$2.00 - \$4.70	Three Step (Min/Mid/Peak)	1.5x / 3.0x	3% Every 2 Years	50% Discount <i>as soon as practical</i>

I-5 Bridge Rate Setting Schedule



Legend

Subcommittee action 

Full Commission action 

Questions?

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Washington State Transportation Commission

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