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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 15, 2011

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Columbia River Crossing Coalition Supports Project's Final Environmental Impact Statement

Statement to be released September 23

Portland, Ore. -- The Columbia River Crossing Coalition, a broad group of businesses, labor, ports, community groups and individuals, is supporting the Columbia River Crossing project's Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). The FEIS was provided to the Federal Highway and Transit administrations this week by the Washington and Oregon departments of transportation, with official publication set for September 23.

"This is an important sign of progress," said Sandra McDonough, President & CEO of the Portland Business Alliance and a member of the coalition's board of directors. "The coalition supports the FEIS and the Locally Preferred Alternative as we look forward toward moving this project closer to construction."

The coalition believes the project thoroughly addresses growing travel demand and congestion across the I-5 bridge, as well as greatly improves the flow of freight and maritime traffic through the region.

Coalition members regularly participated in the project's significant public outreach efforts, attending Project Sponsor Council meetings, offering verbal and written comment and providing input to project staff.

"This project is the right balance of offering alternative ways for people to get to work, improving our economic lifeline to freight movement and making this troublesome part of I-5 safer to travel," said McDonough. "Let's get on with building it!"

The FEIS can be found on the project's website: www.columbiarivercrossing.org. Coalition leaders are hopeful that a Record of Decision will be issued by the end of the year.

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The Columbia River Crossing Coalition is a broad group of businesses, labor, ports and community groups that have organized a coalition to support the Columbia River Crossing project. The coalition advocates for the state and federal funding necessary to build this crucial transportation improvement. Find out more at www.crossingcoalition.com.