PRESS RELEASE

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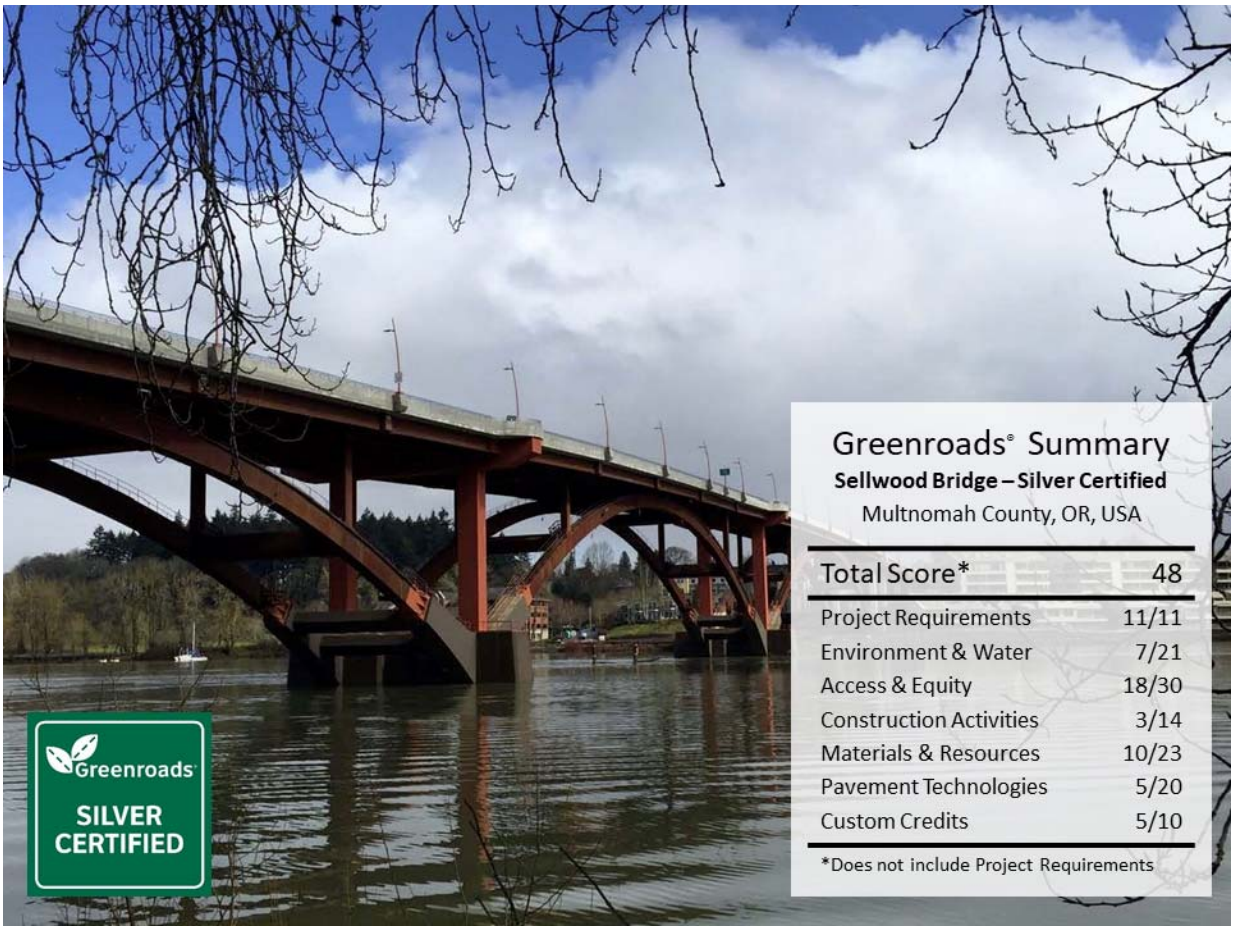
BRIDGE IS FIRST GREENROADS PROJECT CERTIFIED IN OREGON

SELLWOOD BRIDGE SLIDES INTO SILVER RATING FOR SUSTAINABILITY

PORTLAND, OR – November 17, 2017 – Greenroads Foundation is pleased to announce that Multnomah County's Sellwood Bridge Replacement project has earned Greenroads Silver Certification. The bridge project is the 39th Greenroads Project certified in the world and takes the top rank as the highest scoring project to date.

The Sellwood Bridge is the cornerstone of the entire $324 million Sellwood Bridge Replacement program (www.sellwoodbridge.org) that also included work on the Oregon 43 Interchange, local streets, regional parks, and the nearby trail system. The original bridge was built in 1925. It crosses the Willamette River and was structurally deficient, vulnerable to earthquakes, had restricted access for buses, no bike lanes, and provided only limited connectivity for pedestrians.



Multnomah County's Sellwood Bridge Project Scorecard. The Project met all 11 Project Requirements, achieved 18 Voluntary Credits, and is the highest scoring project to date. (Photo by David Evans and Associates)

The project was made possible by using an innovative method of procurement called construction manager/general contractor (CMGC). CMGC brings together multiple disciplines of the project delivery team before construction starts and allows them to come up with value-added solutions. This approach enabled the integrated team to collaborate and implement ideas that save time and money, such as the lateral bridge slide, which moved the old bridge to make space for the new bridge.

The bridge slide was a specialty process that ended up saving the public upwards of $10 million in tax dollars from the initially estimated costs. To do this, contractors used hydraulic jacks to shift the original 3,400-ton steel bridge 33 feet at the east end and 66 feet at the west end onto a temporary structure, little by little, in a process that lasted 14 hours. This temporary structure served as a detour bridge.

The bridge move looks similar to a windshield wiper and made room for the adjacent construction of the new replacement bridge while maintaining the existing traffic connections. The shift also allowed the project to avoid and reduce environmental impacts within the waterway by avoiding building the new bridge in two phases, each requiring in-water work. You can view a time-lapse video of the bridge shift here: https://vimeo.com/57807120)

Portland is known for its signature bridges, so creating a unique, beautiful bridge that fit aesthetically into the neighborhood context was crucial. The result is a steel deck arch made with recycled components that echoes the character of the first bridge.

"One of our goals for the project was to reflect the county's values around sustainability, and we feel that the Greenroads certification is independent recognition that the county has achieved those goals," said Ian Cannon, Transportation Director and County Engineer for Multnomah County.

"What sets this project apart is how much collaboration happened between Multnomah County, Oregon Department of Transportation, the City of Portland, and the design and construction teams," said Jeralee Anderson, CEO of Greenroads Foundation. "That collaboration was key to achieving so many environmental, social, and economic wins for this green bridge."

"The new bridge has much better connections into the trail network on the west end of the bridge and better connections at the east end of the bridge, so it really ties into the routes that people who aren't using cars travel," Cannon said.

Creating a more multi-modal bridge is just one of the ways that the new Sellwood Bridge demonstrates stakeholders' commitment to sustainability. Other sustainable actions included:

- Sourcing 94% of materials by cost within 50 miles, including recycled steel products.
- Recycling over 91% of waste materials
- Installing energy-efficient LEDs lights that limit light pollution.
- Educational plaques documenting the history of the bridge for pedestrians

Funding was provided by Multnomah County, the City of Portland, the State of Oregon, and the Federal Highway Administration, including a TIGER Grant. The Sellwood Bridge was designed by T.Y Lin, CH2M Hill, Walker Macy, Safdie Rabines Architects, Mainline Design, Inc., and Reyes Engineering. Slayden Sundt Joint Venture was the prime contractor and other construction team members included Omega Morgan, Ross Island Sand & Gravel, Rose City Rebar, Thompson Metal Fab, and Knife River Corporation. David Evans and Associates acted as Owner's Representative.

There are currently more than 120 projects registered for the Greenroads Project Rating Program in 11 states and 8 countries valued at more than $23 billion USD. Three other transportation projects in Oregon are also certified as a result of the Sellwood Bridge Replacement Program: OR 43 Interchange (Silver – Oregon Department of Transportation), Southwest Macadam Bay Drive and Regional Trail (Bronze – City of Portland Bureau of Parks & Recreation) and SE Tacoma Street (Bronze – City of Portland Bureau of Transportation). Case studies and further details for Greenroads Certified Projects and Greenroads Pilot Projects are available at www.greenroads.org/portfolio.

The project earned points for installing fixtures for public use, such as the benches and interpretive sign shown in this image. Photo by David Evans and Associates.

The new bridge included dedicated bike lanes and luminaires with energy-efficient LEDs. The luminaires were dark-sky friendly, minimizing light pollution from the bridge. Photo by David Evans and Associates.

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ABOUT GREENROADS FOUNDATION

Established in 2010, Greenroads Foundation is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, which advances sustainability education and initiatives for transportation infrastructure. As the developer of the Greenroads Rating System, the Foundation manages the certification process for sustainable roadway and bridge construction projects in the U.S. and internationally. For more information, visit www.greenroads.org and join us on Facebook at facebook.com/greenroads.

*Images available upon request.

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