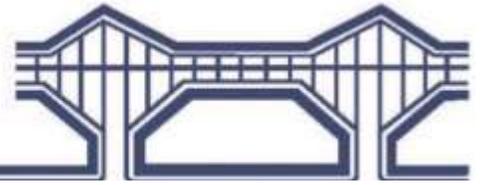


Port Report



Special Publication on the Bridge of the Gods for Our Neighbors in Oregon & Washington



Bridge of the Gods Tolls Increase July 1

Tolls will increase on the Bridge of the Gods July 1, 2016 at 12am (midnight). The Port Commission's decision to increase the tolls came after a series of public meetings on both the Oregon and Washington sides of the Columbia River. During these meetings, local residents and business-owners provided valuable suggestions and feedback about how to structure a program that would increase the toll revenue to address critical long-term bridge maintenance costs, while also honoring the local communities. The fee schedule below was approved on May 19, 2016 by the Port of Cascade Locks Commission. There will also be special discount programs for low income and large volume coupon purchasing.

Vehicle Type	Current Toll Cash	With Current Coupon	New Toll Cash	With New Local Decal	With New Coupon
Pedestrians, Bikes (north-bound only)	\$0.50		\$1.00		
Motorcycles	\$0.50		\$1.00		
Trailers (per axle)	\$0.50		\$1.00		
2 Axle Vehicles (cars & pick-ups)	\$1.00	\$0.75	\$2.00	\$1.00	\$1.00
2 Axle Vehicles w/ dual rear wheels	\$2.00	\$1.50	\$3.00	\$2.00	\$2.00
3 Axle Trucks	\$4.50	\$4.50	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00
4 Axle Trucks	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$7.00	\$7.00	\$7.00
5 Axle Trucks	\$7.50	\$7.50	\$9.00	\$8.75	\$8.75
6 Axle Trucks	\$9.00	\$9.00	\$11.00	\$10.50	\$10.50
7 Axle Trucks	\$10.50	\$10.50	\$13.00	\$12.25	\$12.25
8 Axle Trucks	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$15.00	\$14.00	\$14.00

Your Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) About the New Bridge Tolls

Are my old coupon books still valid?

Yes, all existing Port-issued bridge toll coupons will be accepted until they run out. Once they are sold out, they will not be reordered.

Who is considered a "local" to get the decal?

Resident and business vehicles registered in Hood River, Wasco, Klickitat, and Skamania Counties, plus Dodson and Warrendale areas.

Where can I get my local decal?

Interior car window cling decals will be issued from the Port Office in Cascade Locks or the Skamania County Chamber of Commerce in Stevenson. Residents will need to show proof of current address, plus vehicle registration for each additional vehicle needing a decal.

Do I have to pay for the local decal?

No, the decals are free.

When can I get my local decal?

The decals have been ordered and should be available on both sides of the river in mid-June.

Do I have to be a local to buy coupon books?

No, anyone can purchase coupon books.





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Recovering from Emergency Bridge Construction

The Bridge of the Gods is critical to the regional economy and overall quality of life in the Columbia River Gorge.

The weight limit on the Bridge of the Gods for an individual vehicle is 40 tons/80,000 lbs. Not long ago in 2013, the Port was shocked by a reduced load rating on the bridge of 8 tons/16,000 lbs. The negative impact to the regional economy from this reduced load rating was estimated at \$72.3M in the first year alone (\$26.7M of which was lost employee and business owner income). The negative impacts were experienced strongest in Skamania County, and were as far reaching as the Yakama Valley. This data was compiled in a 2014 economic impact analysis by Oregon State University.

Quick Bridge Facts:

Years Constructed: 1920-1926
Year Raised 44 feet: 1938-1940
Year Purchased by Port: 1961
Length: 1,858 feet
Height Clearance: 14 feet 6 inches
Bridge Width: 35 feet
Lane Width: 12 feet
Max Weight: 80,000 lbs. / 40 tons
Above Water: 140 feet
Original Decking: Wood
Annual Vehicle Crossings: 1.6M
Annual Value of Goods: \$35M

Thanks to quick assistance from ODOT, WSDOT, and FHWA in 2013, the Port was able to conduct \$1.2M in bridge repairs in less than four months (originally estimated to take two years), to return the bridge to the full 40 ton/80,000 lbs. weight limit. Following this emergency construction, the Port adopted a 10 Year Plan for bridge maintenance and preservation. The estimated cost for the next 10 years of scheduled bridge maintenance is approximately \$14M. The Port created a designated Bridge Fund, and plans to allocate a minimum of \$250,000 per year toward these projects from toll revenue, while also saving for large projects. The Port expects that some of the large projects may qualify for state or federal grants. Significant matching dollar amounts will be required to leverage those grant funds.

The Port is partnering closely with the Port of Hood River to ensure that both critical bridges within the National Scenic Area remain operational at full capacity. In a side project, the Port is also partnering with the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA), the City of Stevenson, and the Friends of the Gorge to explore the feasibility of adding a narrow cantilevered lane to the side of the Bridge of the Gods, in order to safely accommodate pedestrians and bicycles. This research is ongoing.

Besides bridge maintenance, annual bridge toll revenues also support regional economic development efforts toward job creation. This includes purchasing, selling, and leasing land, recruiting new businesses, promoting existing businesses, investing in public infrastructure, maintaining the Cascade Locks Marine Park facilities, partnering on local recreation facilities, and other local community programs.