

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

PROCLAMATION NO. _____

Proclaiming April 22, 2013 as the “Broadway Bridge Centennial” and supporting the PDX 2013 Bridge Festival.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

- a. Portland is one of the world’s great bridge cities, with the Willamette River at its core, and ten bridges connecting its neighborhoods to downtown.
- b. Bridges across the Willamette -- including the Broadway, Burnside, Fremont, Hawthorne, Marquam, Morrison, Ross Island, St. Johns, Sellwood, and Steel – are vital for transportation to all in the Portland region, and serve as icons of the city to the rest of the world.
- c. The six Willamette River bridges maintained by Multnomah County is each unique, including the Broadway Bridge, with its brick-red paint and rare Rall-wheel drawbridge design.
- d. The Broadway Bridge, which opened in 1913, is the oldest and largest Rall-wheel drawbridge operating in the United States. The Broadway was the first bascule drawbridge in Portland and played a key role in opening up Northeast Portland to residential development.
- e. Citizens of the Portland area have formed the non-profit group PDX Bridge Festival to raise awareness and foster appreciation of the Willamette River bridges through education, artistic and historic programming.
- f. Activities and events presented by the PDX Bridge festival represent key aspects of Portland’s culture and are of interest to citizens across the diverse demographics of Multnomah County, thus serving to bridge the communities of the Portland metro area.
- g. PDX Bridge Festival plans to host a celebration in April 2013 in honor of the Broadway Bridge’s 100 years of service to our community.
- h. PDX Bridge Festival also plans a “Bridge for Blankets” art installation on the Broadway Bridge in August and September. Volunteers from around the region will knit fabric panels that will be stitched together to form large panels on the bridge. After the installation, the panels will be divided into blankets and donated to homeless shelters.
- i. The festival plans other programs to mark the Broadway Bridge centennial this summer, including a gallery exhibit, a weekend block party, and guided bridge tours.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaims:

April 22, 2013 as the “Broadway Bridge Centennial” and supporting the PDX 2013 Bridge Festival.

ADOPTED this 21st day of March, 2013:

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY**

Jeff Cogen, County Chair

Deborah Kafoury
Commissioner District 1

Loretta Smith
Commissioner District 2

Judy Shiprack
Commissioner District 3

Diane McKeel
Commissioner District 4