

## Multnomah County board to table vote on Broadway Bridge bidding process

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The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners will delay Thursday's scheduled vote to determine a bidding process for the upcoming **Broadway Bridge Rall wheel replacement**.

The board was scheduled to decide whether to exempt the \$10 million project from the low-bid process that typically determines who wins public contracts. Instead, the county could use the "construction manager/general contractor" method.

County spokesman Mike Pullen said a new state rule took effect July 1 that requires the county to let Oregon Department of Justice officials review and comment on the proposal. Broadway Bridge project leaders weren't aware of the new rule when they placed the item on Thursday's agenda.

The county board will vote Thursday to table the item, pending a state review. They'll revisit the item later this year, Pullen said.

Unlike low-bid process, which awards contracts to the lowest qualified bidder, the construction-manager/general contractor process takes price into consideration along with factors such as the contractor's qualifications, experience, approach and their plans to hire a diverse, well-paid workforce.

For more on the "construction manager/general contractor" bidding method, **see The Oregonian's previous coverage**.

--Kelly House

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