

Case Study Template



BUILDING AMERICA®

-Project name: Harrisburg Bridge Replacement

-Background:

Harrisburg Bridge, a 1906 vintage through-truss structure in Linn County proved problematic mostly for passenger rail expedient passage. By updating with a modern deck plate girder ballasted-deck bridge and replacing approach spans, UP was able to increase the speed limit and relieve a congestion point for freight and passenger rail.

-Solution:

Union Pacific was able to justify investing its private capital to replace its Harrisburg Bridge, because of a 25 percent match grant from ConnectOregon. The new bridge provides for higher speeds for reliability to the freight and public passenger system. Without the 25 percent ConnectOregon grant, the Harrisburg Bridge replacement would have had a lower ROI than projects in other states and would have been deferred for years. Thanks to the ConnectOregon grant, the new bridge now provides Oregonians a more efficient passenger service.

-Outcome:

Project has improved UP's operating efficiencies and enhanced accessibility to UP's extensive North American transportation network allowing UP to offer transportation services to rail customers with a very diverse traffic mix from agriculture to intermodal containers.

The project also improved intercity passenger rail (both state supported and Amtrak service) and provided an alternative to air and highway transportation along the I-5 corridor.

The maximum allowable speed was increased from 30 mph to 79 mph for Amtrak and 60 mph for freight.

-Pictures of the project

(before and after or while under construction is ideal, but post project is just fine too).
