US-93 SALMON RIVER BRIDGE

Community Working Group Meeting #1

March 25, 2026 | Salmon, Idaho

Your Safety • Your Mobility • Your Economic Opportunity

Welcome!

Eli Robinson, ITD District 6

Introductions

- ITD project team
- Community working group participants

Project Overview

The Idaho Transportation Department is making plans to replace the Salmon River Bridge on US-93 in downtown Salmon, Idaho.

This bridge was constructed in 1926 and serves a variety of motorists, pedestrians, park visitors, rafters, fishermen, scenic byway travelers and others.

Community Working Group

The purpose of this group is to:

Provide **detailed and specific input** at key milestones.

+

Ensure community interests and concerns **are represented** during this process.

+

Help ITD communicate with the **wider community.**

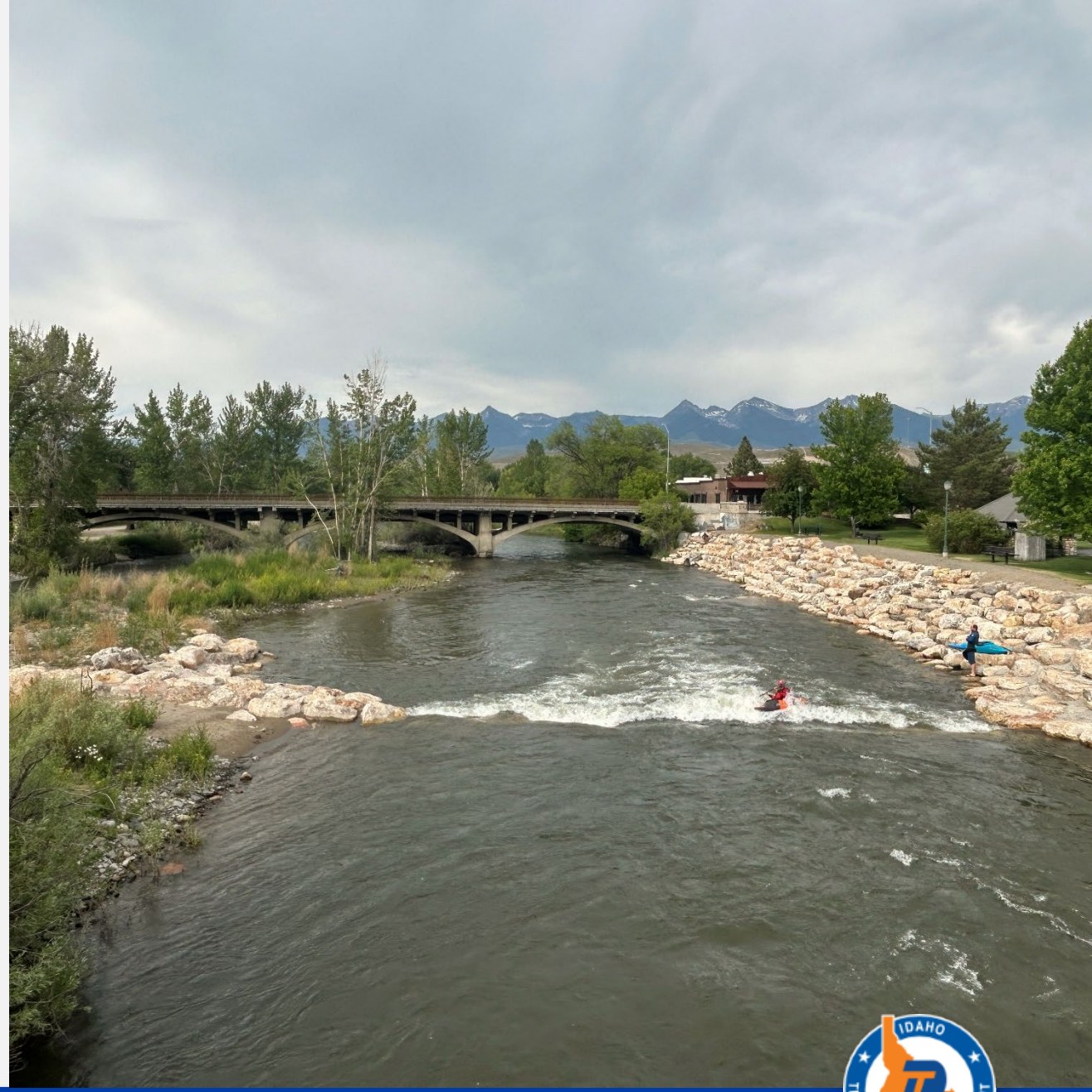
The group will meet throughout the project.

Purpose of today's meeting

- Introduce the project
- Review the bridge design process
- Present / review initial design concepts
- Solicit input and priorities
- Review next steps

Housekeeping

- Restrooms
- Emergency exits
- Sign-in sheets and comment sheets are at your tables
- Today's format
- Ask questions!



History

- The Salmon River Bridge was constructed in 1926 for a total construction cost of $102,819.
- The original bridge included two five-foot sidewalks on each side. The bridge was widened in 1964 and sidewalks removed on one side.
- Two of the five piers included electric lighting.
- The city celebrated with an opening gala and all-night dance on the bridge.

SALMON RIVER TO HAVE FINEST BRIDGE

Work is Begun on New Concrete Structure at Salmon. Cost $100,000.00

The new bridge now being built over the Salmon river at Salmon, is considered by bridge engineers as the finest of its kind and is one of the largest in the northwest and the largest concrete bridge in Idaho. The contract calls for its completion July 1, 1926.

The Salmon bridge is to be of concrete, 436 feet in length. The roadway will be 20 feet wide, with a 5-foot walk on each side. The total cost, $102,819. J. J. Burke & Co. of Salt Lake have the contract, calling for the construction.

Lighting

On each of the two abutment th

Existing conditions

- The existing bridge spans two main channels of the Salmon River.
- The bridge crosses Island Park in the center of the river.
- The current bridge is 438 feet long and 36 feet wide from curb to curb.
- It includes two 12-foot lanes, two 6-foot shoulders, and no center median.
- The south side includes a 5-foot sidewalk with a barrier for pedestrians.

Why replace the bridge?

- The bridge is slowly falling behind in accommodating increasing traffic and vehicle weights.
- The cost to continue to repair and maintain the bridge grows with each passing year, including the aesthetic elements.
- Recent inspection reports show the concrete is deteriorating (evidenced by spalling, delamination and scour):

  Spalling: *Chipping, flaking, or peeling of the concrete surface, exposing rebar. It is caused primarily by internal pressure from rusting steel (due to moisture/carbonation) or freeze-thaw cycles. Left untreated, it can lead to surface deterioration and potential structural weakening.*

  Delamination: *Failure and separation of a material into layers, caused by stress and moisture.*

  Scour: *The erosion of soil, rock and sediment around the bridge foundations (piers and abutments), caused by fast moving water.*

Process and Timeline

Late 2025/ Early 2026

Project kickoff

Spring 2026

Bridge design concepts

Community outreach

2026

Preliminary design

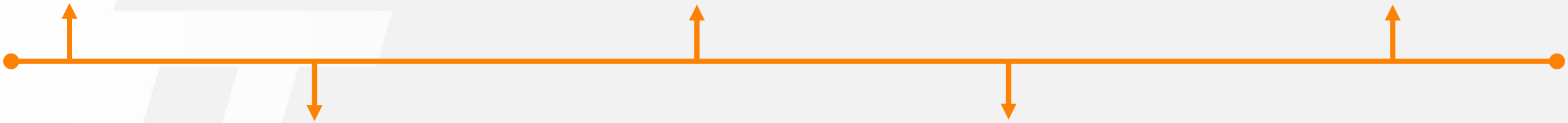
Community outreach

2027-2028

Final design plans and pre-construction outreach

~2031

Anticipated Construction



This project includes:

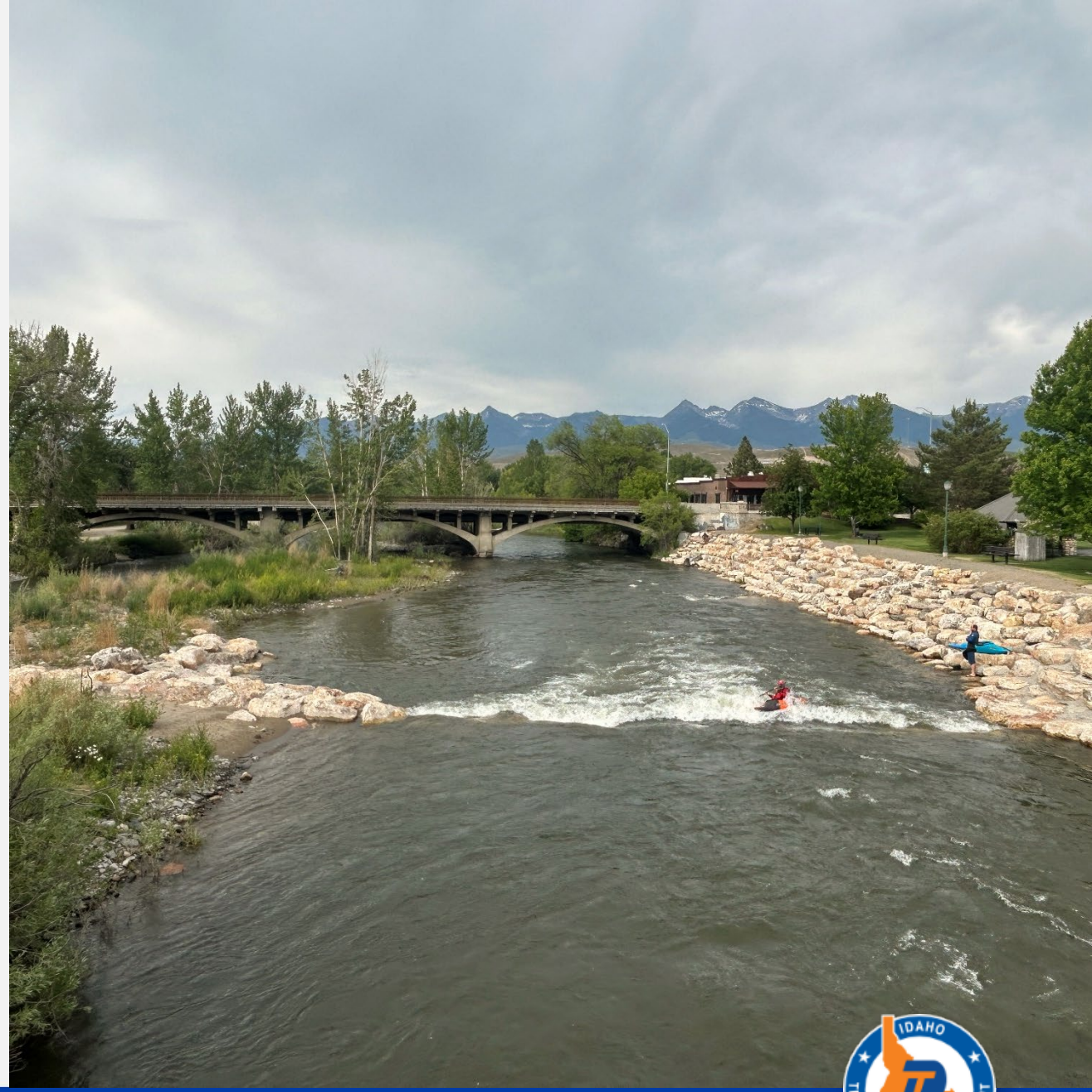
- **Technical studies** (Hydraulics, drainage, traffic, geotechnical and materials, right-of-way)
- **Environmental studies** NEPA compliance, Archeological and Historic survey, Aquatic Resources and Biological Assessment, Recreation/Parks, and permitting
- **Bridge and roadway design**
- **Public involvement**

Involving the Public

- Public involvement will help ITD **understand key community issues** and build support for a bridge that will serve the Salmon area for generations to come.
- ITD will ask for **input on design concepts** and aesthetic elements.
- ITD is **committed to involving and informing the community** at all phases of the project.

Opportunities

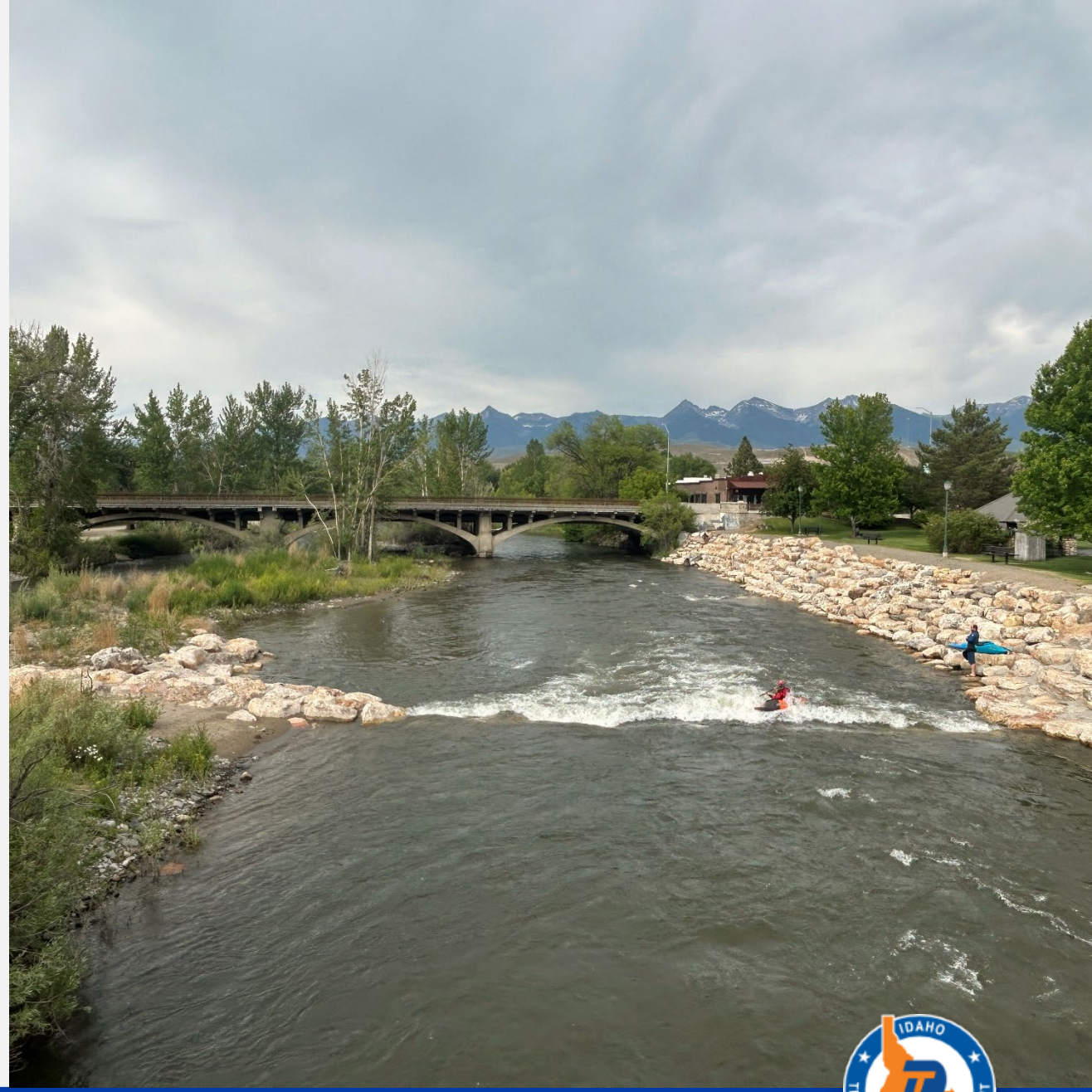
- Improved Safety
- Placemaking (i.e. bridge as destination)
- Community Expression
- Improved Bike/Ped Connectivity
- Improved Recreation Opportunities – Bridge and Park Relationship (i.e. more open, better access)
- Incorporate Art – Betterments (i.e. bridgeheads, overlooks)
- Reduce O+M Costs



Project Constraints

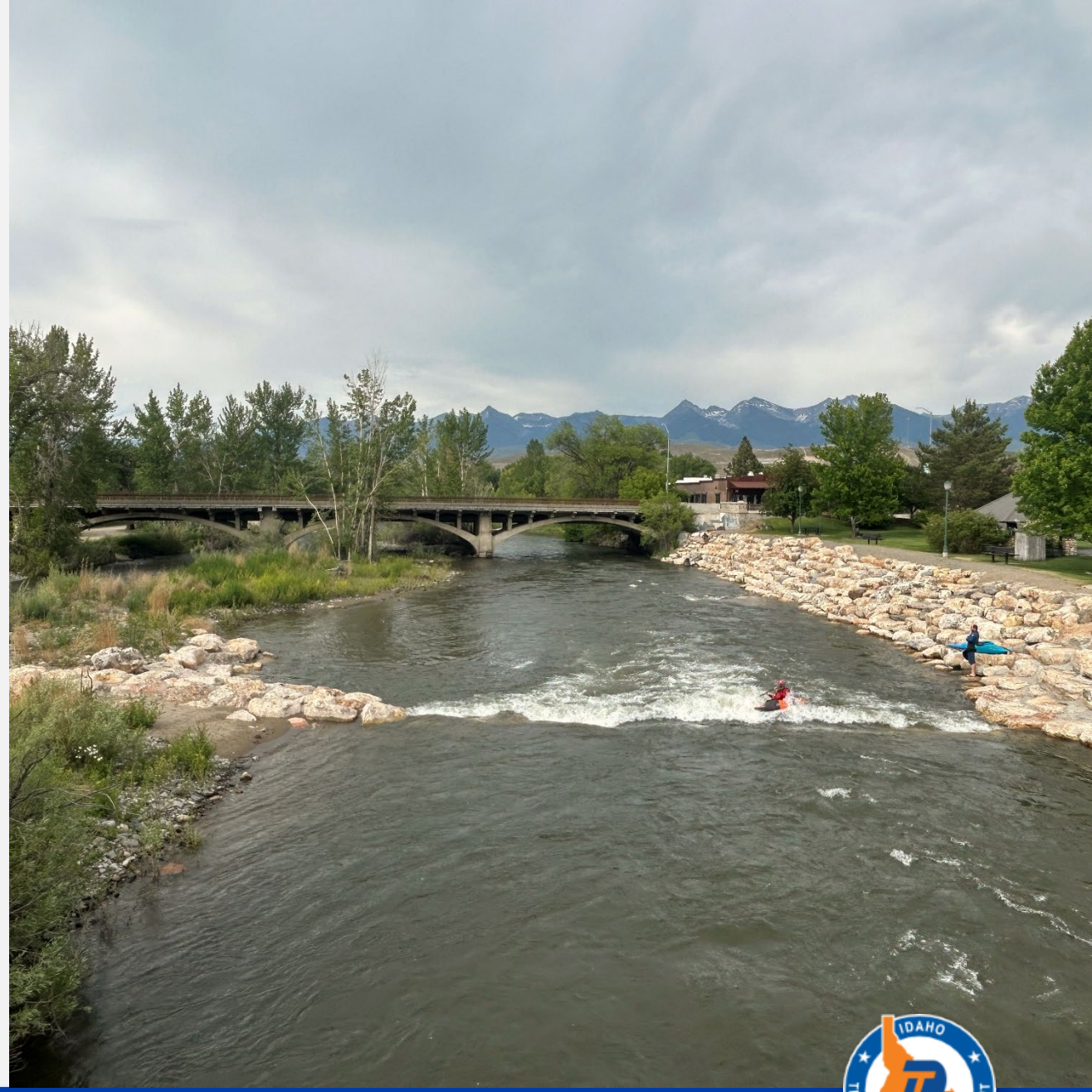
ITD is working with many limiting factors when designing the new bridge:

- **Safety**
- **Cost**
- **Constructability and Maintenance**
- **Longevity**
- **Environmental** (Aquatic habitat and water quality protection, wetland and sensitive area preservation, regulatory and permitting constraints, sustainability and long-term environmental impacts, and geotechnical and hydrological factors)
- **Integration with Island Park**



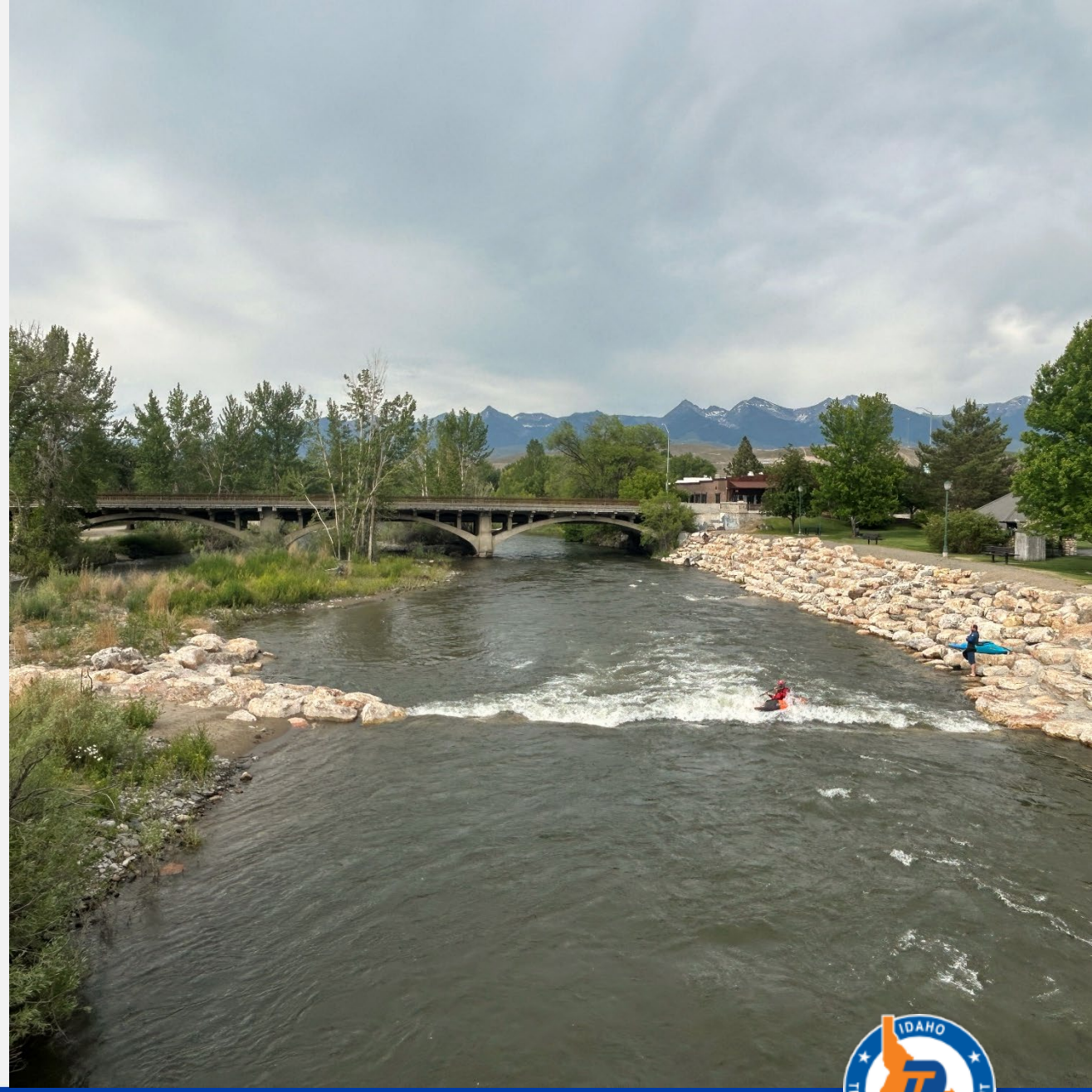
Project Constraints: Safety

- Pedestrian/bike accommodation during construction
- Provide local thru traffic at US-93/ Cleveland Avenue intersection
- US-93 SB/Cleveland Ave sight distance
- Island Park ingress/egress



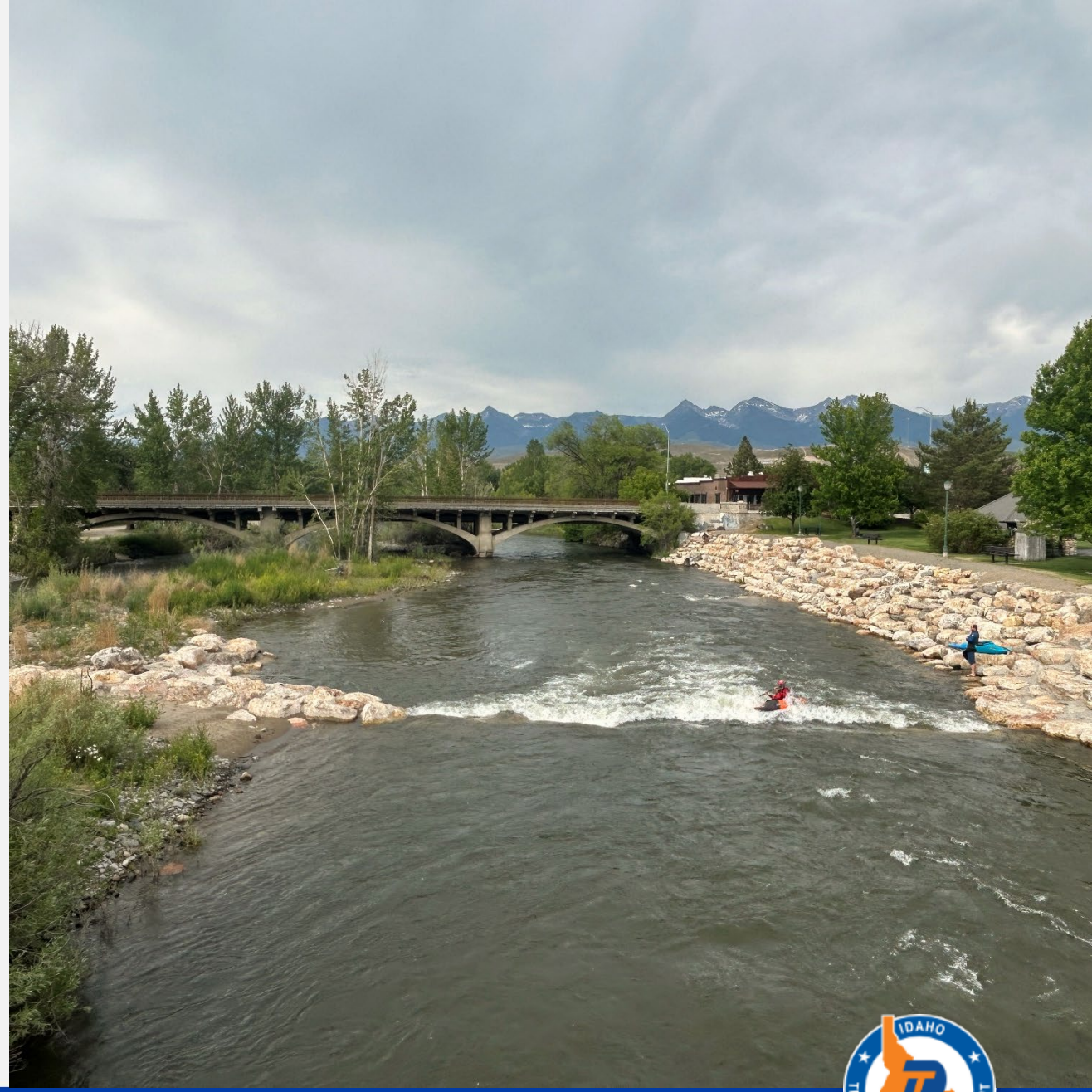
Project Constraints: Cost

- Efficient use of taxpayer money for bridge replacement
- Intersection improvement?



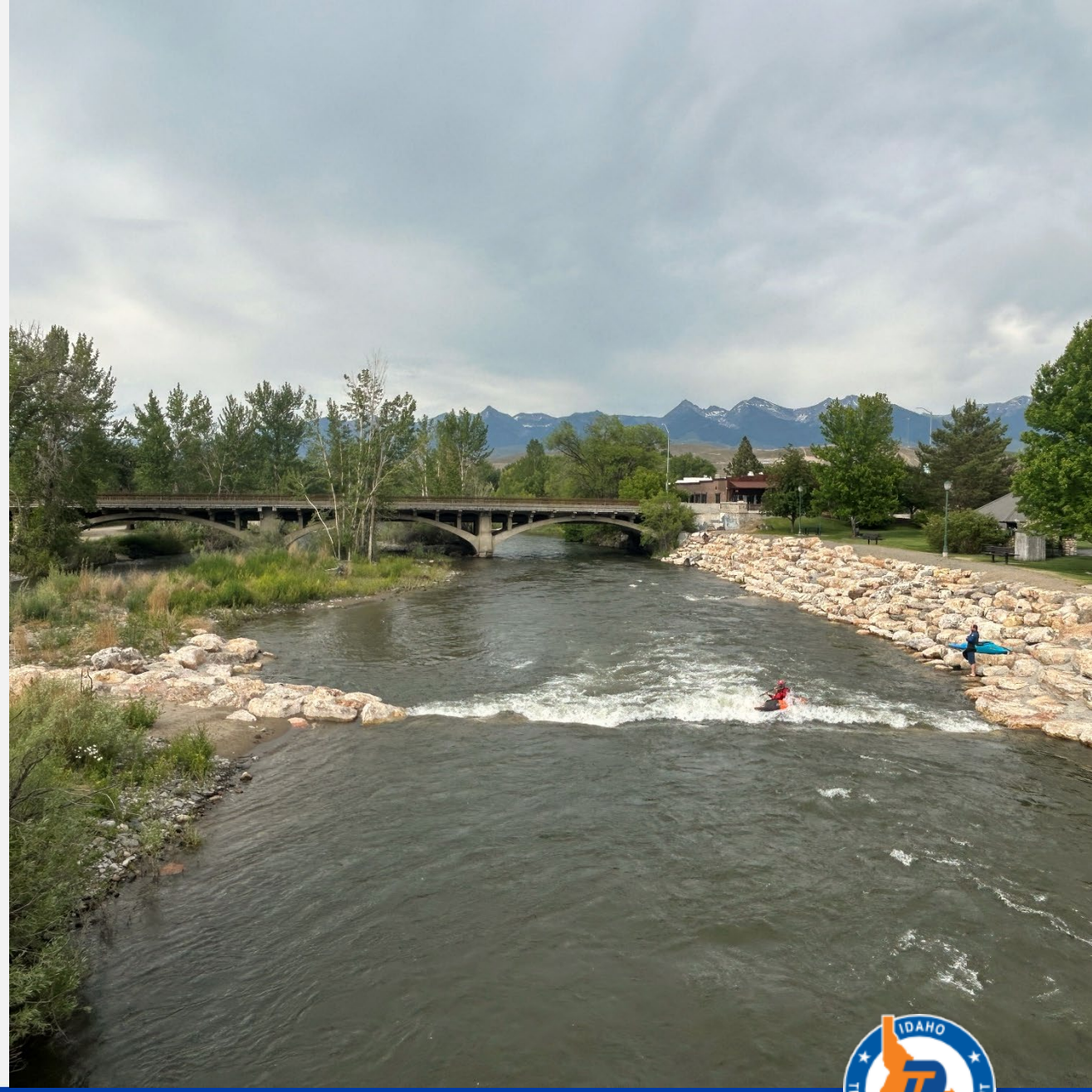
Project Constraints: Constructability

- Staged construction
- Dewatering for pier construction
- Two-way traffic during construction
- Temporary shoring for phased abutment construction
- Noise
- Island access for cranes (access to both sides of bridge)
- Water work windows



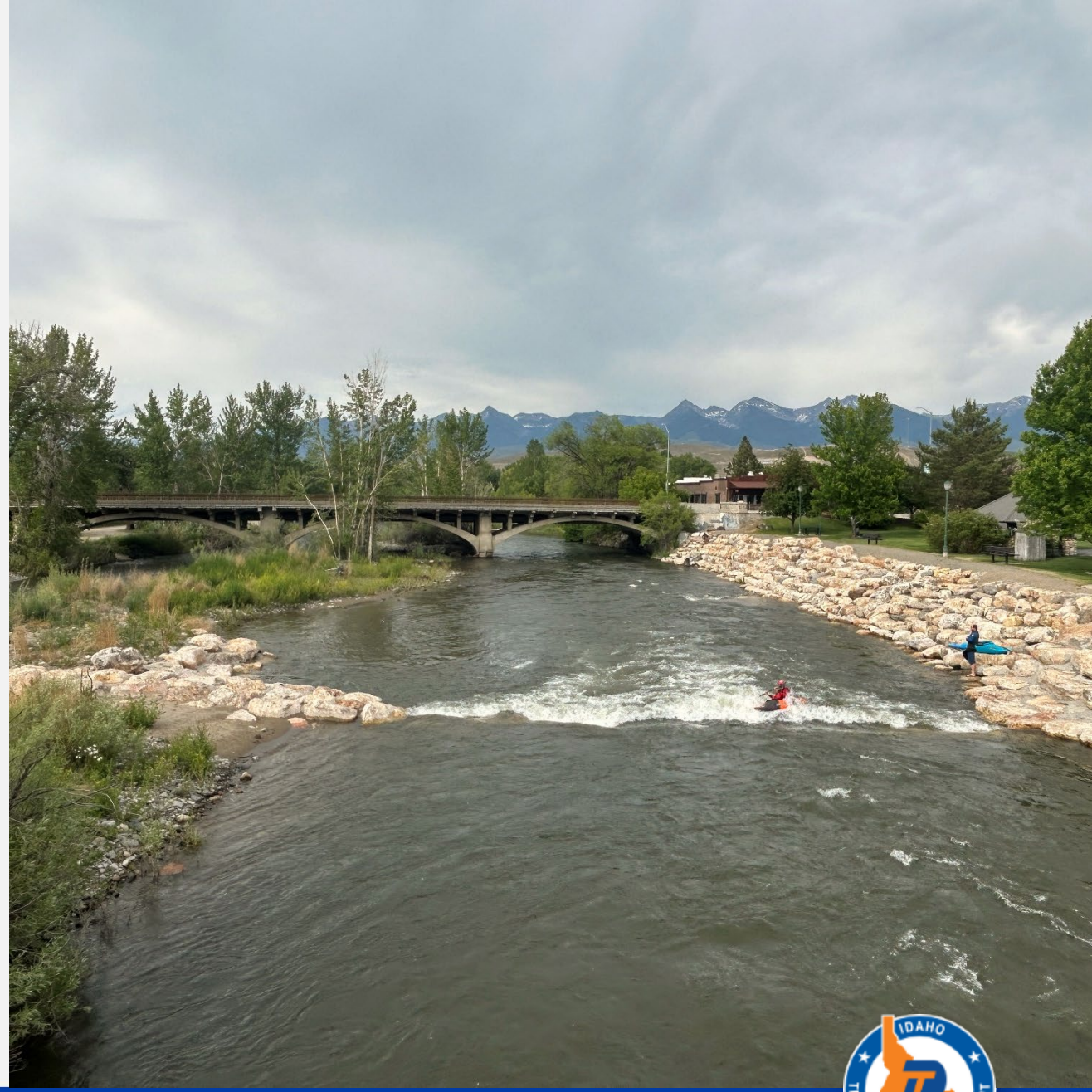
Project Constraints: Maintenance

- Winter maintenance
- Deck Joints
- Painting
- Deck wearing surface
- Scour



Project Constraints: Longevity

- Ice damming
- Pier scour
- Utilities
- Maintenance access
- Bridge inspection
- Deck protection
- Painting



The design process must:

- Address the project constraints.
- Meet engineering requirements (what can be built in this location).
- Reflect the community.

  Architects need to understand the themes and context of the community to design elements of the bridge.

Our engineers and architects have identified 2 bridge types and several architectural elements for your input and priorities.

Bridge Design

Rick Jensen and Martin Plass

David Evans and Associates (DEA)

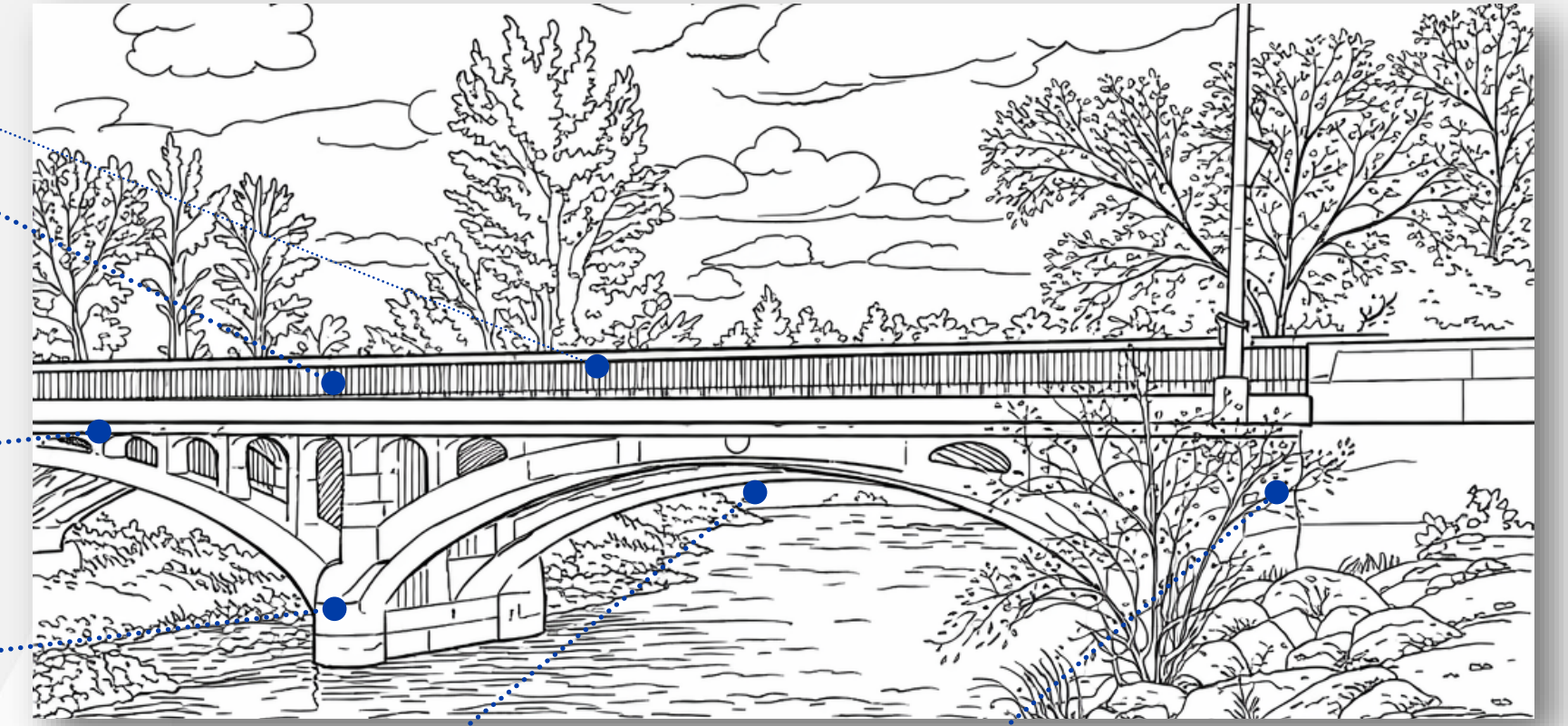
Bridge 101

Railing – Protects users

Deck – Riding surface carrying traffic and other users

Girders – Longitudinal beams that support the deck (not visible)

Piers – Columns and pier caps that support girders



Span – Distance between supports

Abutments – Walls that support girders at each end of the bridge

Initial Draft Concepts

Rick Jensen, DEA

Kevin Ashby, Iron Horse Architects

Bridge Material

Concrete

Steel

Bridge Considerations

Concrete

PROS
- Girders take less time to fabricate in the shop
- Girders are less expensive
- Contractors are familiar with construction
- Quicker inspection (saves $)
- Less lifetime maintenance

CONS
- Larger cranes required to erect heavier girders
- Girders typically straight (no haunch)
- Shorter girders for a given depth
- More piers to construct
- Might take longer to construct

Steel

PROS
- Girders can be longer for a given depth
- Fewer piers, more open channel
- Possible quicker construction
- Allows for haunched girders
- Smaller cranes required to erect lighter girders

CONS
- Girders take more time to fabricate in the shop
- Girders are more expensive
- Contractors less familiar with construction
- More in-depth inspection
- More lifetime maintenance

Girder Type

Haunched

Straight

Pier Type

Column Pier

Wall Pier

Pier Configuration

- The current deck arch bridge includes 5 piers
- A new steel bridge would include 2 piers (3 spans)
- A new concrete bridge would require 3 piers (4 spans)

A Bridge for the Community

Today we are presenting 4 themes and a list of betterments for your input.

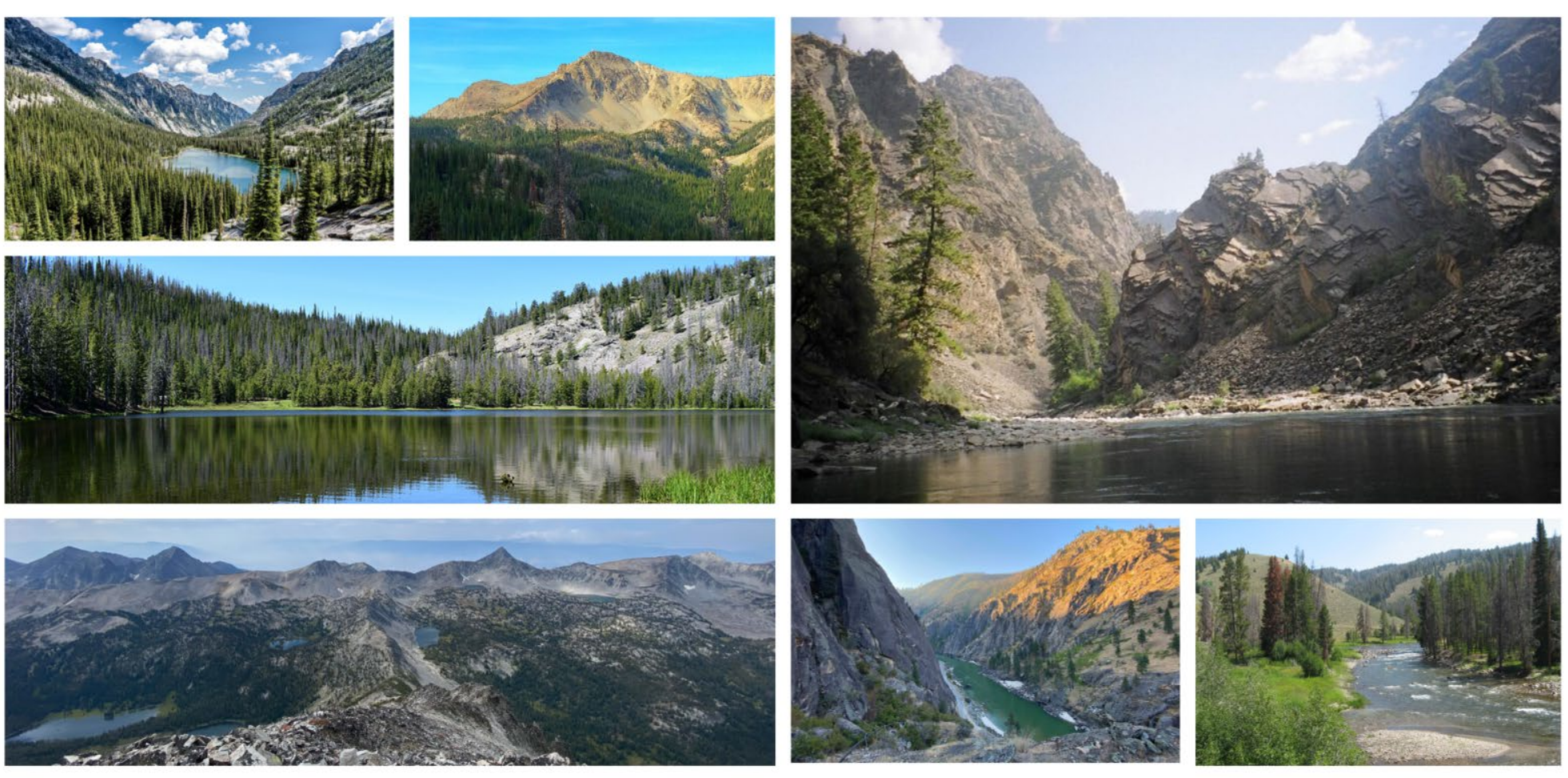
Themes:
1 – Base
2 – Seasonal Cycles
3 – Local History
4 – Rivers + Mountains

A Bridge for the Community

Betterments:

- **A- Belvederes/Overlooks**
- **B - Seating**
- **C - Bridgeheads**
- **D - Interpretive Elements** (may address history, environment, or other community aspects)
- **E - Civic Banners**
- **F - Enhanced Luminaires** (light fixtures)
- **G - Enhanced Piers** (i.e. relief or texture)
- **H - Enhanced Abutments** (i.e. relief or texture)
- **I - Color vs Unfinished Concrete**

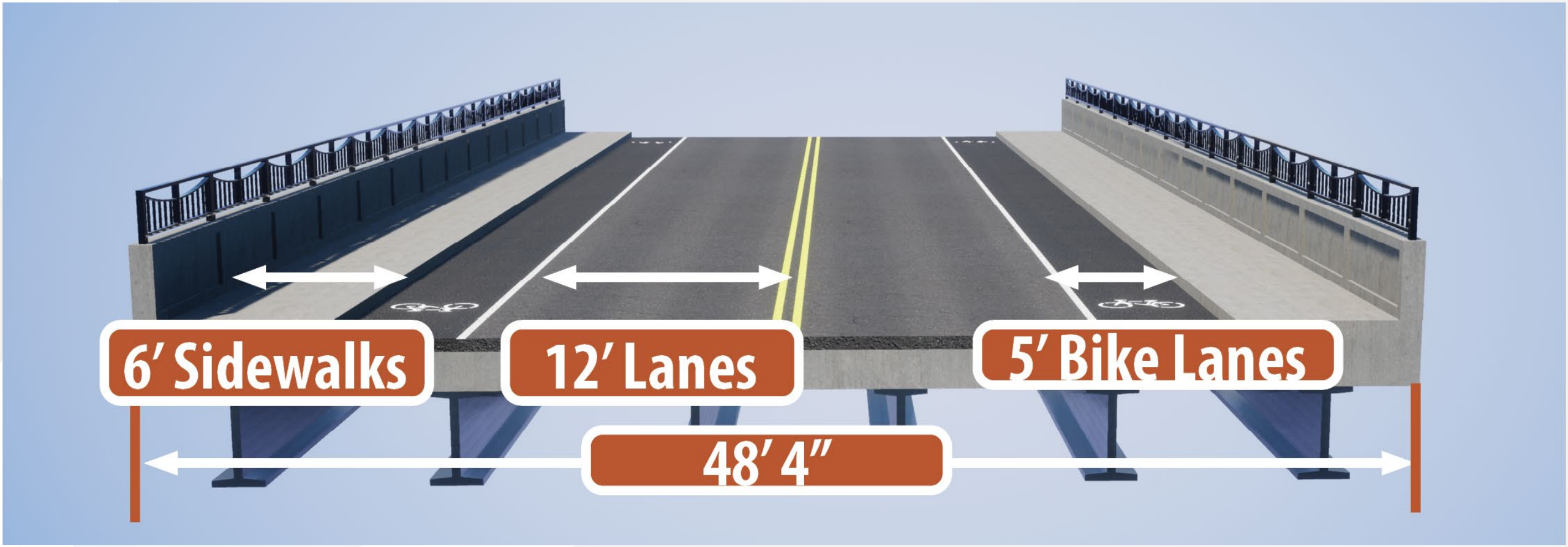
Regional Context



Local Context

Site Context

Concept Typical Section



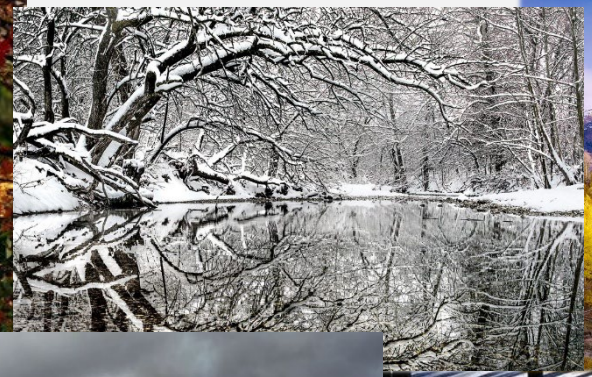
Base Concept

Base Concept

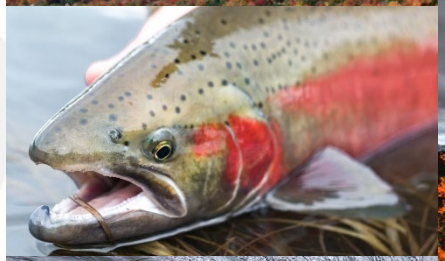
Base Concept

Base Concept

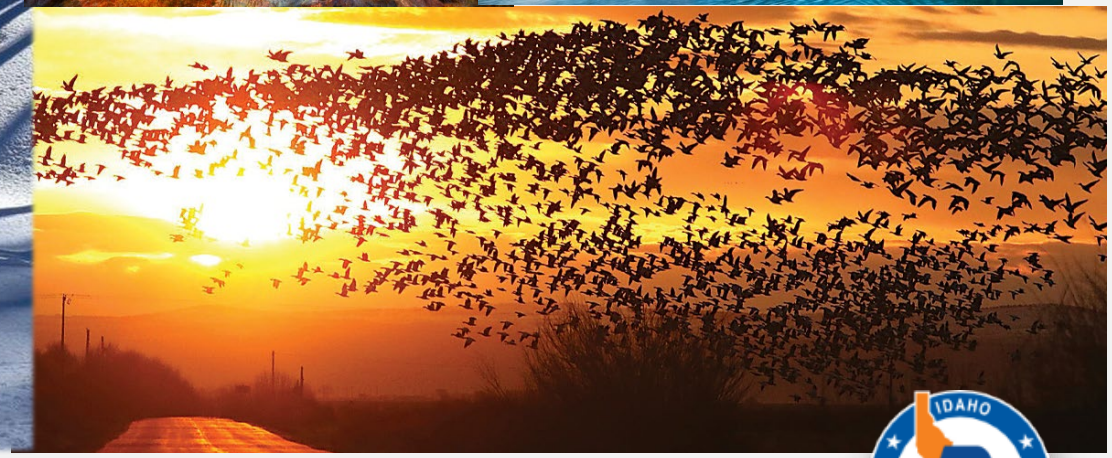
Seasonal Cycles Theme





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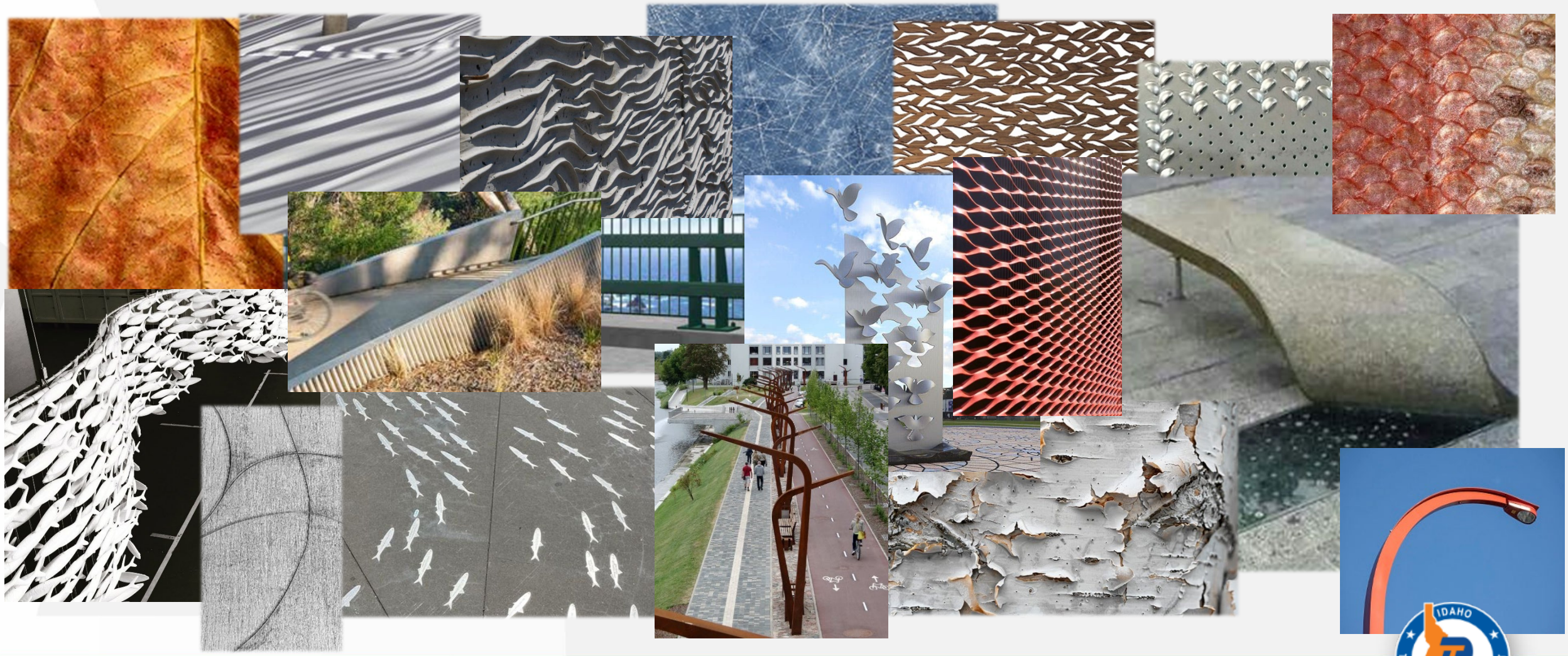
Seasonal Cycles Theme: Palette + Elements



Seasonal Cycles Theme: Concept

Seasonal Cycles Theme: Concept

Enhanced Piers + Abutments

Color vs Unfinished Concrete

Seasonal Cycles Theme: Concept

Interpretive
Railing Element

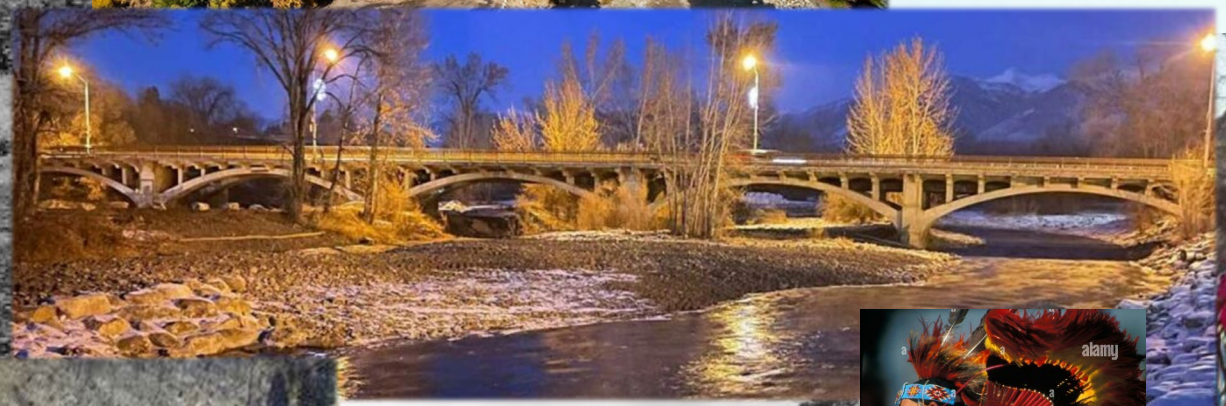
Interpretive
Sidewalk Element

Seating +
Belvederes

Lighting +
Civic Banners

Seasonal Cycles Theme: Concept

Local History Theme



Local History Theme: Palette + Elements

Local History Theme: Concept

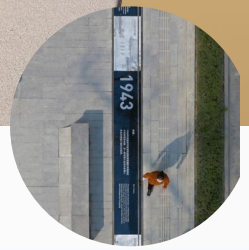
Local History Theme: Concept

Enhanced Piers
+Abutments

Color vs Unfinished
Concrete

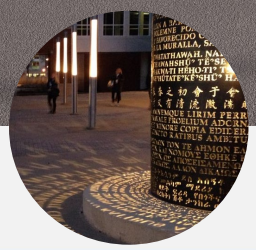
Local History Theme: Concept

Interpretive Railing Element



Interpretive Sidewalk Element

Seating +Belvederes



Lighting +Civic Banners

Local History Theme: Concept

Rivers+Mountains Theme

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Rivers+Mountains Theme: Palette + Elements

Rivers+Mountains Theme: Concept

Rivers+Mountains Theme: Concept

Enhanced Piers
+ Abutments

Color vs Unfinished
Concrete

Rivers+Mountains Theme: Concept

Interpretive
Railing Element

Interpretive
Element

Seating +
Belvederes

Lighting +
Civic Banners

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Rivers+Mountains Theme: Concept

Next Steps

Eli Robinson, ITD

Your input

We would like your input on:

- Design, Concepts/Themes, Betterments

You will find at your tables:

- Design books
- Comment sheets

Take your time to review, discuss and record your comments.

- Please write legibly
- Ask questions! Project team members are available.

Return your comment sheets before you leave.

Concepts Reminder

1 - Base

2 - Seasonal Cycles

3 - Local History

4 - Rivers + Mountains

Your Input

What your thoughts on the initial concepts?

- **Concrete or steel**
- **Girder type (haunched or straight)**
- **Pier type**

Please rank your Concept preference

1 – Base
2 – Seasonal Cycles
3 – Local History
4 – Rivers + Mountains

Notes

- Themes can be applied to either bridge type; concrete or steel
- Betterments can be applied/combined with any Theme

Your Input

Please rank your betterments preference

A- Belvederes/Overlooks

B - Seating

C - Bridgeheads

D - Interpretive Elements (may address history, environment, or other community aspects)

E - Civic Banners

F - Enhanced Luminaires (light fixtures)

G - Enhanced Piers (i.e. relief or texture)

H - Enhanced Abutments (i.e. relief or texture)

I - Color vs Unfinished Concrete

Thank You!

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https://itd.idaho.gov/project/us93salmonriverbridge/

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