

SOCIOECONOMICS REPORT



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Prepared for the City of Wilsonville



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Summary	1
Introduction	1
Existing Conditions	2
Racial and Ethnic Minorities.....	2
Low-Income Persons.....	6
Physically and Mentally Disabled Persons.....	7
The Elderly	7
Impacts of the Bridge	8
Impacts on Area Racial and Ethnic Minorities, Low-Income Persons, Physically and Mentally Disabled Persons, and the Elderly and Compliance with the Environmental Justice Standard.....	8
Other Socioeconomic Impacts	8
List of Figures	
Figure 1. Area of Project Impact	3
Figure 2. Area of Project Impact Census Tracts	4
List of Tables	
Table 1. Racial Composition.....	5
Table 2. Hispanic or Latino Composition	6
Table 3. Low-Income Persons	7
Table 4. Physically and Mentally Disabled Persons	8
Table 5. The Elderly	8

Summary

This report identifies one minority population living in the Area of Project Impact (API) that is protected by federal Environmental Justice policies, but not a low-income population. Because adverse impacts to humans will be limited to noise and other construction impacts and all populations will experience the beneficial impacts of the bridge, the French Prairie Bridge Project is not expected to violate the federal policy against high and disproportionate impacts on minority populations. This is regardless of the bridge alignment or type selected. Similarly, the benefits of the bridge will be available to disabled and elderly persons, as with all other people, because it will comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Introduction

This report examines protected populations in and around the French Prairie Bridge API, as shown on Figure 1. Protected populations include racial and ethnic minorities, low-income persons, physically and mentally disabled persons, and the elderly. These population groups are protected by federal Environmental Justice (EJ) policies; Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Oregon Transportation Plan Policy 1.2, Equity, Efficiency and Travel Choices; and the ADA.

Executive Order 12898, *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations*, directs each federal agency to take steps to identify and address disproportionately high and adverse effects of federal projects on the health or environment of minority and low-income populations to the greatest extent practicable and permitted by law.

Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 states that “[no] person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.”

Oregon Transportation Plan Policy 1.2, Equity, Efficiency and Travel Choices, calls for “a transportation system with multiple travel choices that are easy to use, reliable, cost-effective and accessible to all potential users, including the transportation disadvantaged.”¹

The ADA “...prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities in employment, transportation, public accommodation, communications, and governmental activities.” The ADA is enforced by the U.S. Department of Transportation through regulations that govern transit, and the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board provides guidelines to ensure buildings, facilities, and transit vehicles are accessible and usable by people with disabilities.²

¹ Oregon Department of Transportation. 2006. Oregon Transportation Plan Volume 1. Policy 1.2 Equity, Efficiency and Travel Choices, p. 48.
<https://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TD/TP/docs/otp/otpv1.pdf>.

² United States Department of Labor. Americans with Disabilities Act.
<https://www.dol.gov/general/topic/disability/ada>.

This report uses data from the U.S. Census Bureau Decennial Census and American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates to compare the populations of the two census tracts that contain the API with populations of the City of Wilsonville, Clackamas County, and the Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro Metropolitan Area, referred to here as the region. The two census tracts are Census Tracts 227.08 and 228.00. See Figures 1 and 2. As Figure 2 shows, the API is a small portion of each Census Tract.

Existing Conditions

Racial and Ethnic Minorities

FHWA's guidance on addressing ethnic and minority populations defines as a "minority" a person who is:

- Black (having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa);
- Hispanic (of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race);
- Asian American (having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands);
- American Indian and Alaskan Native (having origins in any of the original people of North America and who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition); or
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (people having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands).³

Table 1 compares the white and minority populations in the two census tracts with the populations in the region, County, and City of Wilsonville using data from the 2010 Census. The 2010 Census is the most recent data at the census tract level. Table 1 shows that:

- the percentage of minorities in Census Tracts 227.08 is similar to the percentage in the region, County, and City;
- the percentage of minorities in Census Tracts 228.0 is lower than the percentage in the region, County, and City;
- in both census tracts, the percentage of minorities in the groups listed above is either similar to or lower than the percentages in the region, County, and City;
- the only racial category with a substantially higher percentage than in the region, County, or City is "Some Other Race" in Census Tract 227.08.

Because persons who are "some other race" are not within the Environmental Justice policy's definition of minority, the policy does not apply to them.

³ FHWA. 2016. Environmental Justice Title IV Definition of Minority. http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/environmental_justice/faq/index.cfm

Figure 1. Area of Project Impact



Figure 2. Area of Project Impact Census Tracts

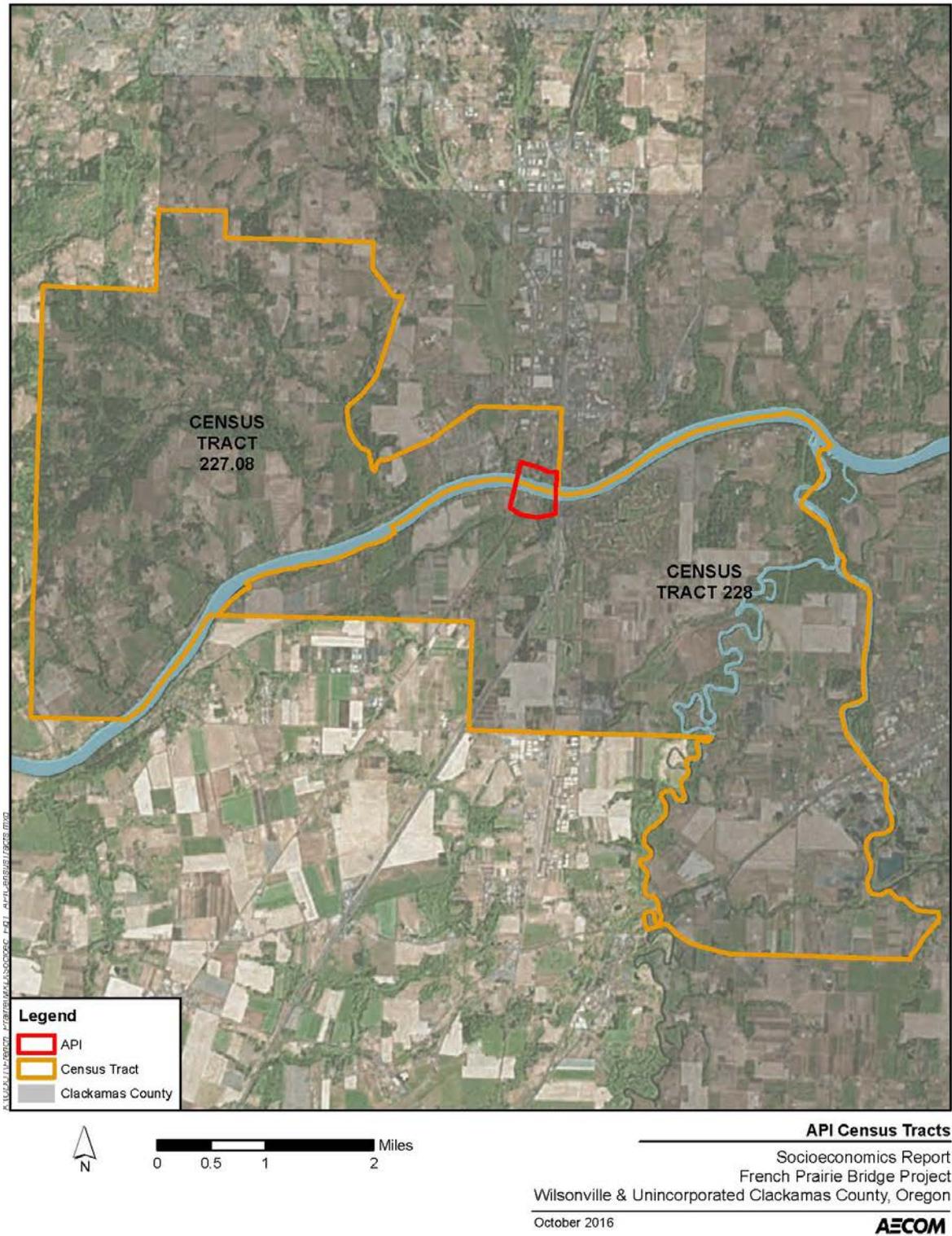


Table 1. Racial Composition

Geographic Area	Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA Metro	Clackamas County	City of Wilsonville	Census Tract 227.08	Census Tract 228.00
White	1,430,043 79.91 percent	331,571 88.19 percent	16,644 85.31 percent	3,543 84.86 percent	3,795 95.42 percent
Black or African American	55,178 3.08 percent	3,082 0.82 percent	296 1.52 percent	25 0.60 percent	8 0.20 percent
American Indian and Alaska Native	17,060 0.95 percent	3,122 0.83 percent	190 0.97 percent	36 0.86 percent	20 0.50 percent
Asian	109,365 6.11 percent	13,729 3.65 percent	746 3.82 percent	82 1.96 percent	39 0.98 percent
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	7,596 0.42 percent	867 0.23 percent	85 0.44 percent	32 0.77 percent	2 0.05 percent
Some Other Race¹	97,145 5.43 percent	11,756 3.13 percent	928 4.76 percent	329 7.88 percent	76 1.91 percent
Two or More Races²	73,193 4.09 percent	11,865 3.16 percent	620 3.18 percent	128 3.07 percent	37 0.93 percent
Total Population	1,789,580	375,992	19,509	4,175	3,977

¹“Some Other Race” is a categorization on the 2010 Census questionnaire that describes race or ethnicity other than White, Black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. Respondents typically select this categorization if the other general categorizations do not accurately describe their race or ethnicity, such as Hispanic or Latino. This categorization may include a more detailed categorization of race or ethnicity that is more specific to the five general categories, or a different race or ethnicity altogether (U.S. Census Bureau. 2012. The Two or More Races Population: 2010. <https://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/briefs/c2010br-13.pdf>).

²“Two or More Races” describes individuals who reported as being more than one of the six race categories of White, Black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and Some Other Race). For example, respondents who selected only the “Black or African American” category on the 2010 census questionnaire encompass the ‘Black or African American Alone’ category (denoted as “Black or African American” in Table 1 above). So “Two or More Races” may include people who report as being white *and* black, or black *and* Asian. Therefore “Two or More Races” may include non-minority individuals if non-minority is considered as respondents who are white *and* another racial or ethnic minority. (U.S. Census Bureau. 2012).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2010. 2010 Decennial Census. Table DP-1 Profile of General Population and Housing Characteristics.

No groups of racial minorities living in or near the API have been identified.

Table 2 shows that Hispanic or Latino persons in Census Tract 227.08 make up a substantially higher percentage of the population than in the region, County, or City. The API contains an Hispanic population. Hispanic households occupy five of the 12 apartments at the Riverside Apartments, which is located across SW Tauchman Street from Boones Ferry Park.⁴ See Figure 2. A population is defined as

⁴ Personal communication with Tess Rossow, David Nase Property Management, November 15, 2016.

Table 2. Hispanic or Latino Composition

Geographic Area	Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA Metro	Clackamas County	City of Wilsonville	Census Tract 227.08	Census Tract 228.00
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)¹	209,125 11.81 percent	29,138 7.7 percent	2,360 12.10 percent	795 19.00 percent	154 3.90 percent
Not Hispanic or Latino²	1,580,455 88.30 percent	346,854 92.3 percent	17,149 87.90 percent	3,380 81.00 percent	3,823 96.1 percent
Total Population	1,789,580	375,992	19,509	4,175	3,977

¹"Hispanic or Latino" are individuals classified in one of the specific Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino categories on the Census 2010 questionnaire, including "Mexican," "Puerto Rican," or "Cuban" in addition to persons who identified as of "another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin." People who do not identify with one of the specific origins listed on the questionnaire but indicate that they are "another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin" are those whose origins are from Spain, the Spanish-speaking countries of Central or South America, or the Dominican Republic. The terms "Hispanic," "Latino," and "Spanish" are used interchangeably (U.S. Census Bureau. 2010. Hispanic Origin. https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/meta/long_RHI725215.htm).

²"Not Hispanic or Latino" includes all race or race combinations in Table 1 that are not Hispanic or Latino. This includes minority and non-minority persons.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2010. 2010 Decennial Census. Table DP-1 Profile of General Population and Housing Characteristics.

"any readily identifiable groups of minority persons who live in geographic proximity . . ." ⁵ Other minority populations in or near the API have not been identified.

Low-Income Persons

A low-income person is defined as an individual whose household income is at or below the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) poverty guidelines. ⁶ The HHS poverty guidelines determine financial eligibility for certain federal programs and are considered "a simplification of the poverty thresholds." ⁷ HHS poverty thresholds are used for statistical purposes, such as preparing estimates of the number of Americans in poverty each year. The U.S. Census uses poverty thresholds, not guidelines, to calculate poverty. Table 3 compares the populations of Census Tracts 227.08 and 228.00 to the populations of the region, County, and City. It uses the U.S. Census Bureau's 2010 to 2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates because they provide the most current data. As Table 3 shows, the percentage of low income persons in both census tracts is substantially lower

⁵ Federal Highway Administration Order 6640.23A, FHWA Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, June 14, 2012, paragraph 5.e.

⁶ Federal Highway Administration. 2011. Guidance on Environmental Justice and NEPA. https://www.environment.fhwa.dot.gov/projdev/guidance_ej_nepa.asp.

⁷ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. 2016. U.S. Federal Poverty Guidelines Used to Determine Financial Eligibility for Certain Federal Programs. <https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines>.

Table 3. Low-Income Persons

Geographic Area	Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA Metro	Clackamas County	City of Wilsonville	Census Tract 227.08	Census Tract 228.00
Persons Below Poverty Level¹	260,895 14.42 percent	37,218 9.75 percent	1,777 9.37 percent	237 5.29 percent	173 4.41 percent
Total Population	1,809,307	381,769	18,973	4,482	3,920

¹American Community Survey Data represents an estimate based on a sample of the total population, so there is a range of uncertainty in the data results, which serves as a general overview of low-income persons and should not be treated as 100 percent accurate.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. Table B17001 Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months by Sex By Age – Universe, Population for Whom Poverty Status is Determined.

than the percentage in the region, County, or City. No low-income populations in or near the API have been identified.⁸

Physically and Mentally Disabled Persons

The ADA defines a person with a disability as:

[a] person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, a person who has a history or record of such an impairment, or a person who is perceived by others as having such an impairment.⁹

Table 4 compares the percentage of disabled persons in Census Tracts 227.08 and 228.00 with the percentage in the region, County, and City. It uses the U.S. Census Bureau’s 2010 to 2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates because they provide the most current data. Table 4 shows that the percentage in Census Tract 227.08 is substantially lower than in the region, County, and City, but that the percentage in Census Tract 228.00 is substantially higher. The latter may reflect the presence in Census Tract 228.00 of the private planned community of Charbonneau, which caters to retirees.

The Elderly

The elderly is a protected population group under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Using U.S. Census Bureau 2010 Decennial Census data, “the elderly” encompasses all persons 65 years and older. Table 5 shows that the elderly are a smaller percentage of the population in both Census Tracts 227.08 and 228.00 than in the region, County, and City.

⁸ One household that may meet the FHWA definition of low-income was identified based on its eligibility for rental assistance. However, a single household does not meet the definition of a low-income population in the FHWA order cited above, which is “any readily identifiable group of low-income persons who live in geographic proximity . . .”

⁹ ADA. 2009. A Guide to Disability Rights Law. <https://www.ada.gov/cguide.htm>.

Table 4. Physically and Mentally Disabled Persons

Geographic Area	Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA Metro	Clackamas County	City of Wilsonville	Census Tract 227.08	Census Tract 228.00
Persons with Disability¹	215,686 11.81 percent	45,777 11.95 percent	1,737 9.14 percent	226 5.04 percent	631 16.10 percent
Persons without Disability	1,610,415 88.19 percent)	337,258 88.05 percent	17,261 90.86 percent	4,256 94.96 percent	3,289 83.90 percent
Total Population	1,826,101	383,035	18,998	4,482	3,920

¹American Community Survey Data represents an estimate based on a sample of the total population, so there is a range of uncertainty in the data results, which serves as a general overview of the physically and mentally disabled population and should not be treated as 100 percent accurate.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. Table B18101 Sex By Age by Disability Status – Universe.

Table 5. The Elderly

Geographic Area	Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA Metro	Clackamas County	City of Wilsonville	Census Tract 227.08	Census Tract 228.00
Elderly (65 years and older)	252,218 11.33 percent	51,231 13.63 percent	2,597 13.31 percent	346 8.29 percent	330 8.30 percent
Total Population	2,226,009	375,992	19,509	4,175	3,977

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2010. 2010 Decennial Census. Summary Files 1 and 2 Profile of General Population and Housing Characteristics.

Impacts of the Bridge

To be completed when the bridge alignment and type have been selected.

Impacts on Area Racial and Ethnic Minorities, Low-Income Persons, Physically and Mentally Disabled Persons, and the Elderly and Compliance with the Environmental Justice Standard

Other Socioeconomic Impacts