



A Natural Wonder Revealed

Willamette Falls is the nation's second-most powerful waterfall and a little-known center of history and culture.

Thousands of years ago, Native Americans fished and traded at the falls, and their connection to the site remains strong today. Early settlers gave birth to industry at the falls, providing generations of jobs and the nation's first long-distance electricity transmission.

For more than 150 years, Willamette Falls has been largely hidden from the public. Soon, it won't be. A partnership of local, regional and state governments is in the process of opening it up, creating a world-class public riverwalk, including a main promenade and lofted network of pathways that will lace through the site — providing intimate views of the Willamette River, the natural wonder of the falls and opportunities to learn about the area's rich cultural and environmental history.

THE RIVERWALK

The Willamette Falls Legacy Project selected the design firm Snøhetta, along with Mayer/Reed and DIALOG, to design the transformation of the ruins of the mills into a riverwalk of pathways and civic gathering spaces coursing through the re-used industrial structures creating a destination for visitors and the community, while restoring habitat and setting the stage for vibrant redevelopment.



OUR VALUES

From the beginning, the Willamette Falls Legacy Project has been driven by four core values:



PUBLIC ACCESS. The project will connect people to Willamette Falls and the Willamette River.



HISTORIC & CULTURAL INTERPRETATION. Visitors will learn about the rich human history of Willamette Falls, which stretches back thousands of years to Native American tribes.



ECONOMIC REDEVELOPMENT. The project will serve as a catalyst to private development nearby, returning jobs to Oregon City.



HEALTHY HABITAT. The project will enhance this ecologically-diverse stretch of the Willamette River and protect the flora and fauna that live there.

WHAT'S NEXT

With the riverwalk concept design complete, the Willamette Falls Legacy Project has entered a new phase: design and engineering, which includes construction drawings and permitting. This necessary work leads to groundbreaking and construction, scheduled to begin in 2018. The first phase of the riverwalk is expected to be completed in 2022.



PROJECT TIMELINE

2011-2016

Partnership Formation
Public Engagement
Design Ideas
Site Investigation

Summer 2017

Public Event:
Riverwalk Design Celebration

2017-2018

Construction Drawings and Permitting

2018

Phase 1 Construction Begins

Willamette Falls
LEGACY PROJECT



The Willamette Falls Legacy Project is a partnership between Oregon City, Clackamas County, Metro and the State of Oregon, with the support and participation of the site's private owners, stakeholders and thousands of interested citizens.

To learn more about the Willamette Falls Legacy Project, visit www.rediscoverthefalls.com