

## Local bridges in work plan

Several local bridges have been selected for replacement or repair in the Oregon Department of Transportation's OTIA III State Bridge Delivery Program.

The bundle of four bridges includes three that will be repaired and one replaced along Highway 30, between St. Helens and Astoria. Included are the Lost Creek Bridge at mile post 55.29; Gnat Creek Bridge at mile post 77.25; Big Creek Bridge at mile post 82.52 and Tide Creek Bridge, at mile post 36.47.

The value of this project is currently estimated at \$9,846,000, and is expected to let in June 2008. An estimated construction timeline is May 2009 through Feb. 2011.

Local contractors are encouraged to bid on this project bundle and others. Bridge program projects are grouped, or bundled, in a way that makes it easy for Oregon

contractors to bid. By having multiple construction sites close together, contractors are able to cut transportation costs and move workers and materials more efficiently between job sites. As a result, more jobs are done by Oregon firms, further strengthening local economies.

All across Oregon, from Hood River to Ashland and Cottage Grove to Ontario, the Oregon Department of Transportation is strengthening the state's transportation infrastructure. The coming year marks one of the busiest construction seasons in Oregon's history, due in large part to the millions of dollars in bridge program work being let over the next 12 months.

Of the 365 bridges in the \$1.3 billion OTIA III State Bridge Delivery Program, ODOT is repairing or replacing nearly 300 bridges. At the direction of the Legislature, the department is fostering economic growth by awarding

the majority of the work to local firms and contractors. During the next 12 months, ODOT wants local construction contractors to bid on 12 bridge program projects cumulatively worth more than \$214 million.

Since it began in 2003, the bridge program has injected more than \$70 million into the state by purchasing goods and services from Oregon firms. It has also generated more than \$317 million in income, including more than \$26 million in taxes for state and local governments.

Each of the 12 upcoming bridge program projects going to let between now and September 2008 provide a great opportunity for local construction companies, large and small.

The contract values, schedules and project scopes provided are subject to change. For more details on these projects and information about how to bid, visit the

Web site of ODOT's bridge program management partner at [www.obdp.org/partner/procurement/bundles/](http://www.obdp.org/partner/procurement/bundles/).

For more information on all of ODOT's contracting opportunities, visit [www.oregon.gov/ODOT/CS/OPO/contracting.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/CS/OPO/contracting.shtml).

The OTIA III State Bridge Delivery Program is part of the Oregon Department of Transportation's 10-year, \$3 billion Oregon Transportation Investment Act. OTIA funds will repair or replace hundreds of bridges, pave and maintain city and county roads, improve and expand interchanges, add new capacity to Oregon's highway system, and remove freight bottlenecks statewide. About 17 family-wage jobs are sustained for every \$1 million spent on transportation construction in Oregon. Each year during the OTIA program, construction projects will sustain about 5,000 family-wage jobs.