

# I-84 Columbia River Gorge Bridges



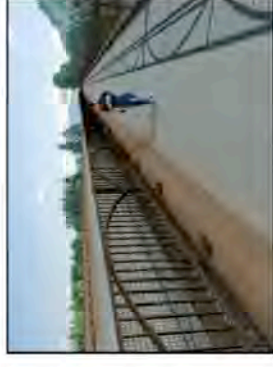
June 2009

## Design Updates: ODOT moves forward with projects in the Columbia River Gorge

### Sandy River bridges

The Oregon Department of Transportation is delaying construction of the Sandy River-Jordan Road bridge project by one year. ODOT is also adding steel girders to the design of the Sandy River bridges. Through the design process, contractors learned that the soil under these bridges would not support the structures during an earthquake. As a result, the piers need to go below the soils and into the rock bed. Replacing concrete girders with steel will make this easier to do and will cost less. The modified design also reduces the size of foundations to be built in the river. This will be less disruptive for the waterway and fish habitat.

The revised design of the Sandy River bridges will not change key elements of the bridges such as the bicycle and pedestrian path and other visual features of the original design. Construction of the new bridges will begin in the spring of 2010. ODOT will continue to honor its commitments to stakeholders and the community to build a bridge that serves as a suitable gateway to the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and the Portland area.



Contemporary design of the new I-84 Sandy River bridges.

Look inside to learn more about ODOT projects taking place in your community. This newsletter includes:

- Up-to-date construction information for eight projects in the Columbia River Gorge.
- Information regarding designs for the I-84 Sandy River bridges and the I-84 bridge at exit 64 in Hood River.

To be added to our Columbia River Gorge Bridges mailing list, please send an e-mail message with your contact information to: [i84crgbridges@gmail.com](mailto:i84crgbridges@gmail.com).



For general information, visit: [www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1/ColumbiaGorge](http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1/ColumbiaGorge)

## Construction underway in the Columbia River Gorge

### Upcoming Construction

ODOT is making strides to repair and replace 21 spans in the Columbia River Gorge.

The next three construction seasons will be a busy time in the Gorge. ODOT is working hard to ensure your travels are not disrupted by the construction and repair of the bridges along the I-84 Corridor.

Check inside for a complete overview of upcoming construction.

For updated information on highway work and current travel information throughout Oregon, visit

[www.tripcheck.com](http://www.tripcheck.com)

or call the toll-free Oregon road report at 511 or (800) 977-6368.

### Upcoming Events

In the fall of 2009, ODOT will host a pre-construction Open House for the I-84 bridge and exit 64 (Hood River) project. ODOT will provide further information about this event as the date nears.

### I-84 bridge at exit 64 (Hood River)

Design work continues for the replacement of the Interstate 84 bridge at exit 64 and improvements to the interchange beneath the bridge. ODOT anticipates design work will be complete in the fall of 2009 and construction will take place from early 2010 to late 2011.

The new bridge will incorporate design features such as stone textured material to complement its location in the city of Hood River and the Columbia River Gorge. The design is consistent with the I-84 Strategy Design Guidelines.

During construction in the 2010-2011 seasons, ODOT will:

- Keep I-84 exit 63 and exit 64 open to the public.
- Allow access to all properties on Button Bridge Road, which passes under I-84 at exit 64 and connects Highway 35 to the Hood River Bridge.
- Provide regular updates on construction-related activities.

ODOT is working with the community to solicit feedback on the project. This spring, the design team will meet with local jurisdictions and affected business owners. This fall, ODOT will host a public open house to discuss construction impacts.

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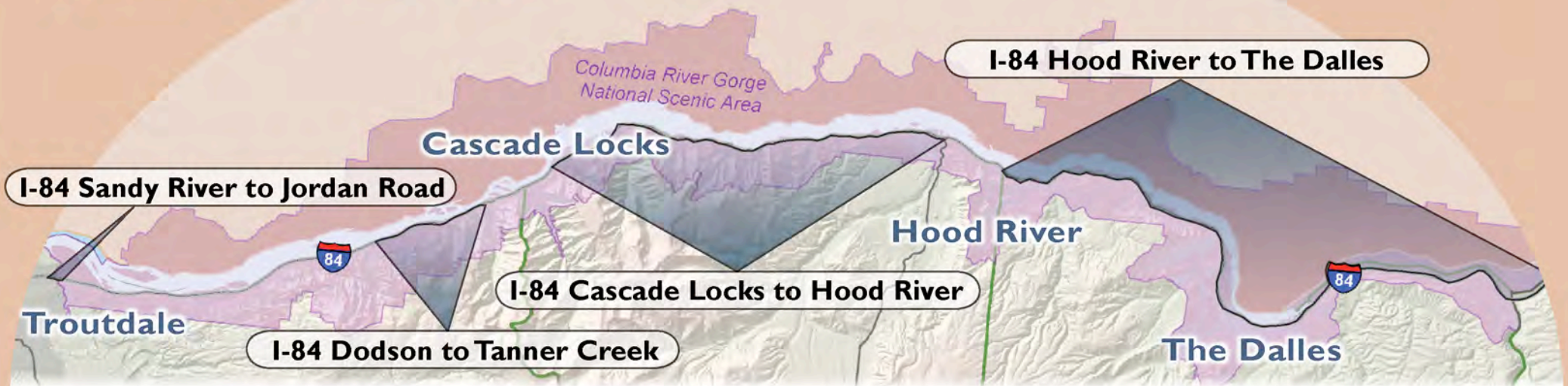
c/o Lois D. Cohen Associates

I-84 Columbia River Gorge Bridges Newsletter



The OTIA III State Bridge Delivery Program is part of the Oregon Department of Transportation's 10-year, \$3 billion Oregon Transportation Investment Act program. OTIA funds are repairing or replacing hundreds of bridges, paving and maintaining city and county roads, improving and expanding interchanges, adding new capacity to Oregon's highway system and removing freight bottlenecks statewide. Based on 2008 dollars, about 14 family-wage jobs are sustained for every \$1 million spent on transportation construction in Oregon. Each year during the remainder of the OTIA program, we estimate that construction projects will sustain an average of 4,100 family-wage jobs.

## I-84 Columbia River Gorge Bridges



Drivers in the Columbia River Gorge will pass through several construction zones this summer. However, traffic impacts will be minimal. In addition to the projects described below, ODOT plans to replace some fencing along I-84 between Troutdale and The Dalles.

### I-84: Troutdale to Hood River

#### Troutdale to Cascade Locks

April brought the beginning of construction on four interstate bridges between Dodson and Tanner Creek. Contractors will replace the eastbound I-84 bridge over Moffett Creek and repair the eastbound I-84 bridge at the Dodson overpass and the I-84 bridges in each direction over Tanner Creek.

Repairs at the Dodson overpass will involve limited lane closures and flagging on the Historic Columbia River Highway. Bridge construction on eastbound I-84 at Moffett Creek will involve lane closures to switch traffic onto the new freeway bridge. Construction and equipment staging may also require limited shoulder closures on I-84 near the bridge work sites.

Repairs to the Tanner Creek bridges will require closing the Historic Columbia River Highway State Trail between Tanner Creek and Moffett Creek from June to December 2009. The closure will not interfere with the trail between Bonneville Dam and the Tanner Creek Crossing. The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department approved the decision to close the trail passing under the bridges as the safest option for trail users and workers. Signs will be posted to notify trail users.

In a separate project, ODOT will start repaving I-84 between Multnomah Falls and Cascade Locks in August. The project also includes the installation of some new guardrail and ramp paving on this 14-mile project that begins just east of Multnomah Falls and ends east of Cascade Locks. Drivers should expect occasional lane and

ramp closures, primarily at night. This work is scheduled to be completed in October 2010.

#### Cascade Locks to Hood River

Construction work continues on seven bridges between Cascade Locks and Hood River. Crews have demolished the old westbound I-84 bridge over the connector to U.S. 30 and have started building the new bridge. They will begin work on the eastbound bridge later this summer.

Repair work is nearly complete on I-84 over the Herman Creek connector road (Wyeth Road). Next, crews will begin repairs to I-84 at milepost 43.9 in Cascade Locks. Drivers will see flaggers controlling traffic on Moody Avenue. Construction on these seven bridges will be complete in fall 2010.

### 2009-2013 Gorge construction schedule snapshot

Anticipated construction periods				
2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
	Sandy River to Jordan Road			
Mult. Falls to Cascade Locks				
Dodson to Tanner Creek				
Cascade Locks to Hood River				
	I-84 bridge and exit 64 (Hood River)			
Hood River to Mosier Creek				
The Dalles to Fifteen Mile Creek				
	Swanson Canyon to Tower Road			

### I-84: Hood River to Arlington

#### Hood River to The Dalles

Contractors are replacing the I-84 bridge over Mosier Creek. They are also replacing the median barrier between Hood River and Mosier. The current barrier no longer meets safety requirements set by the Federal Highway Administration. The new barrier will meet current standards and comply with guidelines established by the Columbia Gorge Commission for color and material.

Additional median barrier construction is slated to continue to the east along I-84. With the

replacement of this new median barrier motorists will be safer as they transit the highway between Hood River and Mosier. Work on this project will be finished in fall 2010.

#### The Dalles to Arlington

Construction starts this summer to replace the Fifteen Mile Creek bridge and repave I-84 in The Dalles, and to repair the Spanish Hollow bridge on U.S. 97 south of Biggs. Crews will detour traffic around the bridge construction. Drivers can expect single lane closures on I-84 throughout the

summer. Construction is expected to finish in fall 2011.

Swanson Canyon to Woelpert Road and Arlington to Tower Road: This summer, ODOT will repair the pavement on I-84 between milepost 125 and milepost 131, about 40 miles east of The Dalles, and between milepost 138 and milepost 159, east of Arlington. Drivers can expect single lane closures on I-84 for two weeks in June and two weeks in August.

For more information about projects located between Troutdale and Hood River, please contact Mike Mason, Community Affairs Coordinator: (503) 731-8246, or Michael.W.Mason@odot.state.or.us.

For more information about projects located between Hood River and Arlington, please contact Peter Murphy, Public Information Representative: (541) 388-6224, or Peter.W.Murphy@odot.state.or.us.