

BRIDGE NEWSLETTER

Strengthening our bridges: ODOT will repair four U.S. 30 bridges in Columbia and Clatsop Counties

The Oregon Department of Transportation is planning to upgrade four bridges on U.S. 30 (Lower Columbia River Highway) from west of St. Helens to east of Astoria. The four bridges in the project are the Tide Creek bridge (mile post 36.5), Lost Creek bridge (mile post 55.3), Gnat Creek bridge (mile post 77.2), and Big Creek bridge (mile post 82.5).

U.S. 30 is a heavily-used freight route and carries many people to Oregon's northwest coastal communities. The bridges, built between 1929 and 1959, will be strengthened to improve safety, mobility and access. The project team is planning the construction schedule to ensure minimal disruption during festival and event weekends.



Tide Creek Bridge - Milepost 36.5



Lost Creek Bridge - Milepost 55.3



Gnat Creek Bridge - Milepost 77.2



Big Creek Bridge - Milepost 82.5



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Project Schedule

This summer and fall, crews may conduct field surveys, traffic studies and other work along U.S. 30. The project team will submit final design recommendations to ODOT this winter.

Construction will begin in summer 2009 and is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2010. Impacts may include single-lane closures for up to two months at the Gnat Creek and Big Creek bridges, as well as other short-term lane closures. No closures will occur during holidays or major events in the area.

These four U.S. 30 bridge repairs are part of the OTIA III State Bridge Delivery Program. The OTIA program is part of ODOT'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,

PROJECT TIMELINE

Winter 2008/2009 - Final bridge strengthening plans submitted

Summer 2009 – Repair start date

Fall 2010 – Project completion date

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.

Watch for additional newsletters to provide updates throughout the project.

For More Information

Please contact Annie Klug at 503-595-8350 if you have any questions, would like to receive more frequent e-mail updates, or if you would like an ODOT representative to make a presentation about the project to your community group.

You may also contact the following ODOT public information representatives:

For Columbia County: Stacy Thomas,
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