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For More Information:

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<http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1/ProjectPage.shtml>

Message sign installations begin this week

Ten variable message signs going up on 82nd Ave., Foster Road and Powell Boulevard

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) will begin a project this week that will improve driver safety and lower congestion, alert drivers to traffic delays and allow them to better plan their travel routes along SE 82nd Avenue, SE Powell Blvd. and SE Foster Road in the I-205 corridor.

The project, called the Urban ITS (Intelligent Transportation Systems) Corridor Project, involves installing 10 new variable message signs (VMS) along SE 82nd Avenue, SE Powell Blvd. and SE Foster Road. The project is the result of a partnership between ODOT and the City of Portland.

ODOT has four VMS signs on I-205 and a total of 24 in the Portland Metro area. The signs not only alert drivers about delays and congestion, they can also provide other information such as the cause of the delay, the estimated time delayed by the accident or congestion and potential detours if the highway is closed.

The 8-foot wide by 5-foot high message signs will be mounted on cantilever type supports and 18 feet above the ground. Work is scheduled to begin on the VMS project next week and be completed by fall 2010.

Crews will intermittently work at each site during the project. The work includes: drilling shafts and building footings; providing electrical hook up; erecting support posts and signs; and final testing. There will be single-lane closures during daytime work hours (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.) when crews are working at a sign location. Sidewalks may also be closed during work hours.

To view a map of the project area or for weekly construction and traffic updates, visit the project Web site at: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1/its/>

For general questions or to be added to a weekly construction e-mail update, contact Mike Mason, ODOT Community Affairs Coordinator: 503.731.8246 or michael.w.mason@odot.state.or.us.

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