



July 2, 2009

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## TRAFFIC ADVISORY

### July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend: Be alert, drive slow in work zones

*ODOT highway projects will pause starting noon Friday through midnight Sunday*

With the busy travel time of the Independence Day holiday weekend, the Oregon Department of Transportation will suspend construction work that impacts lanes between **noon Friday, July 3, and midnight Sunday, July 5.**

Oregon is experiencing the highest volume of highway construction in more than 50 years. Although actual roadwork will pause for the holiday, work zones will still be marked and require slower speeds. Motorists should be aware of the possibility of highway shoulders being impacted or construction activity taking place behind barriers during the weekend.

"A successful holiday weekend means arriving back home safely," said Matt Garrett, ODOT director. "So please pay attention to the important task at hand, be alert and slow down in work zones."

Even when workers are not present, all work zone speed limits still apply and fines double. Inactive work zones still have equipment, detours, temporary lane alignment changes and incomplete changes in the roadway so drivers need to slow down and be alert.

**Please slow down, wear seatbelts, and do not drink and drive!** To reduce crashes, injuries and associated deaths during the weekend, Oregon State Police, county sheriff offices and city police agencies will step up enforcement efforts Friday afternoon through Sunday.

ODOT urges motorists to drive carefully and plan for extra time that may be needed to reach their destinations during the holiday weekend. **Have a safe and fun weekend!**

**##ODOT##**