



Oregon Department of Transportation

NEWS RELEASE

Region 1 *Columbia, Washington, Multnomah, Clackamas and Hood River Counties*

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Regional Projects Web site: www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1

ODOT FUNDS NEIGHBORHOOD TREE PLANTING

The Oregon Department of Transportation recently provided funding for the first of seven community enhancement projects associated with the Interstate 5 Delta Park to Lombard Street construction project. Friends of Trees received \$65,000 from ODOT to plant trees in the Kenton, Arbor Lodge, Overlook, Piedmont, Humboldt and Boise neighborhoods between Albina Avenue and Interstate Avenue. On Saturday, Jan. 27, and Saturday, Feb. 10, the funds will be used by Friends of Trees along with contributions from other sources to complete the community enhancement project, which will plant approximately 250 trees in the neighborhoods.

Tree Planting Schedule

The two ODOT-funded Friends of Trees planting events are listed below. Representatives from ODOT, the city of Portland, Friends of Trees, local neighborhood associations and other contributors to the project will be on hand to commemorate both occasions. For more information, visit: www.friendsoftrees.org

- First tree planting is Saturday, Jan. 27. The event will begin at 8:45 a.m. at Portsmouth Middle School, 5103 North Willis Blvd.
- Second tree planting is Saturday, Feb. 10. The event will begin at 8:45 a.m. at Friends of Trees, 3117 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

Community Enhancement Fund History

In 2002, the Portland/Vancouver area developed a transportation plan for the I-5 corridor between Portland and Vancouver. As part of the effort, community and elected representatives from Portland and Vancouver developed the I-5 Partnership Strategic Plan. The plan recommended the creation of a community enhancement fund to benefit the communities affected by transportation projects on I-5.

Projects awarded by the Delta Park Community Enhancement Fund must satisfy two requirements:

- Projects must be eligible for state or federal transportation funding
- Projects must have a demonstrated relationship with the I-5 Delta Park project area and the potential impacts of the project

The Delta Park Community Enhancement Advisory Board of neighborhood and community representatives guided the process of soliciting enhancement ideas from the community, screening proposed projects, and recommending projects for the \$1 million in funds. ODOT, the City of Portland and its partners are striving to complete these projects in 2007 and 2008. To review the complete list of community enhancement projects, visit:

<http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1/I-5DeltaPark/#fund>

The I-5 Delta Park to Lombard Street Construction Project

Phase One of the project involves widening southbound I-5 to three lanes between Delta Park and the Columbia Boulevard on-ramp. The shoulder and inside median of northbound I-5 will be widened between Lombard Street and Delta Park. In order to accommodate these changes, the existing bridges over the Columbia Slough and Columbia Boulevard will be widened and the on- and off-ramps at Columbia Boulevard and Victory Boulevard will be realigned and lengthened. For the Columbia Boulevard southbound on-ramp, this will involve building a new bridge. Construction on Phase One is scheduled to begin in summer 2008.

For more information on the project visit:

<http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1/I-5DeltaPark/index.shtml>

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