



TRAFFIC ADVISORY

Columbia Slough Bridge repair to impact N. Portland Road next two months

Steel piles to replace 14 wood piles; N. Portland Road to be completely closed next week

The Oregon Department of Transportation has started work on a project to replace wooden support piles on the Columbia Slough Bridge at mile post 0.38 on N. Portland Road. During a recent bridge inspection, 14 of 55 wooden piles on the bridge were slated for replacement after they were found to have some rot (the bridge also has concrete supports). The bridge was built in 1932 and has undergone several rounds of pile replacement and improvement in the past.

Traffic impacts

- ◆ N. Portland Road will be closed to **ALL** traffic at the Columbia Slough Bridge from 6 a.m. on Monday, Aug. 27, through noon on Friday, Aug. 31
- ◆ There will be periodic single lane closures with flaggers controlling both directions of traffic at the Columbia Slough Bridge on N. Portland Road during work hours of 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 4, through Wednesday, Sept. 19 (all lanes across the bridge will be open during the Labor Day weekend)
- ◆ N. Portland Road will be closed to **ALL** traffic at the Columbia Slough Bridge from 6 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 21, through 6 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 24
- ◆ There will be periodic single lane closures with flaggers controlling both directions of traffic at the Columbia Slough Bridge on N. Portland Road during work hours of 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday, Sept. 24, through project completion on Monday, Oct. 15

**** Vehicles weighing more than 10,000 pounds (gross vehicle weight) are restricted from traveling across the Columbia Slough Bridge at any time from 6 a.m. on Monday, Aug. 27, to 6 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 24.**

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Detour routes

There are east and west detour routes, all of which will be signed.

◆ Eastbound traffic detours

1. For eastbound traffic on N. Marine Drive heading south to N. Columbia Boulevard: travel east on N. Marine to NE Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard to N. Columbia
2. For eastbound traffic on N. Columbia Boulevard heading north to N. Marine Drive: travel east on N. Columbia to Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard to N. Marine

◆ Westbound traffic detours

1. For westbound traffic on N. Marine Drive heading south to N. Columbia Boulevard: travel west on N. Marine to N. Lombard Street to N. Columbia
2. For westbound traffic on N. Columbia Boulevard heading north to N. Marine Drive: travel west on N. Columbia to N. Lombard to N. Marine

Project details

Before the piles are replaced, ODOT's bridge crew will fasten two "strong backs" to the east and west sidewalks on the Columbia Slough Bridge. Strong backs are steel H-beams that provide support for the weight of the bridge deck and pile caps when the timber piles are cut for replacement. After the strong backs are bolted to the deck and the pile cap, the timber piles will be cut at water level, the new steel support pile will be placed over the remaining timber pile, and, using hydraulics, the new steel pile will be stabilized in the Columbia Slough riverbed. Additional sections of steel pile will then be welded to the pile fixed in the Columbia Slough riverbed, and secured to the bridge deck and pile cap. This process will be repeated for each of the 14 wood piles to be replaced.

Project schedule

The strong backs will be placed on the bridge beginning Monday, Aug. 27. The project is scheduled for completion by Monday, Oct. 15.

Aug. 22, 2007	2:20 p.m.
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