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Project website: [www.DennisEdwardsTunnel.org](http://www.DennisEdwardsTunnel.org)

## U.S. 26 overnight tunnel closures start Monday

Work to repair the Dennis L. Edwards Tunnel on U.S. 26 (Sunset Highway) begins Monday, Jan. 17. During the work, the tunnel will be open every weekend and weekday but will close nightly Sunday through Thursday until late May.

**The first overnight tunnel closure will take place from 8 p.m. Monday, Jan. 17 to 6 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 18.** Closures will continue at night according to the following schedule.

Weekends	Tunnel <b>open</b> from 6 a.m. Friday to 10 p.m. Sunday
Weekdays	Tunnel <b>open</b> from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. with occasional flagging
Sunday	Tunnel closed overnight from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. Monday
Monday-Thursday	Tunnel closed overnight from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. the next morning
Oregon Spring Break	Tunnel <b>open</b> March 18-27

A signed detour will direct motorists onto Oregon Highway 47 and Timber/Vernonia Road. The detour route increases motorists' driving distance by 15 miles and approximately 25 minutes.

### Project details

The timber lining inside the Dennis L. Edwards Tunnel, constructed in 1941, has outlived its service life and must be replaced.

Johnson Western Gunitite of San Leandro, CA, will handle the \$6 million project to reline the tunnel, improve drainage, replace lighting and install a bicycle warning system. Project completion is scheduled for July 2011. The project elements that require nighttime closures will be complete by Memorial Day Weekend.

### Public open house

Oregon Department of Transportation staff and the contractor will hold an open house tonight from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Banks Christian Academy, 22785 NW Fischer Road, Buxton.

**##ODOT##**