



Project Information Paper: OR18: Salmon River Hwy at Fort Hill Road to Wallace Bridge

Project Location

On the Salmon River Highway (OR-18) at MP 23.85 to 26.90, approximately one mile east of the Grand Ronde Casino in Polk County.

Project Description, Purpose and Need

This project is within the Van Duzer to Steel Bridge Road corridor. This route is a major connection between the Portland and Salem metropolitan areas, Lincoln City and the central Oregon coast. The Fort Hill Road intersection at OR 18 is very close to the South Yamhill River Bridge which causes conflicts between highway traffic and turning traffic resulting in accidents. The existing 3-lane roadway was experiencing a high number of accidents. In June of 2000, shoulder and median rumble strips were installed which resulted in a short-term decrease in accidents. Now due to the increase in traffic and high speeds, cross-over accidents are on the rise.

Proposed corrective measures involve constructing a partial interchange.

Overview of Construction Elements

- Widen the existing 3-lane roadway to include four travel lanes with barrier in the median.
- Construct a frontage road behind the Fort Hill restaurant and service station that connects to the interchange.
- Construct a new interchange east of Fort Hill Road. Once the interchange is in place, access to Fort Hill Road and South Yamhill Road will be restricted from Highway 18. Access will be provided through the new interchange.

Construction Impacts

- Highway construction shall be performed during the day as well as at night.
- The traffic operations goal during construction is to limit delays or idle travel to no more than 20 minutes in duration.
- The passing lanes will be eliminated during construction. One lane in each direction will remain open at all times during the hours of 6:00 am to 8:00 pm, Monday through Thursday as well as on holidays and weekends.

Project Partnerships

ODOT will maintain close liaison with the community of Fort Hill, Polk County transportation officials, businesses, emergency services and other local neighborhood individuals and groups and the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde.

Key Project Milestones

Begin construction—May 2008 – Oregon Mainline is the successful contractor.

Cost of Project

\$14,000,000

For more information on this project or to schedule a meeting with your organization, please contact:

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