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Highway 199 project study ready for review

Revised Environmental Assessment released

GRANTS PASS — The Revised Environmental Assessment (REA) for the Highway 199 Expressway project is now available for review. The REA is available at the project Web site, www.oregon.gov/odot/hwy/region3, and at the following Grants Pass locations:

- Grants Pass City Administrator's office, 101 N.W. A St.
- Josephine County Commissioners' office, 500 N.W. 6th St.
- Josephine County Public Works, 201 River Heights Wy.
- Grants Pass Chamber of Commerce, 1995 NW Vine St.
- ODOT Maintenance office, 345 NE Agness Ave.
- Rogue Community College Library, 3345 Redwood Hwy.

With the federal approval, the \$3 million project begins construction this summer. The project targets the west side of Highway 199 from Rogue Community College to Midway Avenue, building a median to separate traffic and limit turning movements to right-in/right-out.

The REA examines final design alternatives to solve congestion and safety problems on U.S. Highway in terms of negative and positive impacts that could affect the human and natural environment.

"This will mean we can build the safety portion of the project this year and help end the fatal crashes on that segment of highway," said ODOT Project Leader Jayne Randleman.

The Revised Environmental Assessment culminates three years of public design meetings in Grants Pass. It also includes the east end of the project that addresses congestion and safety from Tussey Lane to Dowell Road. This urbanized section is waiting full funding before final design and construction.

ODOT