



May 29, 2007

07-41-R3

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## Highland Drive to undergo construction

### *Detour established for local motorists*

MEDFORD — Construction work for the new South Medford Interchange project will expand to include Highland Drive, beginning Monday, June 4.

During construction, Highland Drive traffic will use Greenwood Street and Ellendale Drive. Drivers are encouraged to use alternate routes to avoid congestion and delays.

This construction phase on Highland focuses work between Barnett Road and Greenwood Street. Work involves replacing the bridge over Lazy Creek and widening Highland Drive south of the bridge. The work is scheduled for completion in August.

“Closing Highland allows the contractor to expedite this construction phase,” said ODOT Public Service Representative Bill Boyett. “That will be good for nearby residents and motorists.”

Shortly after the Highland work begins, Barnett Road construction will transition to the north side after six months on the south side.

A joint venture with the City of Medford, the \$70 million project is designed to improve safety and congestion. The centerpiece of the project is construction of a new, high capacity Single Point Urban Interchange 1,900 feet south of the existing Barnett Road exit (exit 27). With the new interchange in operation, Barnett Road will function better as it will be limited to local traffic, including bicycles and pedestrians.

###ODOT###