

## US 97: Biggs Jct. to Spanish Hollow Creek and Trout Creek Bridges Seismic Retrofit/Replacement

*Last updated: October 5, 2016*

### Project overview

- Extend the southbound acceleration lane of US 97 from the US 30/US 97 intersection at the Biggs Jct. Interchange, and match into the US 97 climbing lane a half mile south of the interchange.
- Replace the existing US 97 Spanish Hollow Creek Bridge at (MP 0.39) and the Trout Creek Bridge (MP 75) to new seismic resilient bridges.
- Seismically retrofit six additional bridges over Spanish Hollow Creek near Biggs junction.

### Why this project is needed?

#### *Regional lifeline route*

US 97 is a regional lifeline route in the case of a seismic event. It is anticipated that most bridges in western Oregon will suffer serious damage or destruction in a major earthquake because they were built before the existence of modern seismic codes. In case of such an event in Oregon, the main help for affected areas is expected to come from the eastern part of the state and from neighboring states, providing goods and medical supplies for those in need. U.S. 97 is a critical part in creating a resilient north-south highway corridor to support emergency response and recovery efforts. The eight structures included in this project were prioritized as the most seismically vulnerable structures along US97 between I-84 and OR58.



#### *Increased capacity & freight mobility*

Replacing the Spanish Hollow Creek Bridge and connecting the US 97 southbound climbing lane will increase capacity into the Spanish Hollow Grade and improve freight mobility within the interchange area. It will also eliminate slow trucks from impacting the signalized intersection in Biggs Jct. and allow for the separation of trucks and vehicles as they begin their climb out of the Columbia Gorge.

### How ODOT plans to solve these problems?

The retrofitting or replacements of the bridges along Spanish Hollow Creek and at Trout Creek will result in seismically resilient bridges in the US 97 segment from I-84 to OR 58. This work is essential to assist with mobility in the case of a major seismic event. ODOT will extend the southbound acceleration lane of US 97 from the US 30/US 97 intersection at the Biggs Jct. Interchange, and match into the US 97 climbing lane a half mile south of the interchange, providing a continuous two-lane section for the first two miles of US 97 south of Interstate 84.

This project will also replace the existing two-lane US 97 Spanish Hollow Creek Bridge, approximately one-half mile south of Biggs Junction, to a new three-lane, seismic resilient bridge and the Trout Creek Bridge, located 17 miles north of Madras. Finally, ODOT will complete seismic retrofits of six additional bridges along US 97 within first seven miles south of Biggs Jct. along Spanish Hollow Creek.

#### *Traffic control during construction*

During construction, traffic will be controlled by a temporary signal. Retrofit and/or replacement of bridges will limit traffic to one direction. Motorists can expect delays up to 20 minutes.

ODOT Region 4  
**Project Information**

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*Timeline*

Project Development            Fall 2016  
Bid Opening                      Fall 2017  
Construction                     Summer 2018

*Estimated Project Cost*

\$15 million

**Contacts**

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For more information on this and other highway projects visit:

<http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION4/Pages/RoadworkImprovements.aspx>