

OR 140: Beatty Curves Project

Last updated: March 27, 2009

Location

The OR 140 Beatty Curves Project is located approximately 1.5 miles east of Beatty, Oregon in Klamath County.



A sharp corner in the Beatty Curves area.

Why the Project is Needed

The OR 140 Beatty Curves Project is a safety improvement project between Mileposts 41.70 – 42.70. The roadway is narrow with substandard shoulders and very sharp curves. The sight distance is limited on the curves creating a safety problem. Numerous crashes along this stretch of highway can be partially attributed to these substandard features. Keeping roads in good condition and providing for safe travel are critical parts of the mission for the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT).

The section of highway between Mileposts 40 - 45 had a 2001 and 2002 Safety Improvement Program category rating of three and a rating of two for 2004 through 2006. There were ten reported crashes between January 1997 and December 2006. Six of the ten crashes involved trucks. Two of the crashes resulted in severe injuries.

OR 140 is a Statewide Freight Route but this roadway section currently has truck length restrictions due to its substandard horizontal and vertical alignment. The substandard alignment reduces overall mobility and safety in the OR 140 corridor, which is an important economic transportation link between Jackson, Klamath and Lake Counties.

What is Planned

To address the problems in this section of OR 140, the following actions are planned:

- Straighten curves and widen the roadway, including shoulders.
- Remove obstacles in the clear zone, which is the area beyond the edge of the highway that allows a driver to stop safely or regain control of a vehicle that leaves the roadway.
- Install new or upgrade existing guardrails.
- Upgrade existing signs to meet current standards.

Project Timeline

Design: 2009
Contract Bid Let: 2010
Construction: 2011 or 2012

Total Project Cost

\$ 2.5 million

ODOT Contacts

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For current information, visit the project website at:

http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION4/OR140_Beatty_Curves/OR140_Beatty_Curves.shtml

