

US 197: The Dalles – Eightmile Creek Project

Last Updated: March 30, 2009

Project Components

- Repave approximately 9 miles of US 197 between MP 1.0 in The Dalles and MP 9.88 near Boyd, Oregon.
- Replace or modify substandard guardrail.
- Upgrade permanent highway signing.
- Install striping and signing to provide left turn lanes at the intersection of Eightmile Road and US 197.
- The \$4.1 million in funding for this project is from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and will provide 56 family wage jobs.



Project Timeline

Contract bid let: May 2009
Construction: Summer 2009
Project completion: Fall 2009

Project Information

The project is located between the City of The Dalles and Boyd Loop Road on US 197 in Wasco County, Oregon. This portion of US 197 is the primary farm to market access for numerous agriculture producers in the Mid-Columbia area. It is also the main transportation route between the largest urban center in Wasco County and a number of growing, smaller communities to the south. Keeping state highways in good condition and providing for safe travel are critical parts of the mission for the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT).

The latest available (2006) pavement condition rating for this section of highway is “Poor”. The road surface is showing extensive fatigue and cracking. This project will overlay the entire width of the highway with 3 inches of asphalt pavement.

The intersection of US 197 and Eightmile Creek Road is experiencing an increase in the number of turning movements which is causing safety concerns. This project will install striping and permanent signing that clearly provide for left turns at this intersection.

Permanent signing and guardrails along the highway will also be upgraded to meet current standards as part of the project.

To accommodate agricultural harvests in the area, the contractor will maintain one lane of traffic in each direction until August 10. After August 10, in order to facilitate paving, traffic will be controlled in the construction zone by flaggers and/or pilot cars. Motorists can expect up to 20 minutes delays during paving activities.

Traffic impacts will be posted on [TripCheck](#) on a weekly basis or at more frequent intervals as changes occur.

ODOT Contacts:

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For current information, visit the project website at:

http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION4/US197_TheDalles_EightmileCr/US197_TheDalles_EightmileCr.shtml