



US 97 Crooked River Bridge to Redmond Reroute Project Project Update September 2008

Last updated: September 8, 2008

Key Project Milestones:

Preliminary design – Completed
Final Design – Winter 2008/2009
Contract Bid Let – Spring 2009
Construction – Summer/Fall 2009

Schedule Update

The preliminary design was completed earlier this year. The final design will be completed this winter. A contract will then be prepared and the project put out for bid in March 2009. Construction is slated to begin in the late spring or early summer of 2009 and be completed by the fall.

Rising Oil and Construction Costs Affecting Project

Recent increases in oil prices and other increasing construction costs are affecting the cost of road construction across the Nation. Over the last four months the cost of paving has increased nearly 35 percent in Oregon. The Project Steering Team (made up of Deschutes County Commissioner Dennis Luke, Jefferson County Commissioner Bill Bellamy, and ODOT Region 4 Manager Bob Bryant) met recently to assess the impacts of the rising costs on the project. A key decision they made was to postpone indefinitely the planned under-crossing, currently estimated at \$1.8 million, at NW 10th Street.

Land Use Actions

Deschutes County has determined that two proposed pieces of the project constitute land use actions: 1) relocating Morning Glory Drive further west of its current location on NW Lower Bridge Way; and 2) extending NW 12th Street. ODOT filed the application for Morning Glory Drive in July 2008. There were no appeals and the decision is now final. The NW 12th Street application will be submitted later in 2008.

Local residents, businesses and other agencies are notified when applications are filed. The County determines whether hearings are needed. Information about the County's [land use process](#) or [pending land use applications](#) can be found on the internet.

Wimp Way Update

ODOT sent a letter to Deschutes County in November 2007 requesting that Wimp Way be closed. Deschutes County is still processing that request. To address concerns, ODOT is proposing to install a gate at Wimp Way that emergency services could use, and to not close Wimp Way until after the improvements at Lower Bridge Way are completed.

In addition, ODOT is in the process of facilitating a follow-up evaluation on the concept of future alternative access for connecting the north end of Wimp Way (currently a cul-de-sac) from the west side under the railroad bridge to the Ogden Wayside Park and back to US 97.

Stakeholders for this concept include Deschutes and Jefferson Counties, Oregon State Parks, and the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway. How and when this evaluation will be completed has not yet been set, but we will keep everyone informed.

Pedestrian Improvements in Terrebonne

Deschutes County has applied for a State Bicycle/Pedestrian grant to cover the pedestrian improvements planned for the project in Terrebonne. This will help off-set the rising construction costs noted above. In addition to the [sidewalks, curbing and drainage swales](#) on both sides of US 97 from 11th Street to Central Avenue, the grant is requesting funding to construct a sidewalk on the north side of B Avenue from US 97 to the Terrebonne School.

For now, the plan is to keep the pedestrian crosswalk on the north side of the intersection of B Avenue (Smith Rock Way) and US 97. But it will have a new look. When completed, there will be two flashing lights with a crosswalk sign in between them over each travel lane. The striping at the crosswalk will be a “continental” design. This is a series of wide white stripes that run parallel to and the entire width of the highway. There are still plans to conduct another pedestrian study once the sidewalk and crosswalk improvements are in place, to see how they are being used and to see if additional changes are warranted.

Solar Powered School Crossing Flashers

The school crossing flashers were installed near the B Avenue crosswalk this past winter, and operate during the hours of 8:00 am to 9:00 am and 3:30 pm to 4:00 pm, when school is in session. ODOT recently cut low hanging branches that were blocking the view of the flashers, thanks in part to a resident of Terrebonne who brought this to our attention. We routinely survey state highways for needed maintenance items such as this but we appreciate your help in identifying these as well. Thanks!

Project Website

The project website is being updated as new information becomes available.

http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION4/US97_CRBtoRedmond/US97_CRBtoRedmondPIP.shtml

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