

The Port of Morrow is a major employer for northeastern Oregon and critical to the economic vitality of the region. One barrier to expanding its East Beach Industrial Park, which would support even more jobs, is a lack of connections to U.S. 730 that runs along the east side of the Port property. This project builds those connections, adding about five miles of new roads, and opening more than 1,600 acres of port property for development.

"We have rail, the Columbia River and Interstate 84 that all intersect here at the port," says Port of Morrow General Manager Gary Neal. "We are starting to see hundreds of millions of dollars invested and jobs starting to happen."

That's good news for businesses wanting to expand and great news for eastern Oregonians looking for new job opportunities.

It's estimated that hundreds of new jobs will be created as businesses locate to the newly opened grounds. For a site that already supports 4,500 workers in a rural community of about 3,500 residents, that's pretty impressive.

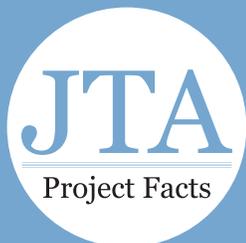
"The expansion of the road grid in the port area is the reason we're able to do that," says Neal.

Although the road and bridge work won't be completed until 2017, construction of warehouses, expansion of the power grid and other work is already underway. Some new



*Gary Neal*

businesses such as data centers, food processing plants, and a variety of goods distributors are already in the building phase. More are sharing their plans to locate to the port soon.



Jobs and Transportation Act Funds:  
**\$10.7 million**

Project Total:  
**\$10.7 million**

Completion: 2017