

# I-5 Seismic Retrofit Project

## SW Hood Avenue Bridge Frequently Asked Questions



Oregon  
Department  
of Transportation

### **1. During the detour, will the right turn still be available onto SW Bancroft Street from SW Macadam Avenue?**

Yes. Motorists traveling northbound on SW Macadam Avenue will be able to make the right turn onto SW Bancroft Street throughout construction. The traffic signal for northbound traffic on SW Macadam Avenue will remain in operation throughout construction.

### **2. During the detour, will I still be able to turn from SW Bancroft Street onto SW Macadam Avenue in either direction?**

Yes. Motorists traveling west on SW Bancroft Street will be able to make both the right turn to head north on SW Macadam Avenue and the left turn to head south on SW Macadam Avenue throughout construction. The traffic signal at SW Bancroft Street and SW Macadam Avenue will remain operational.

### **3. What length of time will the detour be in place?**

The SW Hood Avenue detour plan will remain active for the duration of construction at the site. At this time, the contractual agreement between ODOT and the contractor allows up to 17 months to complete their work. The contractor, however, anticipates completing the project within a shorter window of about one (1) year. The detour will be in place the week of March 10, 2014.

### **4. Will the detour route accommodate trucks?**

Yes. The detour route using SW Curry Street will accommodate trucks with up to a 53' trailer.

### **5. Will emergency vehicles still be able to go straight on SW Bancroft Street from SW Hood Avenue if necessary?**

Yes. The construction contractor will be using 28" tubular markers to prohibit vehicles from continuing straight onto SW Bancroft Street from SW Hood Avenue. This particular type of barrier allows workers to move the barricade to permit emergency vehicles to gain access to the South Waterfront via SW Bancroft Street if required.

### **6. Why is the detour needed?**

Due to the nature of the bridge seismic retrofit work, one of the two lanes beneath SW Hood Avenue will need to be closed to traffic at any given time. To understand the traffic impacts that this might cause, traffic counts were taken, and a traffic analysis and simulation was conducted during the project's design phase. It was found that there is a heavy volume of vehicles making the left and right turn movements onto SW Macadam Avenue during the morning and evening peak travel times. Due to the traffic volumes during this time, and the limited access resulting from the alternating lane closures, the traffic simulation demonstrated that SW Hood Avenue would become crippled and lead to a blockage of side streets and the I-5 Southbound off-ramp. In response to this significant impact, the design team developed a concept that maintained a free-flow and continuous left turn onto SW Macadam Avenue in order to provide the necessary relief to the corridor (i.e., unclog the bottleneck).

In the process of maintaining this free-flow left turn, motorist would not be able to access SW Bancroft Street from SW Hood Avenue, and a detour route was necessary to ensure drivers would still be able to gain access to the various businesses and residents in the area.



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## SW Hood Avenue Bridge

*Frequently Asked Questions (continued)*



### 7. Why was this bridge selected for seismic retrofitting?

ODOT conducted a seismic vulnerability study of the state highway bridges to assess the risks to Oregon's only north-south interstate highway, I-5. Only a small portion of I-5 would remain operable if the state suffered a substantial seismic event. The seismic retrofit project will strengthen bridges and give them the ability to withstand a major earthquake. The five bridges on this project were selected because they serve as a reasonable sampling for other bridges statewide due to their varying design types. Increasing the seismic resiliency of the selected bridges will give ODOT an opportunity to get a better understanding of what it will require to improve the various bridges it is responsible for.

### 8. Will the detour be fully signed?

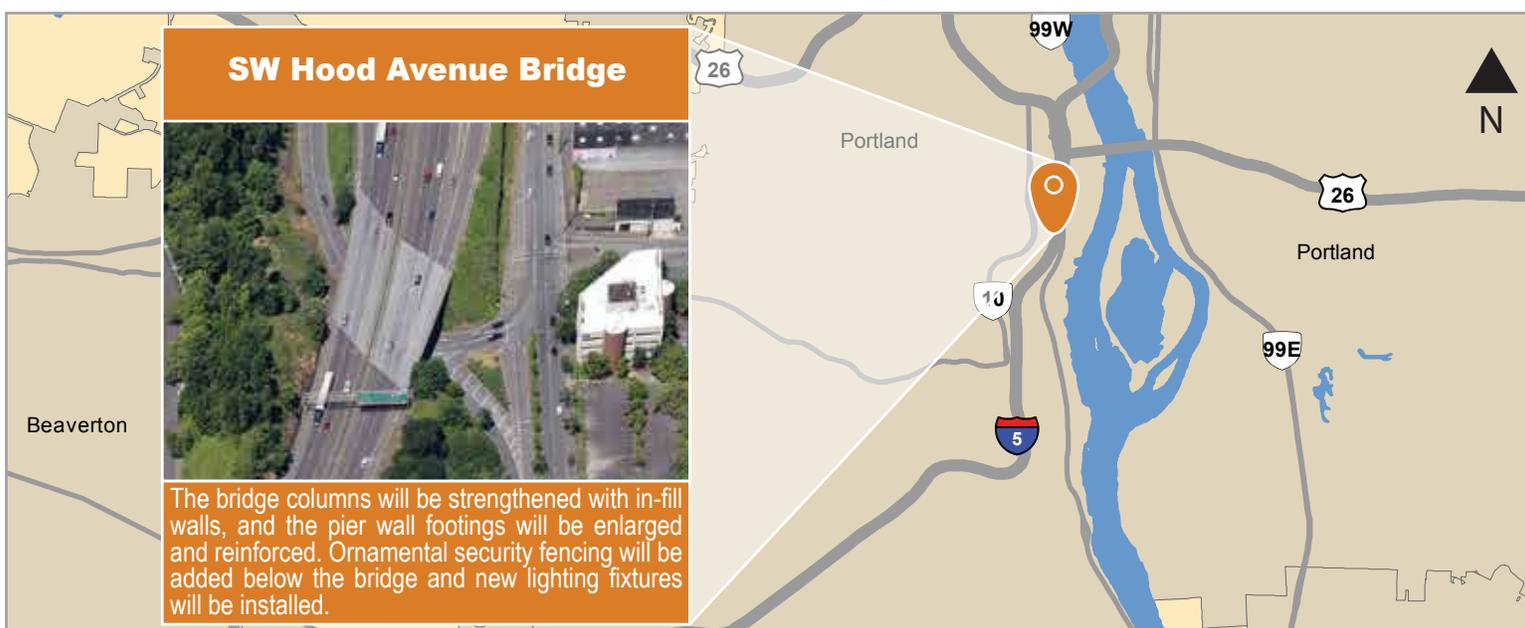
Yes. The detour will be a fully signed route directing traffic to SW Bancroft Street. The detour will take road users north on SW Macadam Avenue, east on SW Curry Street and south on SW Moody Avenue to get to SW Bancroft Street.

### 9. When will work begin?

Construction crews will be on site at the SW Hood Avenue location the week of March 10, 2014. The community outreach team will inform businesses and residents of particular construction activities for the duration of construction.

### 10. How can I get on the email distribution list for updates?

To be added to the project email distribution list for updates, send your email address to Lili Boicourt, Community Affairs, Oregon Department of Transportation, at [Lili.D.Boicourt@odot.state.or.us](mailto:Lili.D.Boicourt@odot.state.or.us).



For more information or to sign-up for electronic updates, contact:

Lili Boicourt, ODOT Community Affairs, Phone: 503-731-8247 Email: [Lili.D.Boicourt@odot.state.or.us](mailto:Lili.D.Boicourt@odot.state.or.us)

[www.i5seismic.org](http://www.i5seismic.org)