



# NEWS RELEASE

**Region 1** *Columbia, Washington, Multnomah, Clackamas and Hood River Counties*

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## Construction set to begin on Oregon 47 at Verboort and Purdin Roads

A contractor for the Oregon Department of Transportation will begin construction in early June on a \$1.2 million project to improve safety on Oregon 47 at its intersection with Verboort and Purdin Roads (about one mile north of Forest Grove). Kerr Contractors, Inc., of Tualatin, OR, will construct left and right turn lanes on Oregon 47 to allow motorists to make turns safely onto Verboort and Purdin Roads. Accident data shows that most crashes in that area occurred while vehicles were stopped on the highway attempting to turn onto Verboort or Purdin Road.<sup>†</sup>

### Traffic Impacts: Daytime, non-peak hours

Once construction begins in June, flaggers will control traffic at the intersection of Oregon 47 and Verboort/Purdin Roads during daytime construction hours. Travelers will experience intermittent short-term lane closures in the immediate vicinity of the intersection. Normal traffic patterns will be restored by 4:00 p.m. each weekday. **Please use caution and expect delays through this area over the summer.**

Construction should be complete by the end of August.

##ODOT##

<sup>†</sup> In the five years from 1/1/1998 through 12/31/2002, 39 crashes occurred at the intersection of Oregon 47 and Verboort/Purdin Roads. Turning movements, rear-end and sideswipe-meeting collisions are often associated with stopping in the lane to make a turn. These account for two-thirds of all crashes.

Crash Cause	#	%
Turning Movements	21	54%
Angle	9	23%
Rear-End/Sideswipe-Meeting	5	13%
Other	4	10%