



Oregon Department of Transportation

# NEWS RELEASE

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

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Regional Projects Website: [www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1](http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1)

## WORK BEGINS ON HIGHWAY 217 PROJECT

A contractor for the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) will soon start work on a highway preservation project on Highway 217. Beginning in late June, construction will commence on Highway 217 between the U.S. 26 interchange and 72<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. As part of this project, the contractor will also pave a one-mile section of westbound U.S. 26 (Sunset Highway) just east of the Highway 217 interchange. The project is scheduled to be completed by December 2006.

### Project elements

This \$4.7 million preservation project includes the following upgrades:

- Grind and pave the 6.37 miles of Highway 217 (both directions) and one mile of U.S. 26 (westbound only)
- Modify and extend guardrail
- Install durable, reflective lane striping
- Replace existing ramp meters and traffic loop detectors
- Install new and/or improved signs
- Construct ADA ramps for sidewalks at selected Highway 217 ramp terminals

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### **Traffic impacts and projected construction schedule**

Due to the high volumes of traffic on both U.S. 26 and Highway 217, the majority of work on this project will occur at night. Throughout the summer and fall drivers should expect overnight lane closures and delays on both highways. The contractor may work seven nights a week depending on weather conditions and the nature of work currently under way. The tentative construction schedule is listed below.

- June and July: install construction signs and modify and extend guardrail
- August: traffic loop detector installation and construction of ADA ramps
- Late August through September: grind and pave Highway 217 on- and off-ramps, mainline Highway 217 and then westbound U.S. 26
- October: sign installation and lane striping
- November and December: project clean up

### **Open House**

A project open house will be held Thursday, June 22 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Beaverton Resource Center, 12500 SW Allen Boulevard. The open house will provide local residents and community members with an opportunity to learn more about the project, and ask ODOT and contractor staff questions about construction, scheduling and traffic impacts. This is an informal event and citizens are encouraged to stop by any time the evening of June 22.

### **Enhanced Police Patrols**

ODOT will provide funding for the Beaverton and Tigard Police Departments and the Washington County Sheriff's Office to conduct enhanced patrols of the project areas. **Drivers should remember that traffic fines double in construction zones.**

Oregon Mainline Paving from McMinnville, OR is the prime contractor for the project.

**##ODOT##**