



Oregon Department of Transportation

NEWS RELEASE

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

May 22, 2006

06-050 R1

For More Information:

Shawn Uhlman, 503-969-1107, Shawn.D.Uhlman@odot.state.or.us
Dave Thompson, 503-860-8021, David.H.Thompson@odot.state.or.us
Regional Projects Website: www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1

VIETNAM MEMORIAL TRAVELING MEMORIAL ARRIVES IN PORTLAND TUESDAY

The Dignity Memorial® Vietnam Wall Experience™, a two-thirds scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C., under sponsorship of the Vietnam Veterans of Oregon, will travel by semi-truck from Medford to Portland Tuesday, May 23. The Memorial Wall will leave Medford at 6 a.m. Tuesday morning and is scheduled to arrive at the Interstate 5/Interstate 205 interchange at approximately 1 p.m. The Memorial will then travel north on I-205 to the Johnson Creek Boulevard exit (Exit 16). Event organizers anticipate up to 3,000 motorcycles may join the convoy transporting the Memorial Wall as it travels north from Medford.

Starting in Wilsonville, crews from the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and troopers from the Oregon State Police (OSP) will temporarily close the northbound on-ramps of I-5 and I-205 from Wilsonville to Highway 224/82nd Avenue. Each on-ramp will be closed and then reopened in succession as the group proceeds north. Each on-ramp will remain closed for approximately 15-20 minutes to allow the convoy to remain intact and will minimize the risk associated with traffic attempting to merge into the convoy. Northbound I-5 and I-205 off-ramps will remain open. **Motorists exiting the freeways should use caution when merging into and out of the convoy.**

--more--

Once the convoy reaches the I-205 Sunnyside/Sunnybrook interchange, a lead group of 200 motorcycles and several local emergency vehicles will escort the Memorial Wall for the remainder of the journey north on I-205 to the Johnson Creek Boulevard off-ramp (exit 16) and then to Lincoln Memorial Park.

The majority of the convoy participants will exit I-205 at the Sunnybrook Boulevard/Sunnyside Road exit (Exit 14) and will be escorted by both Clackamas County Sheriff and Portland Police Bureau. The convoy is scheduled to travel the following route: Sunnybrook Boulevard east to Sunnyside Boulevard, west to Stevens Road, north to Bob Schumacher Road, continuing north to 92nd Avenue and then to Mount Scott Boulevard.

Given the anticipated size of the convoy, drivers can expect delays between noon and 2 p.m. along northbound I-5 and northbound I-205. In addition, motorists on the Sunnyside/Sunnybrook and Johnson Creek Boulevard interchanges and the county and city roads listed above should expect delays and may want to consider alternate routes.

##ODOT##