



Sept. 6, 2011

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No more left turns from Scholls Ferry Road to Washington Square

New restriction starts Wednesday to improve safety at a crash-prone intersection

Left turns will be prohibited starting Wednesday Sept. 7 from Southwest Scholls Ferry Road into Washington Square.

Barring left turns will improve safety at the intersection. During peak periods on a busy day, more than 200 cars per hour turn left into the mall from Scholls Ferry Road.

Traffic barrels will mark the new configuration on the morning of Wednesday Sept. 7 but by the end of September, ODOT will construct a traffic separator between the northbound and southbound lanes and restripe the road to remove the southbound left turn lane. Signs will also direct vehicles to other mall entryways.

Right turns to the mall access road from northbound Scholls Ferry Road will remain open.

The intersection came under study after local officials expressed concern about its safety. Many options were considered in talks that included Washington Square, ODOT, Washington County and the cities of Tigard and Beaverton.

The plan will improve the safety of motorists. Long-term solutions are being evaluated but no funding is immediately available for anything other than the raised median.

Motorists will still have many ways of reaching their destination, including OR 217 to Scholls Ferry Road north or Southwest Hall Boulevard to Eliander Lane or Palmbled Lane.

The road serves thousands of people bound for Washington Square well as the Embassy Suites, a Wells Fargo Bank, an office building and an apartment complex.

##ODOT##