

The Woodburn Interchange and Transit Facility Project does much more for the community than significantly reducing congestion and making travel safer. Woodburn officials and businesses say it allows future job creation and increased economic development.

"We have improved safety with fewer traffic backups. We have a catalyst to economic development. We have a number of new businesses that have opened or are in process of opening," says Woodburn Mayor Kathy Figley. "We have this new gateway that is distinctive and a wonderful door to the Woodburn area."

The project was opened to traffic in late 2015, one year ahead of schedule. It significantly improves traffic flow, adds a transit/park and ride facility, and improves pedestrian and bicycle access.

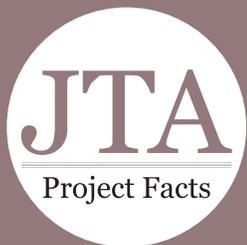
It's also just pretty to look at: The "gateway" design unique to Woodburn ties together the many elements of the project.

"Having good access is very important. Prior to the new interchange, when we had high volume weekends, we could get people in but the egress made it difficult to get people back on I-5," says Kristy Kummer-Pred, General Manager of Woodburn Premium Outlets, located at the interchange and one of the busiest retail outlet malls on the West Coast. "Before the new interchange, traffic would always back up. It was chaos and gridlock."



Kathy Figley

"This project benefits the entire community," Kummer-Pred explains. "There was always a negative connotation because of the traffic. It is no longer a traffic nightmare."



Jobs and Transportation Act Funds:
\$47.7 million

Project Total:
\$72.3 million

Completion: 2016