

# Fact Sheet

## Safety Improvements Coming this Summer to Barbur Boulevard

We will update information on the project website regularly:  
**www.Barbursafety.org**



### PROJECT CONTACT

Susan Hanson,  
Community Affairs Coordinator

### EMAIL

Susan.C.Hanson@odot.state.or.us

### OR CALL

503-731-3490

Read inside  
about:  
Safety Improvements  
Coming this Summer  
to Barbur Boulevard  
www.Barbursafety.org

123 NW Flanders  
Portland, OR 97209



## Barbur Boulevard Safety Improvements for 2017

### WHAT IMPROVEMENTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN MADE?

In the past four years, the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) has spent \$8 million to improve safety on OR 99W and Barbur Boulevard in the City of Portland and Washington County. This includes installing rapid flash beacons in several locations to alert motorists when pedestrians are crossing. In addition, sidewalk improvements have been made, pedestrian islands added, flashing bicycle beacons installed on the Newbury and Vermont Bridges and speed feedback installed signs to alert drivers.

### WHAT IS NEXT?

ODOT has plans for additional safety improvements on Barbur Boulevard in the next few years. More information will be available later on the website about additional safety improvements.

### HOW WERE THESE PROJECTS DETERMINED?

ODOT conducted a Road Safety Audit (RSA) from July 20-24, 2015 on Southwest Barbur Boulevard to consider additional short-term and long-term transportation safety improvements for all users and to evaluate the effectiveness of the \$8 million of recent safety projects on Barbur Boulevard.

This audit resulted in 134 suggested improvements. ODOT will be implementing over 80% of these projects starting this summer. Funding is being sought for the other improvements.



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To increase safety on SW Barbur Boulevard (OR 99W), from Naito Parkway to the south end of Capitol Highway, the Oregon Department of Transportation will make improvements this summer for people who ride bikes, walk, ride buses and drive motor vehicles.

 **For all road users, we will:**

- Restripe travel lanes to provide more consistent and slightly narrower travel lane lanes and add marked bike lanes.
- Increase visibility for all road users by trimming vegetation. This will also enhance lighting, sidewalk access and visibility of street signs.
- Install a speed feedback sign on northbound Barbur Boulevard before the Vermont and Newbury Bridges to remind motorists to drive safe speeds. Install speed reduction striping along the bridges.
- Close the left turn lane on Barbur Boulevard at the businesses just north of Capitol Highway to reduce conflicts and the potential for crashes. All other accesses will remain, encouraging safer right turns.

 **For people riding bicycles, we will:**

- Restripe bike lanes to add buffers in several locations where the roadway width allows or by removing parking. A buffered bike lane is a standard bike lane with a designated buffer space that provides additional separation between people on bikes and in cars.
- Add more bicycle detection loops at the Newbury and Vermont Bridges to activate, earlier, the flashing bike warning beacons.
- Add green bike lane markings at several intersections to increase visibility of areas where turning vehicles must yield to bikes before crossing the bike lane. Modify right turn lanes to shorten conflict points between vehicles and bicycles.
- Install green left turn bike boxes at Terwilliger Boulevard to provide an area for people on bikes to wait for the signal while making "two-stage" left turns.
- Mark bike lanes through long intersections.

 **For people walking, we will:**

- To discourage motorists from changing lanes near crosswalks with flashing beacons, add no-pass striping at these crosswalks.
- Mark pedestrian crosswalks at the Barbur Transit Center entrances.

**When will it happen?**

This work is expected start in August 2017 and be completed in October 2017.

## WHAT ARE THE CONSTRUCTION IMPACTS?

The work will be done both during the day and at night from August to October 2017.

**Motorists:** Intermittent lane closures will occur. Some of it will be done in a moving operation.

**Business owners:** If we are working near your business or driveway, you will be contacted in advance.

**People on bikes and walking:** Vegetation trimming will also be of short duration in bicycle lanes and/or sidewalks. Safety signing will be in place if bicycles must share traffic lanes. Any temporary sidewalk closures will include an accessible, signed pedestrian detour.

**Bus riders:** Bus stops should remain open and any work impacts will be minimal and of short duration. Crews will work to minimize disruption around bus stop locations.

**Noise impacts:** Most of the work will cause minimal noise and the noisy work will be short in duration. The majority of the construction will move along Barbur Boulevard. The work may produce increases in noise levels for more than a short duration. It will not be allowed at night between 11 p.m. and 8 a.m.

Nearby residents may hear nighttime construction noise intermittently as the project work moves along.

For noise concerns during overnight construction, call the 24-hour hotline at 503-283-5859.

