**Project Information**

**US 97: S. Century Dr. to USFS Boundary**

*Last updated: October, 2019*

**Project Goals**
- Develop a solution to increase the capacity of US 97 that reduces congestion, maintains free flowing traffic, improves travel time reliability and increases overall roadway safety throughout this highway corridor.
- Develop crossing improvements to decrease vehicle/animal collisions and allow safer wildlife migration through the area.
- Develop solutions that have the support of the many stakeholders that use this section of US 97.

**Why the project is needed**

US 97 is a critical part of the state’s transportation system and is the main north-south transportation corridor through Central Oregon. Demand continues to increase along US 97, with average traffic rates of over 12,000 vehicles per day. Safety is a concern due to limited passing opportunities, leading to lengthy following times that sometimes result in drivers making passing maneuvers with high speeds and limited sight distances.

This project aims to improve the overall safety of motorists and improve freight mobility on the east side of the Cascade Mountain Range. Additionally, by tying into approximately 15 miles of recently constructed highway improvements to the north, this project will create a more cohesive transportation system along this portion of US 97.

**What is proposed**
- Expand US 97 to extend the four-lane divided highway from South Century Drive (MP 153) to the US Forest Service Boundary (MP 159.2), located approximately 15 miles south of Bend, in Deschutes County.
- Improve the intersection at US 97 and Vandevert Road.
- Upgrade signs and guardrails, as necessary, and install rumble strips and durable striping.
- Construct wildlife migration improvements to protect wildlife and improve motorist safety.

ODOT proposes to design and construct this project in phases beginning with the northern part of the project. Phase 1 will design and construct improvements on US 97 between South Century Drive and Vandevert Road, expanding the existing two-lane highway to a divided highway with forested median that will tie into the existing divided highway at South Century Drive (Sunriver Interchange). Phase 1 also includes improvements to the US 97/Vandevert Road intersection in the form a crossover and northbound add lane. These improvements will reduce conflict points by over 50% compared to existing conditions and require no out of direction travel for drivers traveling between Vandevert Road and Bend.
Public Involvement
ODOT is working with property owners, stakeholder groups and the general public to collaborate on the planning, design and construction of the divided highway.

Timeline & Cost
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Development</td>
<td>2016 - 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>Phase 1 beginning in 2020</td>
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| Estimated cost               | The current funding for this project is $10,495,671. The proposed total funding is $14,132,774.

More information
Anyone interested in receiving an update on the proposed improvements/project, or providing input to our ongoing work should contact:

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US97: S. CENTURY DRIVE TO USFS BOUNDARY
(VANDEVERT AREA PHASE 1 IMPROVEMENTS)