

ODOT to hold news conference on I-105 project

EUGENE—The Oregon Department of Transportation is holding a news conference at 10 a.m. on Friday, May 13 at its Springfield office to discuss the planned closures and upcoming construction activities with the I-105 Highway Improvement Project. The news conference will be held at 644 "A" Street in Springfield in the upstairs conference room.

At the news conference, ODOT officials will be joined by representatives from Lane Council of Governments (LCOG), Lane Transit District and its Commuter Solutions Program, cities of Eugene and Springfield, the U of O, area hospitals and other area public and private organizations. At this time, officials will provide a construction update, review the construction schedule, discuss travel options and alternatives and respond to questions about various aspects of the project.

The first full lane closure on I-105 that will have major impacts on traffic starts at 6 a.m. Monday, May 16 when the eastbound lanes of I-105 over I-5 will be closed for construction for 8 days, with only west bound traffic allowed over the I-5 interchange. After construction is complete on east bound lanes, closures will switch to the opposite side, where west bound lanes will be closed for about 8 days. During this phase, the east bound traffic will have regained access over the I-5 interchange.

Following these first two phases, the Coburg Road interchange section of I-105 will experience 12 days of full lane closures in each direction. In phase three, the west bound traffic will be forced to use the Coburg Road exit ramp, while east bound traffic will be restricted to a single lane for 12 days. Then west bound traffic will be returned to the over crossing and east bound traffic will be forced to use the ramp. The Delta Highway interchange will require a full closure of I-105 on the west end of the project for 3 days, which will be scheduled over a weekend. The exact dates for these closures have not yet been scheduled by the contractor.

Once started, the five closures are scheduled within a consecutive 66 day and night window of time. During this period, the contractor will remove the Portland cement concrete travel way that was built in 1967 and replace it with 12 inches of asphalt. As I-105 work continues into June, the contractor will continue working around the clock and the community may experience significant traffic impacts. There are \$35,000 per day incentives for the contractor to finish the work ahead of schedule.

ODOT's contractor on the job, Oregon Mainline Paving, has been working on the project since January building new auxiliary lanes, upgrading guard and bridge rails and bringing the shoulder and median barriers up to current standards. Most of the work is expected to be finished by the end of the summer.

Motorists are encouraged to visit the web site www.keepusmoving.info and to “Find a New Way” both during and after construction. The web site provides information on closure issues, construction updates, downloadable files for respective communications about the project and alternative modes of transportation to help reduce trips each day on I-105 by using bus, carpool, alternate work and travel schedule, bike, walk, etc. For up to date construction information, please visit the web site www.keepusmoving.info or call the City of Eugene hosted Regional Metro Road Report at 541-984-8484.

ODOT

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