



# Updates

Washington County  
Department of Land Use and Transportation  
155 North First Avenue - Suite 350  
Hillsboro, Oregon 97124-3072



We are REACHing for excellence in customer service.

# Updates

A Community Newsletter  
**Spring 2008**

Washington County's Department of Land Use and Transportation

## You have been asking...what's up with the proposed LNG lines?

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) received two applications for natural gas pipelines to bisect Washington County from Clatsop County to Yamhill County. Both the Palomar and the Oregon LNG companies are working with landowners to locate a pipeline corridor to transport the gas extracted in the Middle East in liquid form, off-loaded from shipping terminals proposed on the Columbia River and pressurized to feed into an interstate network of gas pipelines. Palomar's proposal joins the network in Madras and Oregon LNG in Molalla. The FERC has jurisdiction under the Natural Gas Act for siting, construction and operation of these projects; the Washington County Board of Commissioners has no land use authority over these interstate facilities. Consultants representing these companies are preparing an Environmental Impact Statement for FERC's review. Additional information on the Palomar Project may be found at [www.palomargas.com](http://www.palomargas.com) (FERC Docket No. PF07-13-000) or on the Oregon LNG project at [www.OregonLNG.com](http://www.OregonLNG.com) (FERC Docket No. PF07-10-000). FERC's website is [www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov).



*Si a usted le interesa recibir este boletín de noticias en Español, comuníquese con Angie Aguilar al 503-846-7819, o via correo electrónico: [angie\\_aguilar@co.washington.or.us](mailto:angie_aguilar@co.washington.or.us). Gracias.*

## One million more people? Where will they live, work and play?

Current projections suggest our region will grow that much in the next 25 years. To build a foundation for fair and responsible growth, we are working with Metro, Clackamas and Multnomah counties. Over the next two years we four regional partners will help assess where urban growth should occur. The goal of this Urban and Rural Reserves process is to designate areas for logical inclusion in the Urban Growth Boundary and also designate rural and natural areas to be protected for the next 40 – 50 years. Bookmark [www.co.washington.or.us/reserves](http://www.co.washington.or.us/reserves) and [www.metro-region.org/reserves](http://www.metro-region.org/reserves) websites for up-to-date information. The public will have multiple opportunities to provide input throughout the process.

## Summer Road Maintenance

Orange cones on the road mean one thing: work zone ahead. The single biggest factor in work zone crashes is driver inattention. Keeping county roadways in good condition is a year-round effort. But some activities require warm dry weather. This summer we'll pave and seal over 75 miles of roads and repaint almost 475 miles of road striping. We'll also replace nine culverts; that work must be done between July 1 and September 30 to avoid disturbing migrating fish.

To see if we'll be working in your neighborhood or along your commute, check [www.wc-roads.com](http://www.wc-roads.com). And remember: Orange is your clue to slow down and pay attention.



## Public Works: The Future is Now

Bring your family and friends to the Public Works Fair May 17 and 18 at Washington Square. We're partnering with Clean Water Services, the Joint Water Commission, TriMet and the Oregon Department of Transportation to provide kid friendly displays and activities related to public works. Spin the "Wheel of Safety"; meet WES, our new Commuter Rail line; design your own water quality button; "Think Permit" at the Good-Wall/Bad-Wall; get a free "Freeze the Grease, Save the Drain" kit; "See and be Seen" on the roadway; "Share the Road" for safety – plus much more.

## WES means Fast Trains



TriMet's Westside Express Service Commuter Rail, known as WES, will start testing trains early this summer. When that happens, students, drivers - everyone - needs to be alert. WES is faster, quieter and more frequent than the freight trains we are used to.

- **Stop, look and listen.** Trains run on any track, at any time, in either direction. Always expect a train!



- **Never walk or play on or near the tracks.** It is illegal and can be deadly.
- **Be aware of warning signs and devices.** Follow all traffic signs and signals that warn when a train is approaching.
- **Don't be tempted to try to beat a train.** Trains will be traveling between 45 and 60 miles per hour. A train traveling at 55 miles per hour takes over a mile to stop.
- **Don't get stuck on the track.** If your vehicle stalls at a crossing, get out and get away. Call 9-1-1.

To schedule a safety presentation for your organization, please call 503-962-6441. For more information on WES visit [trimet.org](http://trimet.org) or call 503-238-RIDE (7433). See you all aboard this fall!

## On the Road Again – Coming to a roadway near you

Call 503-846-7800 for more information on any of these projects.

**Beef Bend Road at 131st:** new traffic signals will be installed at the intersection. Signing, striping, sidewalk and curb ramp modifications will be included. *Completion August 2008.*

**Brookwood from Witch Hazel to TV Highway:** The contractor continues to wait for good weather to place the final asphalt, stripe, and complete the remaining punch list items. *Completion late May 2008.*

**Cornell at Alocleck:** A new traffic signal will be installed at this intersection, along with signing, striping, lighting and curb ramp modifications. *Completion August 2008.*

**Cornell from Evergreen Parkway to Highway 26:** This stretch of Cornell will be widened to five lanes. Improvements will include turn lanes, signal modernization, bike lanes, sidewalks, lighting and landscaping. Storm drainage is being completed and road widening work has begun. Expect lane closures and delays as work progresses. *Completion September 2008.*

**Farmington from 170th to Kinnaman:** This stretch of Farmington Road will be widened to five lanes. Improvements include a center-turn refuge. *Completion July 2008.*

**Lombard from Broadway to Farmington (Beaverton; tied to commuter rail):** Landscaping is being installed by the City of Beaverton for the area between “new” and “old” Lombard. Final punch list items are being completed. *Completion and full operation of the commuter rail project and the widened road is Fall 2008.*

**Oleson Road from Hall to Garden Home: South segment-** Final landscaping installation in pedestrian islands and general clean up work is taking place. Final paving and striping will be completed during the summer.

**Middle and north segment-** The contractor is working on completing the road widening reconstruction and sidewalk, curb, gutter, and lighting work. *Completion November 2008.*

**Scholls Ferry Road Bridge (Groner’s Bridge in Scholls):** The new bridge is complete except for top lift paving and striping which is planned for July 2008. The contractor will remove the old bridge during the winter months as weather permits. *Completion December 2008.*

### Projects Coming Soon! (Construction to start by summer)

- 170th/173rd Ave (Baseline to Walker)
- 175th Ave Realignment at Scholls Ferry Rd
- 209th Ave Bridge over Butternut Creek
- Brookwood/Alexander Roundabout
- Cornelius-Schefflin Bridge over Council Creek
- Cornell Rd/143rd to Science Park Drive
- Martin-Cornelius –Schefflin Phase 3
- Murray Boulevard – Highway 26 to Cornell
- Sellers Road at Banks Road Realignment
- West Union Road from Kahneeta Drive to Deerfield

## Wireless signal interconnect saves \$



New technology in an intersection improvement will significantly reduce construction and maintenance costs. Washington County is installing a new traffic signal on Cornell Road at Alocleck, between the signal at Cornelius Pass Road and the signal at John Olsen Avenue. With previous installations, in order for the signals to “talk to each other” and be timed for optimum traffic flow, an interconnect conduit with wire was buried to connect them. To construct an interconnect conduit for this new signal would require 3,500 feet of trenching and conduit. There is a significant time and materials cost when digging a trench of this length - plus the risk of hitting other buried utilities. The cost estimate was \$110,000. With the new signal at Alocleck Drive, the county will be installing radio wave technology. This equipment will allow the Cornelius Pass signal, the new Alocleck signal, and the John Olsen signal to “talk to each other” via radio waves instead of underground wire. The savings in construction cost alone is estimated to be over \$100,000. And all of the maintenance will be above ground, eliminating the need to dig up buried conduit if repairs are needed. This is progress!

### Washington County reminds you to...



## Hillsboro Airport Future Plans?

To support the continued operation and vitality of the Hillsboro Airport, the Port of Portland is working with the city, the county and a stakeholder’s committee to promote compatible land use planning around the airport. The public is invited to an open house on May 15th at the Hillsboro Civic Center from 6-8 p.m. to learn more and voice your opinions. Learn more at [www.portofportland.com/Hair\\_Agenda.aspx](http://www.portofportland.com/Hair_Agenda.aspx)

## In Roads for Fish

Small blue signs are sprouting up along rural roadways, usually near waterways. Three white letters - RMA - standing for “Riparian Management Area,” mark the most environmentally sensitive areas. The signs are there to remind county staff and contractors that more stringent Best Management Practices are required in these areas. Road workers routinely follow BMPs designed to protect the environment. The more strict operational limitations within the designated RMAs further protect our streams, rivers, and wetlands.



## Click Worthy

For the latest on county roadwork:  
[www.wc-roads.com](http://www.wc-roads.com)

For the latest information on the proposed I-5 to Hwy 99 connector:  
[www.i5to99w.org](http://www.i5to99w.org)

Want to build as green as possible?:  
[www.buildgreen411.com](http://www.buildgreen411.com)

## Citizen Involvement Calendar

### Planning Commission

meets 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday at 1:30 p.m.  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.  
Auditorium, Public Services Building  
155 N 1<sup>st</sup> Ave, Hillsboro  
Contact: Dixie King, 846-3519

### Rural Roads Operations and Maintenance Advisory Committee (RRMAC)

meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday @ 7:30 a.m.  
Training Room 1, Walnut Street Center  
1400 SW Walnut Ave., Hillsboro  
Contact: Stacia Sheelar, 846-7623  
[www.co.washington.or.us/rrmac](http://www.co.washington.or.us/rrmac)

### Board of County Commissioners

meets 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.  
4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.  
Auditorium, Public Services Building  
155 N 1<sup>st</sup> Ave, Hillsboro  
Contact: Noreen Lee, 846-8685

### Washington County Board of Commissioners

Tom Brian, Chair  
Dick Schouten, District 1  
Desari Strader, District 2  
Roy Rogers, District 3  
Andy Duyck, District 4

### County Administrator

Bob Davis

### Department of Land Use and Transportation Director

Kathy Lehtola

## Directory of LUT’s Divisions and Services (all area codes are 503)

Office of the Director 846-3823

- Public Affairs 846-4963

Administrative Services 846-4530

Capital Project Management 846-7800

- Right-of-Way 846-7870

Engineering/Surveying

- Engineering 846-7900
- Surveying 846-8723
- Traffic Engineering 846-7950

Land Development

- Development Review 846-8761
- Building Services 846-3470

Operations and Maintenance 846-7623

- Road Maintenance 846-ROAD
- Adopt-A-Road 846-7619
- Service District for Lighting 846-7626

Planning 846-3519

## Updates

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