



Updates

Washington County
Department of Land Use and Transportation
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Hillsboro, Oregon 97124-3072



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Updates

A Community Newsletter
Spring 2011

of Washington County's Department of Land Use and Transportation

You have been asking... "How does Washington County support active transportation?"

Having safe and interconnected sidewalks, bike lanes and off-street trails can reduce the number of cars on our roads. They improve access to transit and provide alternatives to driving. There are also health benefits to 'active transportation.' The Department of Land Use and Transportation (DLUT) is committed to finding innovative ways to support active transportation, which enhances our residents' quality of life. Through a variety of strategies we are building capacity and connectivity for all modes of travel including active transportation:

- Since 1986, the Major Streets Transportation Improvement Program (MSTIP) has constructed more than 100 miles of sidewalks and bike lanes throughout urban Washington County as major roads are improved.
- Metro allocated \$5.6 million in federal funds for active transportation and improved transit access in Washington County. We are working with our cities, Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District and TriMet to develop a list of projects for consideration by the Washington County Coordinating Committee (WCCC), which will make a recommendation to the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) and the Metro Council. Decisions on this funding are expected this fall.
- We have hired a respected active transportation consultant to help us develop an update to our bicycle and pedestrian design guidelines.
- We are kicking off a wide-ranging multi-year study of Aloha-Reedville including how to address the many active transportation needs in the community. Refer to separate article.
- We are updating our bicycle and pedestrian system maps, developing criteria to prioritize active transportation improvements and identifying high-priority projects. These efforts will be incorporated into our Transportation Plan update which begins later this year.
- This spring, the Minor Betterments Program is constructing an interim pedestrian path along NW 143rd Avenue providing a safe, continuous walking route from Cornell Road to Thompson Road. In our upcoming budget, we are doubling the amount of funding for the Minor Betterments Program.
- The services offered by the Urban Road Maintenance District (URMD) may be expanded to include minor safety improvements which may include construction of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. *For more on this see the "URMDAC Considers Service Change" article on the back of this newsletter.*
- We created a new Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator position, which will be central to implementing several of these initiatives.



Si a usted le interesa recibir este boletín de noticias en español, comuníquese via correo electrónico: UpdatesNewsletter@co.washington.or.us. Gracias.

Aloha-Reedville Study Kicks Off

The county received funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the U.S. Department of Transportation as well as a grant from Metro. These awards will be used for the **Aloha-Reedville Study and Livable Community Plan**. This three-year effort is beginning with a thorough look at the current land use, transportation, housing and economic conditions. Based on this "Where we are" information, the project will ask "Where do we want to be?" and "How do we get there?" The project has a new website that will be updated throughout the project: www.co.washington.or.us/alohareedville

Reserves Adopted

Following a nine-hour joint public hearing held on March 15 by the Metro Council and Washington County Board of Commissioners, the Metro Council adopted its Urban Reserves ordinance on April 21, and the Washington County Board of Commissioners adopted Ordinance 740 on April 26. The joint findings of Metro and Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington Counties will now be forwarded to the state Department of Land Conservation and Development for their review and the Land Conservation and Development Commission's consideration in late summer. **Urban and Rural Reserves** updates are posted at: <http://www.co.washington.or.us/reserves>

North Bethany Update

Work groups of citizens, developers and staff are meeting regularly to resolve remaining issues delaying development in **North Bethany** with the goal of having an ordinance ready for Board of Commissioners consideration in late summer. If passed, the ordinance (along with a successful County Service District vote in May to provide some of the needed transportation development funding) would allow development to proceed in this new community. Follow the action at: <http://www.bethanyplan.org>

On the Road Again

DLUT activated the first pieces of our **Intelligent Transportation System (ITS)** plan—two adaptive traffic signal projects that will minimize congestion and delay. The first is on **Tualatin-Sherwood Road** between I-5 and Teton; the other is a joint project with the City of Hillsboro on **Cornell Road** from Butler to Brookwood. *Both projects are in the testing and monitoring phase.*

Glencoe Road widening between Hwy 26 and West Union Road is nearly complete. The project widens the road to three lanes and added bike lanes, sidewalks, and streetlights. *Completion date is May 2011.*

Cornelius Pass Road between Frances and Wilkins Streets is also wrapping up. The project widened the road to five lanes, replaced a bridge, modified signals, and added bike lanes, sidewalks, and streetlights. *Completion date is July 2011.*

David Hill Road is being extended for 700 feet east of Brook Street with three lanes, bike lanes and sidewalks. *Completion date is August 2011.*

The **Scholls Ferry Road-River Road** intersection will be reconstructed as a roundabout, improving safety and traffic flow. *Completion date is December 2011.*

The **Glencoe Road Bridge** over McKay Creek will be replaced (refer to In Roads for Fish). *Completion date is June 2012.*

NW 185th Avenue will be widened to five lanes with bike lanes, sidewalks, streetlights and sound walls, between West Union Rd and Westview High School. The project coordinates a future trail crossing with Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District and includes minor sanitary sewer upgrades in cooperation with Clean Water Services. *Completion date is June 2012.*

Brookwood Ave will be widened to three lanes with bike lanes, sidewalks, and streetlights between TV Hwy and East Main St/Baseline Rd. The project also includes major sewer upgrades in partnership with Clean Water Services. *Completion date is December 2012.*

For more details and road closure schedules, check www.wc-roads.com or call 503 846-7800.

Work Zone Awareness

Drivers not paying attention is the number one cause of crashes in road work zones. Couple this with speeding and you have the ingredients for a serious, potentially fatal, crash within a work zone. Here's where you can help. As you drive through work zones, model the behavior you'd like others to follow. Inform your family and friends about work zone safety and urge them to slow down and pay attention when they see orange signs.

In Roads for Fish – Glencoe Bridge

Fish and wildlife are excited about the new **Glencoe Bridge over McKay Creek**, which will commence construction this summer. At 40 feet longer and 10 feet taller than the existing bridge, it will provide an improved riparian and stream corridor habit. As with all new bridges the stormwater (and pollutant) runoff will be managed to avoid stream contamination.

Click Worthy

To find the Updates newsletter on the county web site, go to <http://www.co.washington.or.us/News/Newsletters>

US 26/Brookwood Parkway Interchange Project
http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1/US26_brookwoodpkwy

Washington County Minor Betterments Program:
<http://www.co.washington.or.us/LUT/Divisions/Operations/Programs/minor-betterments.cfm>

URMDAC Considers Service Change

The **Urban Road Maintenance District Advisory Committee** recently recommended expanding the services offered by the Urban Road Maintenance District to include minor safety improvements. Details are yet to be defined, but URMDAC's recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners and Chair Duyck's stated interest in promoting this change may result in a vote of URMD residents this November. For more information, see meeting minutes: <http://www.co.washington.or.us/LUT/Divisions/Operations/urmdac.cfm>

URMDAC meets the third Wednesday of each month. Meetings are open to the public, and time is set aside for public comments. For more information, contact Stacia Sheelar at 503-846-7623 or contact the committee at: URMDAC@co.washington.or.us


Consolidations Maximize Efficiency

Despite continuing economic pressures, DLUT is committed to maintaining and, in some cases enhancing, our services. That means we must be more efficient than ever with our resources. With that in mind, we recently consolidated our Capital Project Management and Engineering/Surveying divisions into a single **Engineering and Construction Services Division**, managed by County Engineer Gary Stockhoff. The consolidation eliminates the need for one division manager position and improves administrative efficiency.


In July 2011, the County Surveyor's development review staff (who accept, review and archive plats and surveys for the entire county) will move from Suite 200 to Suite 350 in the Public Services Building, adjacent to Development Services. In addition to reducing overhead costs, this move enables our customers to obtain another service at the Development Services counter. The County Surveyor's staff responsible for establishing and maintaining the markers for your Public Land Corners will be joining the Road Survey staff at the Walnut Street Center. These moves will free up space for another county service provider to move to the Public Services Building, centralizing more public services in one location.


DLUT remains vigilant in our efforts to identify and take advantage of cost-saving opportunities to ensure the public's funds are spent responsibly.

Citizen Involvement Calendar

Board of County Commissioners 
meets 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.
4th Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
Auditorium, Public Services Building
155 N 1st Ave, Hillsboro
Contact: Philip Bransford, 846-8685

Planning Commission 
meets 1st Wednesday at 1:30 p.m.
3rd Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.
Auditorium, Public Services Building
155 N 1st Ave, Hillsboro
Contact: Gretchen Olson, 846-3519

Rural Roads Operations and Maintenance Advisory Committee (RRMAC) 
meets 3rd Thursday @ 7:30 a.m.
Training Room 1, Walnut Street Center
1400 SW Walnut Ave., Hillsboro
Contact: Stacia Sheelar, 846-7623

Urban Road Maintenance District Advisory Committee (URMDAC) 
3rd Wednesday @ 4 pm
Training Room 1, Walnut Street Center
1400 SW Walnut Ave., Hillsboro
Contact: Stacia Sheelar, 846-7623

Washington County Board of Commissioners

Andy Duyck, Chair
Dick Schouten, District 1
Greg Malinowski, District 2
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Bob Davis

Department of Land Use and Transportation Director

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

Office of the Director 846-3823
• Public Affairs 846-4963
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Engineering and Construction Services
• Capital Project Management 846-7800
• Engineering 846-7900
• Right-of-Way 846-7870
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• Traffic Engineering 846-7950
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Operations and Maintenance 846-7623
• Road Maintenance 846-ROAD
• Adopt-A-Road 846-7619
• Service District for Lighting 846-7626
Long Range Planning 846-3519

Updates

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