



NEWS RELEASE

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Learn what's new with Sellwood Bridge Project at open house

An open house will be held for the Sellwood Bridge Project on Wednesday, September 30 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm at Oaks Park Dance Pavilion, 7100 SE Oaks Park Way.

The open house will focus on refinements that have been made to a preferred alternative to replace the Sellwood Bridge that was approved by local jurisdictions in early 2009. Since then, the project team has worked to refine the plan to comply with agency regulations and guidance from the project's Policy Advisory Group. Changes include:

- Refining access to properties with driveways on SW Macadam Avenue near the bridge
- Lessening impacts to historic and natural resources
- Improving bicycle and pedestrian facilities on the west side
- Narrowing the bridge cross section near the west side interchange
- Planning more detailed connections to transit and trails

Project staff will be available to explain the changes and answer questions. The open house has a drop-in format, with no formal presentations.

The project's next major milestone is to complete a Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), a plan the federal government must approve before construction can begin. The Final EIS will be submitted to the Federal Highway Administration in 2010. Federal approval is expected in Summer/Fall of 2010. After approval, the county can use federal funds already secured to buy right of way and design the project. If funding is secured, construction can begin in 2012.

Multnomah County maintains the Sellwood Bridge, five other Willamette River bridges and 300 miles of roads. For project information, visit www.sellwoodbridge.org.

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