Addressing design challenges to improve downtown

The U.S. 101/OR 6 Traffic Improvement Project is well into the final design phase and preparing for construction to begin in late 2015. The City of Tillamook and ODOT continue to collaborate in order to accomplish a number of city-led initiatives in conjunction with the planned traffic changes. Attend the upcoming open house on March 4 to learn about the latest designs, construction impacts, and anticipated schedule.

Project Updates

The final project designs will reflect solutions to a variety of challenges identified during the survey and preliminary design work. For example, soils near Hoquarton Slough will require the use of light weight fill material to prevent the roadway from sinking into the soft ground, and the project schedule must comply with strict rules around when work is allowed in the water.

In downtown, surveys identified a number of properties that have basements that will need to be modified because they extend into the public right-of-way. This past summer, ODOT worked closely with property owners and businesses who will be physically impacted by the project. Property negotiations are expected to continue into next year, and while this may impact the overall project schedule, work and demolition unrelated to those properties will be able to continue as planned.

ODOT remains committed to a construction schedule that minimizes travel impacts, particularly during the peak summer months. Though there will be some lane restrictions, the bridge and highways will remain open to travelers throughout construction.

Design Highlights

**Traffic Safety Improvements** – Issues related to high traffic volumes and large trucks are being corrected in downtown. Among other benefits, the project will widen lanes while preserving parking, add turn lanes, provide better crosswalks, upgrade traffic signals, and generally improve traffic flow at the intersection of these two major highways.

**Hoquarton Interpretive Area** – A design has been selected that rebuilds the parking lot to provide better in-and-out access, additional parking spaces, improved landscaping, a transit stop and a new connection to the existing walking path.

**Tillamook Gateway** – The island of land between the U.S. 101 travel lanes just south of Hoquarton Slough will be landscaped to allow the city to install a visitor welcome entryway.

**U.S. 101 Bridge** – The new bridge over Hoquarton Slough will include two travel lanes in each direction with sidewalks and shoulder bike lanes on both sides. Other bridge upgrades will include: wider sidewalks, viewing platforms, and decorative sidewalks and railings.

**Downtown Beautification** – Major components of the city’s Downtown Improvement Plan will be integrated into project construction, including: a new pedestrian plaza on 2nd Street, decorative paving and lighting, new planters and benches, stormwater treatment, and upgrades to the Pioneer Museum plaza.

**Crosstown Connections** – The highway project is being coordinated with the Crosstown Connection project to facilitate new paths, bike lanes, and wayfinding signage that connects users between Hoquarton and Goodspeed Park.
Open House
March 4, 2015  4:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Tillamook 911 Board Room
2311 Third Street, Tillamook, OR 97141

U.S. 101 / OR 6 Traffic Improvement Project
Learn more at TillamookTraffic.org

About this Project
ODOT is working to improve the safety and traffic performance of the U.S. 101 and OR 6 intersection in downtown Tillamook. The narrow streets that these highways use were not designed to safely carry the large volume of traffic that moves through Tillamook today. Construction is expected to begin in late 2015 and be finished in 2018. Funding for this project has been provided by the 2009 Jobs and Transportation Act (JTA).

Stay Informed
Visit TillamookTraffic.org for updates and to sign up for the project mailing list. For more information or to schedule a meeting between the project and your organization, contact:
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