



MEMORANDUM

TO: Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council Board of Directors
FROM: Matt Ransom, Executive Director
DATE: July 28, 2020 
SUBJECT: Interstate Bridge Trunnion Replacement, Partner Agency Updates

AT A GLANCE

The purpose of this memorandum is to transmit materials in support of a multi-agency partner update in regards to the forthcoming Interstate Bridge Trunnion Replacement project.

BACKGROUND

The Interstate 5 bridges, opened in 1917 and 1958 respectively, are steel truss vertical lift span bridges which require routine and periodic maintenance to keep both bridges in working order. Routine maintenance activities may include: signing, striping, electrical and lift mechanism maintenance. Periodic maintenance activities may include: painting, paving and lift mechanism refurbishment/replacement. All maintenance and related activity costs are shared equally between the states of Washington and Oregon. Routine maintenance activities cost roughly \$1.2 million/year (rounded). Periodic maintenance activities are estimated at the time of project development. Future periodic maintenance needs include: electrical system upgrades; bridge decking replacement; steel structures painting.

TRUNNION REPLACEMENT

The Trunnion, which is the axle within the center of each wheel holding and moving the lift span cables for the northbound bridge structure, is cracked and in need of replacement. The Washington and Oregon Departments of Transportation have been working on a project to replace the trunnion for several years. The replacement project is planned to be completed in September 2020, during the planned dates of September 12-20. The planned cost to complete the project work is \$13 million and will be shared equally between the two states.

AGENCY UPDATES

Staff from key partner agencies will provide a project update to the RTC Board of Directors. ODOT staff will provide a briefing on the Trunnion Replacement work and schedule. WSDOT staff will provide an update on the I-5 Advanced Traffic Management System project and C-TRAN staff will provide an update on the I-5 Bus on Shoulder project, both of which are under construction and planned to be operational by the start of the Trunnion Replacement project.

Attachments



Oregon Department of Transportation
123 NW Flanders Street
Portland, OR 97209

9-DAY CLOSURE INTERSTATE BRIDGE SEPTEMBER 2020

Look inside to read about bridge maintenance and traffic impacts.

interstatebridge.org

9-DAY CLOSURE INTERSTATE BRIDGE SEPTEMBER 2020

ANTICIPATED TIMELINE

CONSTRUCTION

August–October 2020

BRIDGE CLOSURE

September 12–20, 2020



tripcheck.com



SPRING 2020 NEWSLETTER

9-DAY CLOSURE INTERSTATE BRIDGE SEPTEMBER 2020

The northbound span of the Interstate Bridge will close **September 12–20, 2020** as crews replace mechanical parts that help lift and lower the bridge. The southbound span will remain open to traffic in both directions.



The Interstate Bridge is located on Interstate 5 where it connects Oregon and Washington across the Columbia River.

CONSTRUCTION IMPACTS

AUGUST–OCTOBER 2020

While the heaviest traffic impacts will occur during the closure of the northbound span of the bridge, travelers will experience impacts throughout construction.

WHY DOES THE BRIDGE NEED TO CLOSE IN SEPTEMBER?

In September, crews will replace a trunnion and other parts that help lift and lower the bridge. These custom-made pieces are still in fabrication and scheduled for delivery in August before the September closure.

The bridge closure is scheduled for September due to the low river levels, which allow most vessels to travel under the Interstate Bridge without a bridge lift. This is essential for marine traffic. The Columbia River is an international shipping channel and, before any section of the river under the bridge is closed, we must coordinate with the U.S. Coast Guard, shipping companies and other river users.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Project hotline: 503-731-8276
interstatebridge@odot.state.or.us
interstatebridge.org

For ADA Title II or Civil Rights Title VI accommodations, translation/interpretation services or for additional information call 503-731-4128, TTY (800) 735-2900 or use the statewide Oregon Relay Service: 7-1-1.

¿Habla usted español? Podemos proveer la información en esta publicación en español. Para recibir la información en español, por favor llámé al: 503-731-4128.

LOOK INSIDE TO FIND OUT MORE!



Sign up for project updates:
interstatebridge.org



BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION: AUGUST 2020–OCTOBER 2020

While the heaviest impacts to travelers will occur during the closure of the northbound span of the bridge in September, traffic impacts will occur throughout construction, including:

7-DAY LANE CLOSURE ON I-5 SOUTH

Single lane closure on I-5 south at the Interstate Bridge **September 21–27, 2020**. Expect delays traveling into Oregon.

NIGHTTIME LANE CLOSURES

Beginning in August, periodic nighttime single and double lane closures will occur on I-5 and the Interstate Bridge throughout construction.

INTERSTATE BRIDGE CLOSURE

September 12–20, 2020

During the closure, travelers crossing the Interstate Bridge in both directions will share the three existing lanes and sidewalk on the southbound bridge.

A movable concrete barrier will shift the lanes to allow for two lanes of traffic to travel in the heaviest direction during commute times.

For example, during the morning commute, the bridge will have two southbound lanes and one northbound lane. During the evening commute, the bridge will have one southbound lane and two northbound lanes open.

AREA RAMP CLOSURES

September 12–20, 2020

During the bridge closure, four ramps in the project area will close for traffic control and to ensure a safe work zone:

- Marine Drive on-ramp to I-5 north in Portland.
- Hayden Island on-ramp to I-5 north in Portland.
- I-5 north to SR 14 off-ramp in Vancouver.
- SR 14/Washington Street on-ramp to I-5 south in Vancouver.

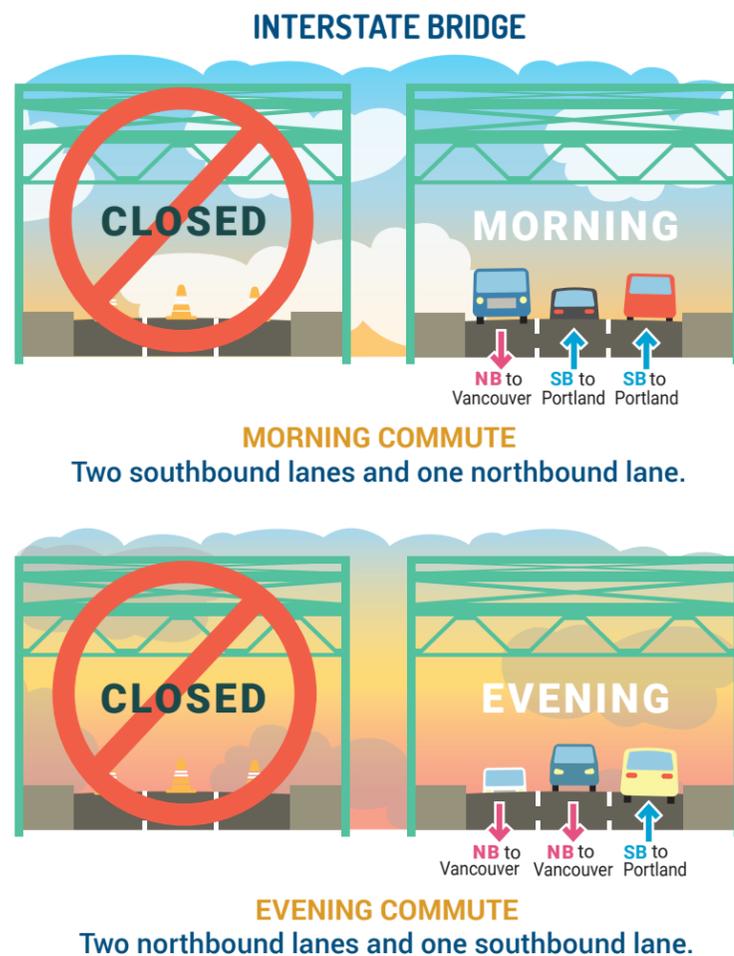
BRIDGE LIFTS ON I-5 NORTH

Bridge lifts will occur on I-5 north for up to 30 minutes. Travelers should expect delays.

NIGHTTIME RAMP CLOSURES

Periodic nighttime closure of on-ramps:

- SR 14/Washington Street on-ramp to I-5 south in Vancouver.
- Marine Drive on-ramp to I-5 north in Portland.
- Hayden Island on-ramp to I-5 north in Portland.
- North Victory on-ramp to I-5 north in Portland.



TRAFFIC IMPACTS

Heavy traffic, congestion and long delays are expected in the region on I-5, I-205, I-84, SR 14 and local streets in north Portland and south Vancouver throughout construction.

If travelers do not change their driving habits during the bridge closure, and if traffic levels are at normal levels, the length of back-ups on I-5 may **double to 4 miles** and the region may experience up to **16 hours of congestion** per day.



We are currently seeing lower than usual traffic volumes on our roads. The congestion referenced here is expected if traffic volumes return to normal levels. If they remain low, congestion impacts will not be as severe.

TRAVEL STRATEGIES*

Everyone can help reduce congestion during the closure by using options such as delaying or shifting trips, biking, taking transit, or working from home or another location when possible.

Visit our regional transportation partners' websites to find more information on travel strategies.



*Please follow all current public health guidelines and recommendations for travel practices.

FIND AND SHARE A RIDE!*

Get There is an easy-to-use trip planner that will get you where you need to go.



getthereoregon.org



getthereswwashington.org

TAKE TRANSIT

C-TRAN and TriMet are great options for your trip and help ease congestion. Bus travel will be expedited during the closure by routing buses on the shoulder of the freeway in select areas.

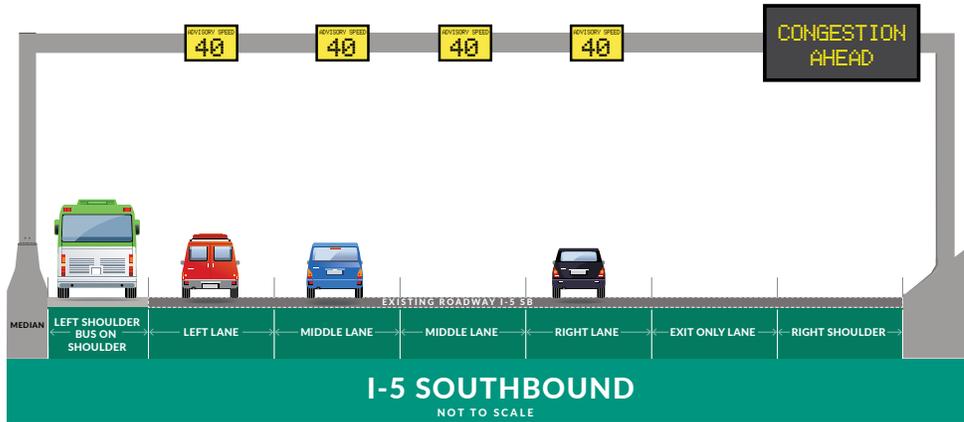


trimet.org



bit.ly/c-tran-interstate-bridge-closure

I-5 – Southbound I-5 Active Traffic Management/Ramp Meters



Overview

In an effort to increase traffic flow, maximize the use of the available roadway, while helping to keep travelers moving safely, the Washington State Department of Transportation is making smart technology upgrades along a 4-mile stretch of southbound Interstate 5 in Vancouver.

In summer 2020, WSDOT will install a combination of new traffic cameras, adaptive ramp meters, and Active Traffic Management signs, which will provide travelers with real-time travel information.

Benefits

Electronic message signs will be installed over the roadway and will feature weather information, changes in speed due to congestion or bridge lifts, and provide notification of lane closures ahead due to a stalled vehicle, crash, police activity or construction.

Adaptive ramp meters will be installed along southbound I-5 at 78th Street, Main Street, State Route 500/39th Street, Fourth Plain Boulevard and Mill Plain Boulevard. Crews will also upgrade the existing ramp meter at SR 14/Washington Street in downtown Vancouver. Depending on the level of traffic congestion, the adaptive ramp meters will move traffic onto the Interstate at a more consistent rate, reducing traffic stacking up, resulting in more efficient use of the through lanes of I-5. While travelers may wait a little longer at the ramp, they will get improved safety and travel time reliability on the Interstate.

MORE INFORMATION

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More information about this project is available online:

www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/i5/sb-interstate-br-ne-78th/home

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