



# 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  
**Summer 2006**

of Washington County's Department of Land Use and Transportation

## You have been asking... about a possible City of Bull Mountain

The citizen group Bull Mountain Residents for Incorporation has filed a petition proposing to create a new City of Bull Mountain. They asked that it be placed on the November 7th ballot. A map of the proposed area for incorporation, an economic feasibility study and a staff report are available on the county's website at <http://www.co.washington.or.us/deptmts/lut/planning/BullMt/BullMt.htm>

County staff spent most of July reviewing the group's supporting documentation in preparation for Board hearings on July 25 and August 1. For an update on the incorporation request, please contact the Planning Division at 503-846-3519.

## Orange is your clue

Summer is road work season. No matter where you're headed, you're likely to encounter orange cones and traffic flaggers along your route. Orange is your clue that road work is ahead.

Speed is the number one cause of injury and fatal crashes in road work zones. Couple this with a lack of attention and you have the ingredients for a serious, potentially fatal, traffic crash within a work zone. If motorists would slow down and pay attention in work zones, a lot of lives would be saved.

Remember, while it may look like traffic is held up for no good reason, the flagger is aware of many work zone issues that may not be visible to you. Please be patient and follow the flagger's directions. Thanks for helping us improve and maintain Washington County's roadway system in a safe manner!

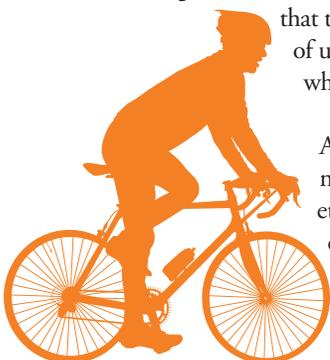


### ORANGE IS YOUR CLUE

- SLOW DOWN
- PAY ATTENTION
- BE PATIENT

## Bike and Ped Power: Safety in Passing, by Commissioner Dick Schouten

The overwhelming majority of auto drivers are courteous, but I have had the experience from time to time of drivers passing very, very close to me while riding a bike. Just recently on SW Terwilliger near OHSU a pickup driver caused one of their rear-view mirrors to pass within inches of my bike and me. A few years ago some one passed very close and poured a sticky, soft drink on me while I was biking on NW Cornell in Cedar Mill. I was startled but fortunately did not fall off. At that time the road was filled with car traffic. There was room for both of us to safely use the road, and little if any car slowing was needed while I was riding through along the edge of the road.



A substantial number of roads are paid for and maintained with non-gas tax sources (property taxes, impact or development fees, etc.), and many bicyclists pay gas taxes since many also drive cars. So it seems odd to think that the biking public don't have the right to use public roads, and downright scary to think that their life should be placed in grave danger for having slowed a driver down for a brief moment or two. Please be thoughtful - and careful - out there!

*Si a Usted le interesa recibir novedades o noticias de su comunidad en español, comuníquese con Angie Aguilar al 503 846-7819, o via correo electrónico: [angie\\_aguilar@co.washington.our.us](mailto:angie_aguilar@co.washington.our.us). Gracias.*

## InRoads for Fish – Downed Oleson Road trees serve a purpose

Contractor Emery and Sons is removing about 400 trees along the SW Oleson Road corridor to prepare for its re-construction and the relocation of overhead utility lines. The county would have preferred not to remove the trees, but the space was needed to add new sidewalks, bike lanes and selected left turn lanes. Approximately 800 existing trees will be left standing within the utility easement right of way, and 700 new trees will be planted with the new landscaping in 2007.

The county is cooperating with Clean Water Services, the county's urban sewer and storm water utility, to make good use of the downed trees in several local environmental restoration projects.



The trees will be strategically placed in streams and wetlands to serve as cover for young fish and other animals and birds to rest and hide from predators, as well as providing shade to lower stream water temperatures.

<http://projects.ch2m.com/olesonroad/>

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

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

**Oleson Road - Fanno Creek to Hall Boulevard**

This project will improve the two existing travel lanes, add sidewalks, bike lanes, left turn lanes at selected locations and a new traffic signal at 80th. The contractor has completed clearing the trees and vegetation in preparation for utility relocations and upgrades between Hall and Garden Home and will work north toward Fanno Creek next.



*Bicyclist along SW Oleson Road (near Skybar, N)*

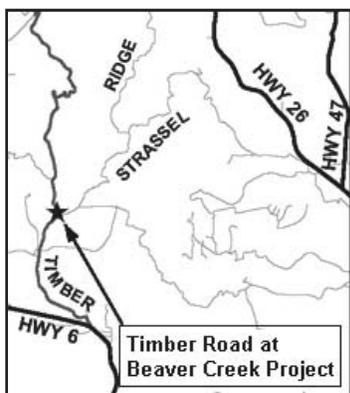
PGE is installing new utility poles. Due to the large number of utility relocations, road construction will not start until the end of 2006. Expect delays Monday through Thursday between 9 and 3:30 and Friday from 9 to 3. Please use Scholls Ferry Road as alternate route. **Estimated completion: fall 2008.** (See related story under InRoads for Fish on reverse side.)

**Nehalem River - Vernonia Road Bridge Replacement**

This \$1.2 million project will last from August until the end of November. Vernonia Road is closed August 7th through 12th for drilling support shafts. Another closure will occur for up to 70 days to remove the existing bridge and construct the new one - dates TBD. Alternate north-south routes are Highway 47 and Vernonia Road to the north. Watch for detour signs. **Estimated completion December 2006.**

**Nehalem River - Timber Road Bridge Replacement**

This \$1 million OTIA project will replace the narrow weight-limited bridge at the north edge of the



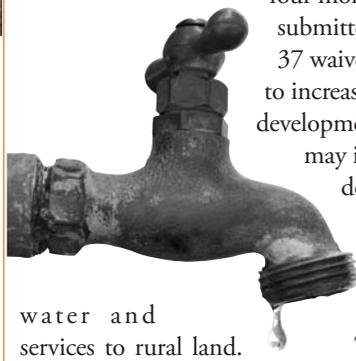
town of Timber. A support system is being built in preparation for the removal of half the bridge and constructing the new one. Traffic will be restricted to one lane until November. Stop signs will be placed at each end of the bridge and drivers will need to alternate with those traveling in the opposite direction. **Estimated completion December 2006.**

**Susbauer Road Bridge/19th Avenue over Council Creek**

This OTIA project replaces the narrow bridge over Council Creek at the north end of Cornelius with a new concrete bridge. The contractor is driving pipe piling in preparation for constructing the footings. The existing bridge has been removed. The City of Cornelius has issued a noise variance allowing the contractor to start work at 6:00 a.m. Susbauer Road is closed until November 5 from south of Hobbs to north of Holladay. The alternate north-south route is Cornelius-Schefflin Road. Watch for the detour route signs. **Estimated completion November 30, 2006.**

**Measure 37 and Water and Sewer Service**

As of July 19, 496 Measure 37 claims had been filed in Washington County. Of those claims, 306 have received a final decision. At present, one building permit has been issued, two permit applications are under review and



four more have been submitted. Measure 37 waivers are likely to increase rural development, which may increase demand for the extension of public sewer water and services to rural land. To address the potential public health and safety concerns regarding increased development in the rural area, Washington County, Metro and cities and service districts within the county are working together to develop a coordinated approach to extending – or not extending - public water and sewer services to the rural area. For more information, please contact Steve D. Kelley at 503-846-3593.

**Deck safety**

Have you checked your decks, porches, or balconies lately? Deck collapses result in injuries and death every year throughout the U.S. The International Code Council suggests looking for the following:

- Split or rotting wood
- Loose or missing nails, screws or anchors where the porch attaches to the building
- Missing, damaged or loose support beams or planking
- Wobbly handrails or guardrails



If any of these issues are identified you should get a professional inspection. And remember, when performing repairs or building a deck, get permits from your local building department. *Permits Protect!*

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**For the latest county news:**  
[www.co.washington.or.us](http://www.co.washington.or.us)  
**For the latest on county roadwork:**  
[www.wc-roads.com](http://www.wc-roads.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: Angela Brown, 846-3968

**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  
 John Leeper, 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 prefixes 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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