



I-5: Delta Park



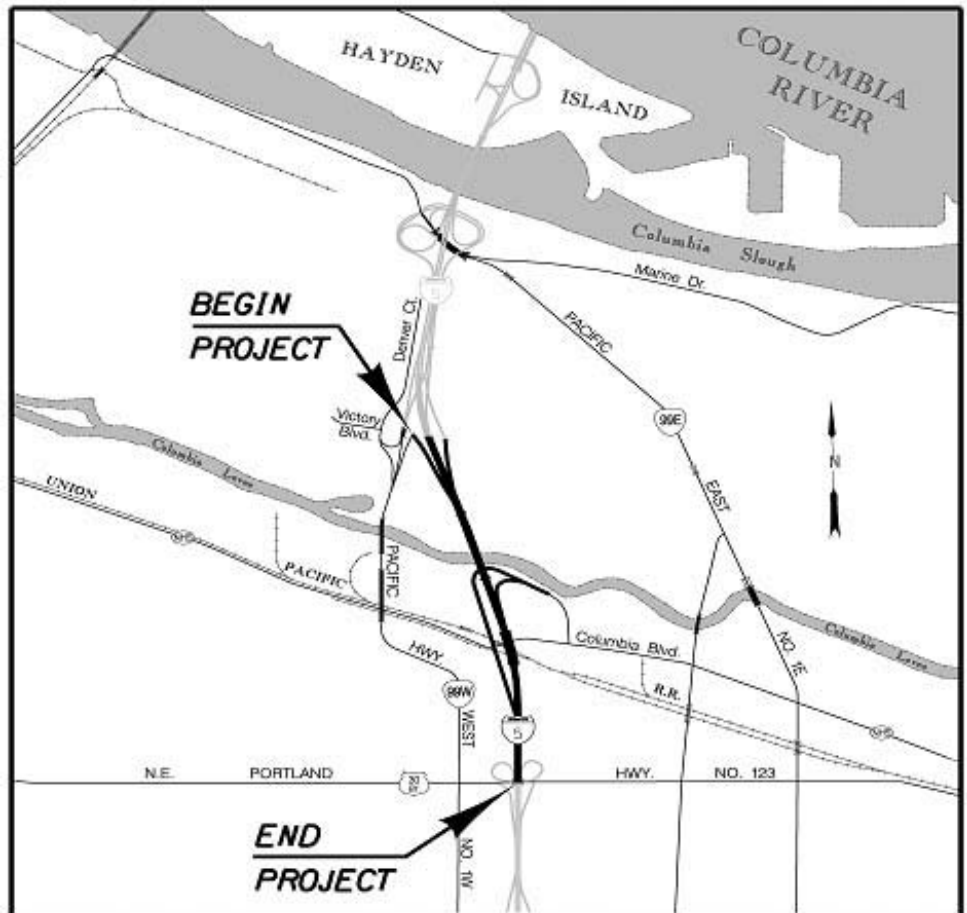
PROJECT MOVES INTO FINAL DESIGN PHASE

Phase I of Project Moves Forward

A locally preferred construction alternative has been selected to improve the efficiency and safety of I-5 from Delta Park to Lombard Street. The preferred alternative, known as Alternative 2: Argyle on the Hill, was selected through an Environmental Assessment that considered four alternatives. The Argyle on the Hill construction alternative has received the support of the Bi-State Coordination Committee, the Portland City Council, the Joint Policy Committee on Transportation, and the Metro Council. Following Federal Highway Administration approval, ODOT will complete the final design for Phase I of the Delta Park project. Phase I involves widening the freeway and lengthening the entrance and exit ramps at Columbia and Victory Boulevards.

How Was the Preferred Alternative Selected?

The Preferred Alternative was selected after three years of rigorous analysis complemented by significant public input. This analysis took the form of an Environmental Assessment (EA), which began in 2003. The EA focused on identifying issues and concerns that needed to be addressed; based on these findings, alternatives were developed, screened and refined. In the summer of 2004, a Citizen Advisory Committee and Environmental Justice Work Group recommended four construction alternatives for further detailed study. In addition to the four alternatives, a No-Build alternative was also developed to



provide a baseline against which to compare the alternatives.

For the EA, areas of impact (e.g. construction, lane use, noise, air quality and environmental justice) were studied for the four alternatives and the No-Build alternative. In March 2005, the public was invited to review and comment on the findings from that technical review. The public input received was used in

conjunction with the technical reports to reach an understanding of how each alternative would affect the community and the environment. After reviewing all the data, ODOT agreed to move forward with Alternative 2: Argyle on the Hill, because it was found to have the least impact on the environment and the community while meeting the goals of the project.

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PROJECT DETAILS

The Delta Park to Lombard Street Project will widen I-5 southbound to three lanes between Victory Blvd. and Lombard St. In the northbound direction, the shoulders and inside median of the freeway will be widened. In order to accommodate these changes, the existing bridges over the Columbia Slough and Columbia Blvd. will be widened and the entrance and exit ramps at Columbia Blvd. and Victory Blvd. will be realigned and lengthened. For the Columbia Blvd. southbound entrance, this will involve building a new bridge. In a future phase of the project, a final design will be developed for the local street improvements that are outlined in the Argyle on the Hill preferred alternative. Improvements that are made to the Columbia Blvd. and Victory Blvd. interchanges during this latter phase will integrate the freeway improvements into the existing road network.

PROJECT BACKGROUND: *Improving the I-5 Corridor*

In 2001, the cities of Portland and Vancouver joined forces in a bi-state Task Force to address congestion issues in the I-5 corridor between I-405 in Portland and I-205 north of Vancouver. The result of this initiative was a long-range strategic plan for how to manage and improve transportation in the corridor. One of the I-5 Partnership Strategic Plan's recommendations is to widen I-5 from Delta Park to Lombard Street to reduce the congestion that occurs at this chokepoint on the freeway. The Delta Park to Lombard Street Project is the first component of the I-5 Partnership Strategic Plan to be implemented.

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COMMUNITY IMPACT

The project design includes elements that will mitigate impacts to the community and the environment:

- **Reducing impacts to the watershed**
The freeway drainage system will be upgraded during construction in order to decrease the amount of sediment that currently enters the Columbia Slough. Changes to the freeway's infrastructure are expected to impact less than two-tenths of an acre of the surrounding wetlands.
- **Reducing impacts to the neighborhood**
To mitigate noise impacts to the Kenton neighborhood, the soundwall on the west side of the freeway will be adjusted and reconstructed.
- **Reducing inconvenience to travelers**
During construction, the existing three northbound lanes and two southbound lanes will be kept open during peak hours.

As the project enters the final design phase, the project team will continue to work to find ways to minimize impacts to the environment.

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE:

Come Learn About the Proposed Design

The public is invited to attend an open house about ODOT's Delta Park to Lombard Street project on **Wednesday, November 1, 2006 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.** The open house will be held in the auditorium of the Ockley Green School, located at 6031 N Montana Ave. Portland, OR 97217. The open house will provide interested parties with an opportunity to view conceptual designs of the Argyle on the Hill construction alternative. Now that a preferred construction alternative has been identified, this is also a chance for the public to raise local issues and consider details that will be addressed in the final design process. The project team will also be available to discuss how the preferred construction alternative was selected and what the next steps of final design and construction will entail.

In addition, students from Ockley Green will attend a special presentation given by the David Evans and Associates engineering team. The engineering team will describe the project, take questions from the students, and discuss elements of the project including how technology is used, the various careers involved and related educational requirements, and the environmental implications.

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COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS MOVE FORWARD

In addition to specific transportation projects, the I-5 Partnership Strategic Plan recommended the creation of a community enhancement fund to benefit the communities affected by the I-5 projects. To be eligible for Delta Park community enhancement funds, projects must be eligible for state or federal transportation funding and they must demonstrate a relationship with the I-5 Delta Park project area and the potential impacts of the project.

The Delta Park Community Enhancement Advisory Board of neighborhood and community representatives guided the process of recommending projects for the \$1 million in funds. Thirteen community enhancement applications were made requesting almost \$3 million. After thorough review by the Advisory Board, seven projects were recommended for funding. The projects are located throughout the project area and include neighborhood tree plantings, improved pedestrian and bicycle amenities, and traffic calming devices.

ODOT and the City of Portland are striving to complete these projects in 2007 and 2008. For more information on the Community Enhancement Fund process and the selected projects, please visit our website www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1/I-5DeltaPark or contact: Joyce Felton, ODOT, 503-731-8565 joyce.a.felton@odot.state.or.us.



For More Information

To learn more about this project and to join the mailing list contact

Oregon Department of Transportation

Region 1

Senior Community Affairs Coordinator

Stacy Thomas at 503-731-8281 or

Stacy.L.Thomas@odot.state.or.us

Project Website: www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1/I-5DeltaPark

W H A T H A P P E N S N E X T ?

As the details for the construction project are developed, the next steps will be to obtain the necessary permits and right of way access. Construction of the widened freeway and the lengthened entrance and exit ramps is anticipated to begin in the summer of 2008. Construction of local street improvements will be conducted in a future phase of the project.

Jan. 2001–Jun. 2002	Jan. 2003–Jun. 2006	Jul. 2006–Jan. 2008	Jun. 2008–Jun. 2010
Planning	Environmental Assessment & Preliminary Engineering	Final Design, Permitting, & Right of Way Acquisition	Construction of Phase I- Freeway Widening

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WE ARE HERE

OPEN HOUSE



**Delta Park Project Moves into Final Design Phase:
Learn how ODOT will improve I-5 from Victory to Lombard Street**

Wednesday, November 1, 2006

4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

**Ockley Green School Auditorium
6031 N Montana Ave. Portland, OR 97217**

Accommodations will be provided to persons with disabilities. Alternate formats available upon request.
If a sign language interpreter is needed, please contact Zetlin Strategic Communications at (503) 452-6882
48 hours prior to meeting/conference to request a translator.



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