

Lane closures on Highway 22 for work on bridges

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Salem Statesman Journal
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Highway 22 commuters can expect lane closures starting this week as transportation crews add screening to four bridges east of Salem to prevent objects from falling onto the highway.

The project will require lane closures through May — one lane of the overpass where the bridge work is being done and one lane of the highway below to prevent debris from falling onto traffic, according to officials from the Oregon Department of Transportation.

Crews will shift the lane closures as

workers install the screening across each bridge.

Design and constrictions costs will total \$796,914, according to ODOT.

Crews will work on one bridge at a time, starting Monday with Albus Road SE. Screen installations are expected to take about a month for each bridge, with any delays altering the estimated start dates for the next bridge.

Access for pedestrians, including those with disabilities, will be available and identified through or around work zones.

Order and estimated timing for each bridge:

Albus Road SE: Work is scheduled to begin Monday and will take approximately one month to complete.

- Hours: Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday from 9 a.m. to Noon

72nd Avenue SE: Work is estimated to begin Feb. 25 and will take approximately one month to complete.

- Hours: Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday from 9 a.m. to Noon

Cordon Road: Work is estimated to begin March 26 and will take approximately one month to complete.

- Hours: Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday from 9 a.m.

to Noon

Lancaster Drive SE: Work is estimated to begin April 19 and will take approximately one month to complete.

- Hours: Nightly from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m.

Check the Oregon Department of Transportation webpage for construction updates and TripCheck.com for the most up to date traffic information.

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Water flows from Detroit Dam in November 2020. BRIAN HAYES / STATESMAN JOURNAL

Dam

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Dam and Big Cliff, but those changes aren't scheduled to be completed for years.

Claims the changes violated federal law

Hydropower is one of the Congressionally authorized purposes for the 13 dams in the Willamette Valley.

Among the 90 members of the Public Power Council are Consumer's Power Incorporated, which serves rural areas

of Marion and Polk counties including Detroit, Salem Electric and Monmouth Power & Light.

The council's members purchase hydropower from the Bonneville Power Administration, which includes power produced at Detroit Dam, and sells it to consumers.

The Corps' changes, according to the PPC lawsuit, were a violation of the Administrative Procedure Act and National Environmental Policy Act and of federal legislation that governs the operation of the dam.

"PPC members are strongly invested in fish mitigation efforts, but those efforts must not be inequitably borne by power customers or implemented with-

out full and proper analysis and consultation," the association said in a statement.

When the Consolidated Appropriations Act and COVID Relief Act was signed into law Dec. 27, it required the Corps to submit an analysis deauthorizing hydropower as a purpose at Detroit Dam and two other dams in the Willamette Valley.

"Deauthorizing power production at Detroit Dam is the best long-term option; the best for consumers, the best for fish, and the best for taxpayers," Simms said.

The PPC lawsuit asks for the Corps to return to producing power 24 hours a day, especially in the period of highest

use in November through April, unless it is deauthorized by Congress.

Detroit Dam powerplant shift operator forced to shelter in place

The remedy for the lawsuit between the environmental groups and the Corps, a suit that has grown to include the state, Marion County and Salem, hasn't been determined.

A conference on the appointment of experts in that case is scheduled for Jan. 15.

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E-Board

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nine federally recognized tribes for needs arising from the COVID-19 pandemic and the associated economic hardships.

- \$7 million to fund a temporary rate increase for Aging and People with Disabilities nursing facilities; \$3.4 million to fund a temporary rate increase for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities programs; and \$1 million to the Runaway and Homeless Youth program to help providers facing service delivery challenges due to COVID-19.

- \$932,112 to the COVID-19 pandemic public health emergency for emergency student financial aid and for the Student Daycare program childcare grants.

- \$250,000 for an ombudsman program to address COVID-19 related investigations and complaint mitigation in the state's prison system.

- \$135,000 for grants to two community organizations that will educate renters about Oregon's eviction moratorium.

Wildfire relief:

- \$36.75 million for wildfire debris removal.
- \$31.5 million to provide shelter,

food, and wraparound services to Oregonians impacted by wildfires.

- \$25 million for a grant to the Housing Authority of Jackson County to acquire and develop property to replace a portion of lost workforce housing destroyed during the Labor Day wildfires.

- \$14.28 million for the state's wildfire recovery, prevention, and preparedness activities to fund the state's remaining estimated net cost for the 2020 fire season.

- \$13 million for the state's wildfire recovery, prevention and preparedness activities to the Oregon Department of Forestry to supplement the wildfire aviation program, increase fire program staffing, and expand the partnership and planning program, including federal forest health programs.

- \$4 million for the state's wildfire recovery, prevention and preparedness activities to the Department of State Police, Office of the State Fire Marshal for wildfire response and preparedness.

- \$2 million for the establishment of a municipal wildfire financial assistance program.

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