

# City proposes new Interstate 5 access ramps

## NEWS BRIEFS

By Lee Perlman  
The Southwest Portland Post

The city is looking at new access ramps to the South Waterfront and Ross Island Bridge, transportation planner Jody Yates told the South Portland Neighborhood Association last month.

At present northbound traffic exiting the Interstate 5 freeway onto Southwest Macadam Avenue must weave across traffic already on the street in order to gain access to the South Waterfront to the east. Those seeking to get onto the bridge must pursue a convoluted path that involves crossing the freeway, reversing direction, and traveling through part of residential South Portland.

Yates cautioned, "The reality is that the roads will continue to get more congested." If nothing at all is done, with the South Waterfront growing and more vehicles using this part of Macadam, the city estimates that the street will reach a traffic level of "failure" by the year 2015.

The Portland Office of Transportation (PDOT) is proposing a "fly-over" ramp that would connect directly to the bridge. A second option would allow exiting traffic to cut under

Macadam and enter it in the east lane, still leaving the journey to the bridge tortuous but making it safer. Either option would cost an estimated \$40 million.

So far PDOT has secured a pledge of \$7 million from city Systems Development Charge funds, \$3 million from the city general fund, \$2.367 million in "earmarks" from federal transportation appropriations and \$1 million from North Macadam District Urban Renewal funds.

South Portland board member Connie Crookham said, "I use that road all the time, and the flyover makes the most sense to me."

### Design Commission approves Shriners' Hospital addition

At its third hearing on the matter last month, the Portland Design Commission approved the design for a three-story, 66,000 square foot addition to the Shriners' Hospital for Children that will extend over its existing parking garage. The design team met earlier Commission concerns by providing for a new, more prominent entrance reached by a wider sidewalk with new street trees.

There will be a 2,000 square foot lawn assigned to this building, part of a larger open space separating it from Oregon Health and Sciences

University's Biomedical Research Building.

Commission member Gwen Millius liked the lawn especially. "These open spaces often surprise us with how much they're used by children," she said. "I appreciate how you reworked the entrance. There's a value to it for people who come by bus, foot or tram."

The one concern the Commission retained was a tentative plan by the hospital to add more stories in the future. Commission member Tim Eddy called this a "potential issue," but added, "A lot can happen between now and then, and this is potentially a good base." He called the design "quiet and understated."

Commission chair Lloyd Lindley apologized to the design team for the lengthy review process. "We hold the Shriners' Hospital in the highest regard," he said. "Our criticism was not meant in any way to reflect on your mission or what you do."

### Southwest ped/bike open houses scheduled

Two of the three Halo L.I.D. projects will have public open houses this month for the public to consider plans. The project on Southwest Hamilton Street between 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Scholls Ferry Road can

be viewed, discussed and reacted to at Bridlemile School on March 4. The open house for Southwest 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue between Arnold and Stevenson streets will be at Jackson Middle School on March 6.

Both sessions will be from 7 to 9 p.m. The date for an open house for the third project, on Southwest Vermont Street between 30<sup>th</sup> and 37<sup>th</sup> avenues, and 45<sup>th</sup> and 65<sup>th</sup> avenues, was not available at press time.

The projects will add pedestrian and bicycle facilities to these streets. They will be paid for through Local Improvement Districts, assessments to nearby property owners. Unlike conventional LIDs, the Halo assessments will be spread over a wider than normal area, assessing more property owners but charging each one less.

Advertise in the April edition of *The Post!*

Call Harry at 503-244-4442



### N Macadam Transportation Development Strategy & Transportation System Development Charge (TSDC) Overlay

COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE  
Wednesday, March 19, 2008  
4:00 to 7:00 pm  
Umpqua Bank - South Waterfront  
3606 SW Bond Avenue (off Curry Street)  
TriMet Bus #35 (Macadam) & Portland Streetcar

Please join us for a community open house on the North Macadam Transportation Development Strategy and proposed Transportation System Development Charge (TSDC) Overlay.

Help us explore solutions to the area's transportation problems and how to pay for needed improvements.

For more information contact: Project Manager Art Pearce, 503-823-7791, art.pearce@pdxtrans.org

To help ensure equal access to City programs, services, and activities, the City of Portland will reasonably modify policies/procedures and provide auxiliary aids/services to persons with disabilities. Call 503-823-2036 or 503-823-7085 with such requests.



## The Southwest Portland Post

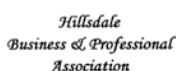
7825 SW 36th Ave Suite #203

Portland, OR 97219

Phone: (503) 244-6933; Fax: (866) 727-5336

general email: news@multnomahpost.com

web address: www.multnomahpost.com



Editor & Publisher: Don Snedecor  
Reporters/Writers: Mark Ellis, Polina Olsen, Lee Perlman, Don Snedecor  
Retail Advertising Manager: Harry Blythe  
Graphic Design: Leslie Baird Design  
Printing: Oregon Lithoprint

© 2008 by The Southwest Portland Post. All rights reserved. The opinions of the artists and authors contained herein are not necessarily shared by the publisher.

Deadline for news and advertising is generally the 15th of the month prior to publication. Please call for current deadline information. Advertising rates are available upon request.

The Post has a circulation of 10,000 in Multnomah Village and the surrounding neighborhood business districts including Burlingame, Capitol Hill, Garden Home, Glen Cullen, Hillsdale, South Portland, Raleigh Hills, West Portland and Vermont Hills. The Post is published on or about the 1st of every month. Subscriptions are \$24 per year. Back issues are \$2.50 each when available. All major credit cards accepted.



The Post is printed on recycled newsprint using soy-based inks.



When you choose to spend your dollars with locally owned, independent businesses:

- Up to 3 times more money re-circulates in our local economy.
- More local jobs are maintained and created.
- The character of our neighborhoods is enhanced and preserved.
- You are making a REAL difference in the quality of life of our community.



www.sbnportland.org

## Help Wanted

*The Post* is seeking freelance writers to cover neighborhood news, politics and culture.

Experience required. Bonus points for photography.

Beats include arts, schools, parks, crime prevention, land use, transportation, neighborhoods. Please mail or e-mail resume, cover letter with specific interest, and three published clips to:

Don Snedecor  
Editor and Publisher  
*The Southwest Portland Post*  
7825 SW 36th Ave Suite #203  
Portland, OR 97219  
don@multnomahpost.com



## March Special



Mail subscriptions are available at the following rates:

- One year (12 monthly issues)..... \$14
- Two years (24 monthly issues)..... \$24
- Three years (36 monthly issues)..... \$34



Please send check or money order to:  
7825 SW 36th Ave #203, Portland 97219

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_