Girders to be installed for Gibbs Street Bridge

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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Street pedestrian bridge are scheduled to be installed this month, with the first set for the night of November 4, project manager Jean Seneschal Biggs told *The Post* last month.

Crews will start on the western end and work eastward, Biggs said. Late during the nights of installation there may be some lane or even road closures along Interstate 5 and Southwest Barbur Boulevard, Kelly and Macadam avenues, she said. The project is set for completion by March, Biggs said.

Barbur Boulevard planning underway

The Barbur Concept Plan, which is examining land uses along the length of the boulevard and may recommend zoning changes, is up and running.

A 20-member advisory committee has been formed and will begin meeting from 6 to 8 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month at the Multnomah Arts Center, 7688 S.W. Capitol Highway, starting November 3.

The project held two public "walks" to look at existing conditions and take public feedback, according to planner Jay Sugnet.

The first walk visited the West Portland Town Center at Southwest Capitol Highway and the intersection of Southwest Terwilliger Boulevard

The second looked at the Safeway area near 19th Avenue and Capitol Hill Road, and Southwest Hamilton Street. In addition, Sugnet said, a community forum is planned for the second week in December. Details were unavailable at press time.

Burlingame trunk sewer work continues

As many residents and commuters are all too well aware, work on the Burlingame Trunk Sewer has closed the Multnomah on and off-ramps to Interstate 5. When will it end?

According to Bureau of Environmental Services spokesperson Stephen Sykes, the ramps may be open by November 16, two days ahead of the stipulated completion date of November 18.

Meanwhile, there will be sewer-related work on Southwest Multnomah Boulevard between 22th and 25th avenues this month, and some of this work may continue into the night, Sykes said.

Neighborhood coalition abolishes trails committee

The Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc. (SWNI) board of directors voted in September to abolish their trails committee.

This step follows Southwest Trails Committee founder and chair Don Baack's decision this summer to leave SWNI and form a nonprofit corporation to pursue the committee's work independently of the coalition.

Baack claimed the reason for the separation was that it was too difficult to work with some of the individuals involved.

The SWNI board voted to transfer some of the trails committee's functions to other committees, most notably transportation.

In many cases, however, they chose to let Baack and his supporters assume a leadership role rather than try to maintain a rival structure.

In its discussion the board called for pursuing a collaborative approach with the new trails group on specific projects.

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Starting Monday, October 31, a contractor for the Portland Water Bureau will install another protective pipe casing under SW Naito Pkwy; this time south of SW Harrison St. through the abandoned Grant Street Tunnel. The tunnel was once part of Harbor Drive, and is an obstacle that the new 5,000-foot water supply pipeline must go through.

The open pit installation of the pipe casing will take about **two weeks** to complete. Traffic will be reduced to **one lane in each direction** through the work zone. The speed limit will be posted at **30 mph**. This around-the- clock road change will cause traffic delays as the **8-foot wide** by **36-foot long** excavation is too large to safely cover with steel plates.

The Water Bureau encourages motorists and bicyclists to

find an alternate route. The public's cooperation is appreciated as we work to upgrade the city's century old water system.





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