

# Latest design for Miles Place includes nine-foot shared roadway, two gravel shoulders

## SELLWOOD BRIDGE

By Lee Perlman  
The Southwest Portland Post

In March, Multnomah County and City of Portland officials proposed to redesign Southwest Miles Place to install a sidewalk on the west side, at the expense of some parking and trees, to allow room for bicyclists using the street as part of a regional trail.

Residents were unhappy with the plans, and some suggested letting all modes share the asphalt, as is the case now. Last month County officials unveiled a new plan that comes closer to this idea.

The new plan calls for a nine-foot roadway, just enough for one normal-sized motor vehicle. On the east side will be a seven-foot parking zone. On both sides will be a 4.5 foot gravel shoulder.

According to Michael McGee of the Portland Bureau of Transportation, there will be some loss of parking, and a large cedar tree will have to be cut down.

The theory is that the roadway will be shared, and that bicyclists, pedestrians and oncoming cars will use the shoulders to get out of the way of vehicles. "Everyone will have to get along," McGee said.

Most of those who attended seemed

satisfied with the proposal. One who was not was Ludwien Rahman, a member of the City's Pedestrian Task Force. "I'm super-disappointed in this design," she said.

"Everyone gets what they wanted except pedestrians." What the design will mean, she said, is that bicyclists and pedestrians would share a right of way 4.5 feet wide. "Don't assume you can throw bikes and pedestrians together and make it work," she said.

"I'm from the Netherlands, and we're really good at shared streets," Rahman continued. "The principal is that the whole street is shared. This is not at all acceptable."

County spokesperson Mike Pullen said that the project team will talk with property owners through the summer to refine the proposal.

### Pile driving on the Willamette River beginning July 10

Work on the new Sellwood Bridge has entered a critical phase: "in-water" work in the Willamette River, which is permitted only between July 10 and October 15 to accommodate migratory fish.

Crews will be working on the piers that will support the new bridge, Multnomah County spokesperson Mike Pullen told *The Post*. As part of this work, there will be pile driving in the river up to six days a week from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.



Residents who live along Southwest Miles Place are concerned that a regional trail carrying 6,000 bicyclists per day is coming along with the new Sellwood Bridge. (Post photo by Lee Perlman)

### Construction begins on 1.7 million gallon water tank in Ashcreek

By Lee Perlman  
The Southwest Portland Post

The Tualatin Valley Water District is about to start construction of its new 1.7 million gallon water tank on Southwest Garden Home Road at 62nd Drive, according to spokesperson Pete Boone.

The District will begin with the demolition of two existing tanks on the site, with a combined capacity of about half that of the new facility, with work probably under way by the time *The Post* goes to press.

Boone says that little of the work

will affect the adjacent roads directly, although construction vehicles will contribute to traffic. Current plans call for the work to be performed between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m.

The District will cut down some vegetation, including some of the sequoia trees closest to the tank site. They will plant new vegetation as screening, including some trees 25 to 30 feet high at planting, Boone said.

The Ashcreek Neighborhood Association had opposed the siting of the tank, arguing that it was out of scale with the area, but failed to prevail in the land use review process.

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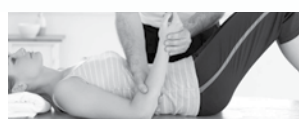
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