

New bridge scheduled to open in March; project to continue through November 2016

SELLWOOD BRIDGE

By Erik Vidstrand
The Southwest Portland Post

While most attention is on the grand opening of the Tilikum Crossing in September, work continues steadily on the Sellwood Bridge which is expected to open six months later—March 2016.

Work will continue on the project after the opening. According to project manager Mike Pullen of Multnomah County, the entire project won't be finished until November 2016.

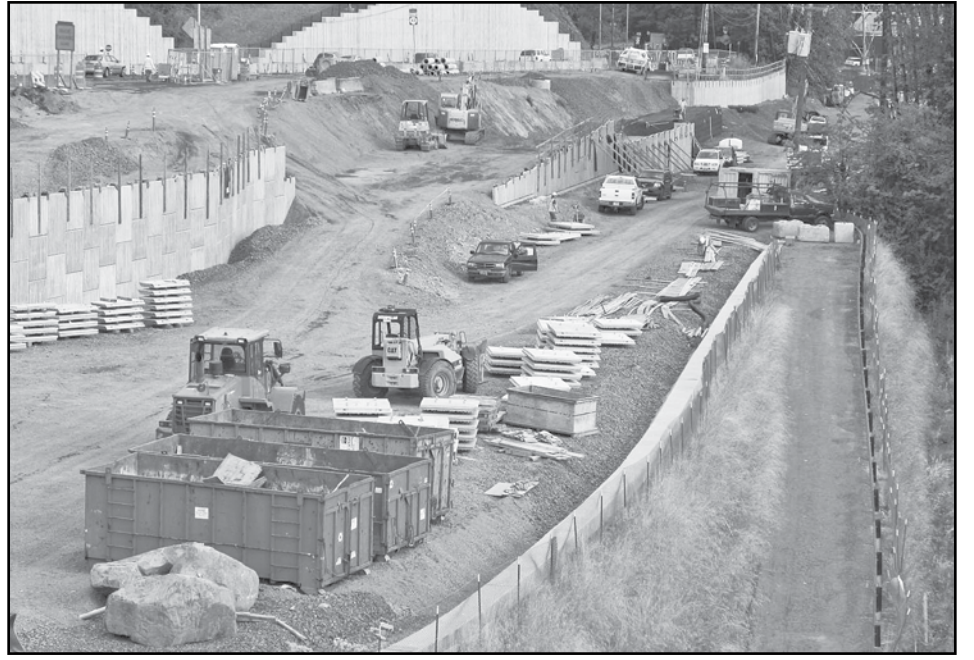
Work has begun on building a new shared driveway just south of Freeman

Motors. The new driveway will cross the the Stephens Creek culvert, regional trail, and trolley corridor and go all the way to Macadam Bay.

When it opens in March, the old driveways will close. The reason for the new driveway is that Macadam Bay's current driveway is too close to the onramp to Highway 43 (Macadam Avenue) from the new bridge.

At press time, rock fall netting on the west side of Macadam Avenue north of the retaining walls was scheduled to be completed by Aug. 1.

Deconstruction of an old pier at the closed Staff Jennings boat dealership has begun. Platforms and pilings are slated for demolition. The area will include a bioswale to treat stormwater



Many types of retaining walls are taking shape north of the Sellwood Bridge. (Photo courtesy of Multnomah County)

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Don Snedecor
The Southwest Portland Post

Fire bureau responds to garage fire on Florida Street

Portland Fire & Rescue responded to 5835 SW Florida St. around 3:15 a.m. on July 3 with reports of a detached garage on fire.

When fire crews arrived, they found the entire front of the garage on fire. The garage was located near the house, so fire crews began fighting the garage fire and cooling the side of the house next to the garage.

This cooling helped prevent the fire from extending further and causing more damage to the interior of the home. The firefighters had the fire

under control in 25 minutes.

Fire crews remained at the home, cooling hot areas and working with fire investigators for another hour and a half. No injuries were reported. Damage is estimated at \$60,000.00. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

South Portland to hold health and safety fair for National Night Out

Health experts, children's activities, crime & safety education, and disaster planning are all on the docket for the South Portland Health and Safety Fair.

The fair is scheduled for Wednesday, Aug. 5 at 5:30 p.m. at Willamette Park (Southwest Macadam Avenue and Nebraska Street).

Musical entertainment will be provided by the Wicky Pickers. Pack a picnic dinner, bring a blanket or chairs, and spend time with family and friends.

from the west end of the bridge and the Macadam Avenue interchange.

A contractor is building the regional trail from the south end of Miles Place to the bridge this year.

Mike Pullen said he hopes that the trail will be open to users in early 2016. The trail is adjacent to trolley corridor and does not impact traffic.

False decks and safety platforms for the river span decks are being installed. The final concrete sealer is being installed at the river pier columns.

"There aren't any big traffic impacts coming to west side in near future," Pullen said. "It's a busy year for our construction, so drivers can expect delays on Highway 43 and the bridge all year."

A special note to motorists: the Providence Bridge Pedal will be taking place on Sunday, Aug. 9 and once again the Sellwood Bridge will be part of the event despite the construction. The Sellwood Bridge will be closed on that

date westbound from 6 to 9 a.m. For more information, call Mike Pullen at 503-209-4111 or visit www.sellwoodbridge.org.

Portland Parks & Recreation
and Friends of Spring Garden Park
Invite you to Celebrate...

SPRING GARDEN PARK & NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

**Tuesday, August 4
6:00 - 8:00 pm**

Spring Garden Park
SW Dolph Court
just west of SW 30th Ave.

For additional information contact Elise at
Elise.Scolnick@PortlandOregon.gov

Portland Parks & Recreation
Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland
www.PortlandParks.org

Friends of Spring Garden Park
www.Facebook.com/springgardenpark

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The Southwest Portland Post

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