

Countdown to gridlock

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available for vehicles with two or more people, he said.

Scheele recalled a 20 year period when diamond lanes were used on I-84, the Banfield Freeway.

"People were upset that we were taking a lane away to use as the HOV lane and not enough people used it," he said, explaining that ODOT is painting road lines now so the shoulders of the freeways will be used temporarily as additional lanes.

"Everyone needs to do their part to leave their cars at home and utilize the transportation alternatives that are available during the closure," noted Vancouver Mayor Royce Pollard.

Temporary alternatives include expanded and rerouted bus schedules, free Amtrak commuter rides, some individually created river boat taxis, etc.

Scheele also noted that ODOT is encouraging area businesses to be flexible and allow their employees to work staggered hours, provide more job sharing situations (splitting hours of the day with other employees), and telecommuting via computer and modem.

Vancouver's C-Tran bus system will offer free fares for the length of the closure, from the downtown transit center, said Scheele. More park-and-rides will be added.

Portland's Tri-Met system will add bus and Max train rides to several existing routes. Scheele said Tri-Met will honor C-TRAN transfers.

Extra free buses in Vancouver and East Clark County will connect to the train service, noted Scheele. "Tri-Met is not offering free service; however, they are honoring transfers from C-Tran."

If you are on a C-Tran bus, you can either board light rail or a Tri-Met bus for free."

He anticipates that some Vancouver people will take C-Trans to the Gateway Transit Center (I-84 and I-205) for a free ride on Max, which will have extra light rail cars in service.

Some businesses reportedly will rely on small aircraft to cross the river and news reports indicate private boat owners are planning water taxis that will take people downriver on the Columbia from Vancouver to

the mouth of the Willamette River and up to the downtown area.

"We've created a really unique partnership with Amtrak," said Scheele, noting trains on the Burlington Northern route will provide free commuter rail service between Vancouver and Portland's Union Station. "These trains can carry about 700 passengers per trip."

In the morning three train trips will go from Vancouver to Union Station in Portland, with two return trips to Vancouver.

Morning trains will leave Vancouver at 5:30, 6:45 and 8:00 a.m. Returning trains from Portland will be 6:00 and 7:15 a.m. Evening trains will leave Portland 4:00, 5:15 and 6:30 p.m. Returning trains from Vancouver will be 4:30 and 5:45 p.m.

Vancouver park and ride for the train will be at Fourth Plain Blvd. and Kotobuki Way (near Fruit Valley Road).

Other suggestions offered by ODOT include shifting travel schedules to avoid rush hour traffic, increased car pooling, bicycling, doing some work at home via phone or computer and putting off certain visiting or shopping trips until after the construction is completed.

In short: "Go another way. Go another time. Just don't go."

The reduced time estimate resulted from new construction techniques developed by Christie Constructors of Richmond, Calif., which will be paid an incentive bonus of \$100,000 for each day it finishes before the 21 day project deadline. The contract also calls for a \$100,000 penalty for late days, which could occur if inclement weather slows the construction process.

ODOT officials expect the incentive payments to be offset by huge multi-million dollar savings to the Portland-Vancouver economy when there are fewer days of traffic congestion slowing businesses, commuters and freight lines.

For park-and-ride locations, bus or train schedules, or other information about the bridge repair project, call 1-800-722-6557, C-Tran's (360) 695-0123 or Tri-Met's (503) 238-RIDE.

To learn about carpools and vanpools, call C-Tran at (360) 69-MATCH, or Tri-Met at (503) 238-5833.

Employment

Metro

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*** Animal Keeper - Africa (Metro Washington Park Zoo)** - \$14.50 - \$16.88/hour, full-time (Deadline September 19, 1997). Performs responsible animal duties in the care of a variety of exotic and some domestic animals. Performs manual labor in the cleaning of indoor and outdoor animal holding and exhibit areas. Maintains extensive animal records relating to health, diet and behavior. Assists with breeding and research projects and participates in the development and implementation of improved animal care and exhibit plans and procedures. This position is supervised by a Senior Animal Keeper or the Animal Collection Manager. This position may supervise volunteer workers in the proper cleaning of animal areas.

*** Strategic Policy Analyst (Regional Environmental Management)** - \$42,041 - \$58,360/annually, full-time (Deadline September 18, 1997). The purpose of this position is to assist the Department director in defining the strategic direction of solid waste programs and policies. This senior level position will be a lead person within the department to develop, implement and review solid waste programs and policies. This position will help improve the department's relationship to local government, citizen organizations, and the solid waste industry. The position will assist in the coordination and interface with the office of the Executive Officer and the Council.

*** Waste Reduction & Planning Supervisor (Regional Environmental Management)** - \$44,151 - \$61,243/annually, full-time (Deadline September 29, 1997). Under the direction of the division manager, the person in this position will lead and supervise regional waste reduction activities; oversee and coordinate internal and external solid waste planning; and lead and supervise professional staff.

Resumes are not accepted. Required application materials available at: Metro Human Resource Division, 600 NE Grand Avenue; Oregon Convention Center, 777 NE Martin Luther King Jr., Blvd.; the Urban League, 10 N Russell; or the Northeast Workforce Center, 4106 N Vancouver Ave. If you wish application materials mailed to you, call (503) 797-1570. Web address: <http://www.multnomah.lib.or.us/metro>

AA/EEO Employer

Advertisement for Bid

Sealed bids for the Cordley Elevator Rehabilitation project will be received by the Oregon State Board of Higher Education until 2:00 PM, local time, September 23, 1997. Bids will be opened and publicly read aloud on September 23, 1997 at 2:00 PM local time. All bidders must be registered with the Construction Contractor's Board.

Additional information may be obtained by contacting Facilities Services, 100 Adams Hall, Corvallis, Oregon 97331-2001 or telephone 541-737-7694.

BIDS

Second Supplemental Informational Advertisement Department of Transportation Call for Bids

Sealed bids will be received until 9 a.m. on September 25, 1997 for the project listed below:

Clackamas: Estacada Trail Section beginning near Timber Park and continuing along the upper banks of the Clackamas River and parallel to Lakeshore Drive and ending near Beech Street in the City of Estacada. 7% DBE goal. The DBE is subject to Commercially Useful Function (CUF) requirements. A.C. Pavement and Oiling.

Clackamas: Cascade Highway South at South Macksburg Road Section of Cascade Highway South in Clackamas County. 12% DBE goal. The DBE is subject to Commercially Useful Function (CUF) requirements. Earthwork and Drainage.

Clackamas: Sandy River Bridge Section of Lusted Road approximately 3 miles north of Sandy. 10% DBE goal. The DBE is subject to Commercially Useful Function (CUF) requirements. Reinforced Concrete and Structural Steel Bridges and Grade Separation Structures.

Jackson: South Valley View Road - Ashland Section of Bear Creek Greenway Trail in the City of Ashland. 10% DBE goal. The DBE is subject to Commercially Useful Function (CUF) requirements. Earthwork & Drainage; or Aggregate Bases; or AC Pavement & Oiling; or Reinforced Concrete and Structural Steel Bridges and Grade Separation Structures.

Harney: Hines - Silvies River Section of the Central Oregon Highway in the cities of Hines and Burns. 14% DBE goal. The DBE is subject to Commercially Useful Function (CUF) requirements. AC Paving and Oiling.

Plans, specifications and bid documents may be obtained in Room 1, Transportation Building, Salem, Oregon 97310. Plans may be ordered by phone at (503) 986-3720, or by facsimile at (503) 986-3224. **There is a \$20.00 non-refundable charge for plans and specifications per project.** Prime contractors must be prequalified ten days prior to the bid opening day. For additional information regarding pre-qualification, please contact Fran Neavoll, Program Section, at (503) 986-3877.

If your business is not certified as a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) or a Women Business Enterprise (WBE), please contact the Office of Minority, Women and Emerging Small Business at 155 Cottage, Salem, OR 97310, phone (503) 378-5651.

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