



An additional or replacement span with two lanes for light rail would increase the size of the Interstate Bridge over the Columbia River from 6 to 10 lanes under a proposal by an Oregon and Washington commission. PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

I-5 Bridge with 10 Lanes Proposed

Bi-state partnership makes final recommendation for traffic improvements

The Portland/Vancouver I-5 Transportation and Trade Partnership Task Force has released final recommendations on potential transportation improvements in the I-5 corridor through north Portland to Vancouver. The Task Force approved the strategic plan by a vote of 24 in favor and one opposed. The motion to pass the final recommendations was made jointly by Mayors Vera Katz and Royce

Pollard and seconded by Commissioners Craig Pridemore and Serena Cruz. The final recommendations include three through-lanes in each direction on I-5, including southbound through Delta Park. A phased light rail loop in Clark County in the vicinity of the I-5, SR500/4th Plain and I-205 corridors. An additional span or a replacement bridge for the I-5 crossing of

the Columbia River, with up to 2 additional lanes in each direction for merging and 2 light rail tracks for a grand total of 10 lanes. The group said interchange improvements and additional merging lanes were needed between SR500 in Vancouver and Columbia Boulevard in Portland. These include a full interchange at Columbia Boulevard. A recommendation for capacity improvements for freight rail

was also approved, along with bi-state coordination of land use and management of our transportation system to reduce demand on the freeway and to protect the corridor investments. The proposal calls for involving communities along the corridor to ensure that the final project outcomes are equitable. The strategic plan now will be sent to the Oregon Transportation Commission, the Washing-

ton State Department of Transportation and to the metropolitan planning organizations in Portland and SW Washington for review and potential adoption into their transportation plans. The next step after adoption into the regional transportation plans would be an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) of which additional public involvement and Environmental Justice efforts would be key components.

Stamping Out HIV

Weekend events bring serious message and tests for HIV/Hepatitis C

The African American Health Coalition is seeing a continuous disproportionate amount of low-income young women having unprotected sex and unplanned pregnancies who are at high risk of HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

The grass-roots group would like to see a change in the numbers of low-income young women having unprotected sex and unplanned pregnancies and would like to see the HIV testing numbers go up this year of all African Americans.

Getting tested for HIV is a good habit for wellness and this Saturday, June 29 and Sunday June 30, you can get tested for free and enjoy comedy and theater by renowned comedian, Norman Mitchell.

State health division statistics show that whites account for 82 percent of AIDS cases among Oregon women, but African Americans are over represented. They make up less than 2 percent of the state's female population, but account for 10 percent of female AIDS cases.

Let's turn those numbers around by becoming educated and by being tested, don't leave anyone out," said Dora Asana of the coalition.

Free food, free comedy and free HIV/Hep C testing will take place during a youth event on Saturday, June 29th at 3 p.m. at the Matt Dishman Center, 77 N.E. Knott. HIV testing will be available at the center at 2 p.m.

The adult event is Sunday June 30th at 5:30 p.m. at the Miracles Club, 4069 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. There will be free HIV testing available at the club at 4 p.m.

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The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying 'http://www.portlandobserver.com/'. The page content includes the newspaper's name 'The Portland Observer' and the date 'June 19, 2002'. A sidebar on the left lists categories like 'index', 'Top Stories', 'Metro', 'Sports', etc. The main content area features several news items: 'Adams High Awaits Wrecking Ball', 'Keeping a Close Eye On Crime', and 'Spraying Makes Progress in Mosquito Fight'. A 'THE WEEK REVIEW' section is also visible at the bottom.