

raveling to the Umatilla County Fair will be a little different this year.

After all, it will be held for the first time at the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center south of Hermiston, miles from its longtime location in downtown Hermiston.

Parking will be a different beast

than at the previous site, where fairgoers had to search for on-street spots in surrounding neighborhoods.

This year there is on-site lot parking at EOTEC, which will cost \$5. Once cars fill the paved lot closest to the event center, overflow parking will move out to a dirt expanse closer to the main entrance off E. Airport Road. Tractor-pulled wagons will be available to assist fairgoers to and from the lot to the event center.

Fairgoers should expect some traffic during peak times, as the fair is limited this year to one entrance road. That won't be a problem in the future, thanks to the plan to pave Ott Road, said board chairman Gay Newman.