



Columbia River
CROSSING a long-term,
comprehensive solution.

Project update

November 13, 2012

Reminder: Bridge height open house Wednesday evening

The CRC project will host an open house to share bridge height analysis findings and other project information on Wednesday, Nov. 14, from 4 to 7 pm at the Red Lion at the Quay, 100 Columbia Street in Vancouver.

As part of the Columbia River Crossing project's ongoing [work](#) to prepare a bridge permit application for the replacement I-5 bridge, project staff conducted further analysis of a mid-range (95-110 foot) bridge identified in the Locally Preferred Alternative. In addition, staff completed new analyses of the feasibility of 115, 120 and 125 foot bridge options.

CRC project staff will share information about the bridge height analyses and answer questions about the permitting process and timeline at the Nov. 14 open house. The [report](#) containing the findings has been submitted to the U.S. Coast Guard and is available online.

Through November, CRC staff will continue to refine the technical analysis on the number of vessels impacted, river users, costs and potential solutions. A bridge height recommendation is expected in December 2012. The bridge height recommendation will be central to the general bridge permit application to be submitted to the U.S. Coast Guard in January 2013.

More information is [online](#).

CRC crews to conduct fieldwork starting November 2012

The Columbia River Crossing project recently started work to verify utility locations and conduct geotechnical investigations in North Portland and on Hayden Island. Work will begin later this month in downtown Vancouver. This pre-work allows project construction to proceed efficiently and cost effectively once project funding is secured. Work schedules are being coordinated to ensure that effects to businesses and residents are minimized.

Utility locations will be verified to identify, characterize and map



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underground utilities and structures. Field crews will locate utilities through surveying and conducting vacuum excavations at discrete test-hole locations. Vacuum excavation uses high pressure air and a vacuum to remove the soil. After utility locations are verified, the soil will be replaced and pavement patched. Approximately 250 test holes measuring eight to 12 inches in diameter are planned around project sites in Oregon and Washington.



Geotechnical investigations will obtain more information about the physical properties of soil and rock, such as stability and drainage rates. Field crews will obtain subsurface soil and rock samples through geotechnical borings, which are holes that are drilled into the ground. Approximately 35 borings measuring four inches in diameter will be drilled 30 feet deep. Holes will then be backfilled and repaved before crews move to a new location.

Business access will remain open and field work areas will be set up to minimize disruptions. The work will occur in public right-of-way. Temporary lane and parking closures could occur in active work areas. Each work area will take approximately two to four hours to complete. Work could occur during daytime, evening or night-time hours; whichever causes the fewest impacts to nearby businesses and residents.

Portland locations include:

- Hayden Island Drive between N Parker (Avenue "A") and N Center avenues
- Jantzen Drive between Hayden Island Drive and Tomahawk Island Drive
- Marine Drive adjacent to the Expo Center and Pier 99 Street

Vancouver locations include:

McLoughlin Boulevard between G Street and Fort Vancouver Way

- 17th Street between Washington and G streets
- Washington Street between 5th and 17th streets
- 7th Street between Washington and Broadway streets
- Broadway Street between 7th and 17th streets
- Columbia Street between Columbia Way and 5th Street

The fieldwork is expected to end in January 2013, but depends on weather and site conditions. Businesses and residents near the work will be notified if changes occur.

Additional information may be found on the CRC [fieldwork web page](#) and in the [utility and geotechnical fieldwork fact sheet](#).

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