

NW Germantown Road Project 8-30-2017 Public Meeting Comments

Germantown Road Issues

- What is the cause of the problem? Is it a landslide?
 - **Reply:** *The ground is saturated because of saturated slopes and a culvert under the road broke and failed. There may not be a landslide if the culvert had not broken.*
- Will design for new culvert control erosion?
 - **Reply:** *Yes. Rocks will be used to control erosion at culvert ends.*
- Will wildlife be able to pass through culvert?
 - **Reply:** *Small wildlife only. New culvert will be 3 foot diameter, compared to current 18 inch culvert.*
- Will the project change the alignment of Germantown Road?
 - **Reply:** *in general the alignment will stay the same with minor shift of centerline at the culvert to shift the road away from the existing slope..*
- There is a high crash history at the failed culvert location:(*under investigation*)
- Concerned about rain during work: could delay road reopening
 - **Reply:** *County will evaluate weather before work begins*
- On Germantown Road, add rumble strips and lane markers for safety (did not indicate if request is before 2017 project)
- Sight lines on Germantown near Skyline are poor: add speed bumps to slow traffic? This intersection is within COP boundaries. *John can communicate with Maintenance counter part as it seems the issue related to vegetation control.*
- Germantown Road has other traffic issues that this project will not address. When can those be addressed?
 - **Reply:** *County is starting a Capital Improvement Plan for all its roads in late 2017-2018. This is time to plan solutions.*

Old Germantown Road Issues (During Construction)

- Concern about safety on Old Germantown Road during construction:
 - Post 25 mph temporary speed limit on Old Germantown during construction? *will be added to contract*
 - Is Old Germantown already posted at 25 mph? *Currently, It is not posted. We will consider preparing speed study to post it. Regulatory speed limits are controlled by ODOT on all roads.*
 - Close Old Germantown to through traffic from Skyline to Kaiser except residents during work?
 - Post signs "Caution," "Closed to Through Traffic"? *We will add to contract*
 - Install temporary speed bumps. *I is not feasible to place temp speed bumps on this road for "during construction", we will consider it as for permanent*

Requests Before Germantown Construction

- Check LIDAR map to confirm whether or not there is a landslide near culvert. *Checked out. Our GIS map indicates that this location is in slope hazard zone.*
- Mow, trim vegetation on Old Germantown to improve visibility

- **Reply:** County will do prior to work
- Notify these organizations that use Germantown before project: *Gerard will do this*
 - Garbage haulers (Walker Garbage, Waste Management)
 - Portland Public Schools
 - Washington County school districts (which ones? Beaverton?)
 - U.S. Post Office
- Make sure fog lines are clear on alternate routes: they are critical for driver visibility in rain, fog (*County will check striping*)
- On Germantown Road, add rumble strips and lane markers for safety. *Raised Reflective markers will be installed on centerline and fog lines at this curve location after the reconstruction. Currently, there is markers on the centerline and fog line adjacent to the slope*

Other Road Issues

- County and City of Portland maintain different sections of Newberry and Germantown and the vegetation management is not consistent for the agencies: they should coordinate maintenance so work is consistent
- Neighbors like the new centerline rumble strips on Germantown Road
- County's road maintenance in west hills has declined since Maintenance Yard is not staffed all year
- Where did county staff that were based in west hills and the gear they used go?
 - **Reply:** *The road maintenance staff are centrally based in Gresham and are dispatched throughout the county each day. The change was due to decline in number of road staff. In winter, the west hills Yard is staffed.*
- Last winter was very hard on west hills roads: residents can help by clearing culverts of leaves near homes (audience comment)
- When Cornelius Pass Road is closed, it creates safety concerns when a lot of traffic is detoured to steep, narrow roads such as McNamee and Logie Trail
- Often see drivers pass illegally on double yellow line on Skyline Blvd.: ask Sheriff to increase enforcement
- A transportation demand study for Skyline should be done.
 - **Reply:** *There is a plan to do this in the county's Transportation System Plan. The City of Portland may join study since they have a section of the road.*

Newberry Road Issues

- County will schedule a public meeting before construction to share design and get input on construction issues, traffic plan
- Mow, trim vegetation to improve visibility (especially near curves, corners) (*several comments*)
- Improve drainage to prevent a repeat of the slide: other culverts near slide have failed. *County will clean ditches and plan on the existing culverts assessments as part of the overall culvert inspection program that is currently underway.*
- Will county cover slide with plastic this winter to reduce growth of slide?
 - **Reply:** *County will evaluate. There is an underground spring near slide that is an issue.*
- Concern that cracks in pavement show risk of other slides on Newberry. One cracked area is one mile from Skyline (*several comments*). *Visited cracks location and County will seal it temporarily. Long term fix will be added to County CIP.*

- Check out pavement cracks near green gates of Rollie
- The sandbag on one of the traffic barricades burst and sand should be cleaned up.
 - **Reply:** *Cleanup was done.*
- Most traffic is diverting to McNamee and Germantown: please maintain fog lines on these roads for safety. *John's crew will check on this one*
- McNamee Road need mowing and drainage maintenance: it has more traffic now. *John's crew will check on this one*
- Apple Maps shows Newberry Road is open: Notify WAZE.
 - **Reply:** *WAZE shows the road closure. Check Apple Maps.*

Cornelius Pass Road Issues

- Seal pavement cracks before winter
 - **Reply:** *County plans to do this.*
- Why does the project not improve the Skyline Blvd. intersection?
 - **Reply:** *Installing a signal would have used the entire budget, so we opted to do more small improvements along the corridor. The citizen committee agreed.*
- Issues during **construction** of safety improvements in next few years:
 - If one lane is closed during work, the flagging could back traffic up for miles due to volume. Not a good option.
 - Concern that trucks will use steep narrow west hills roads during work
 - **Reply:** *Large trucks will not be allowed on Newberry*
 - **Reply:** *Large trucks will be directed to OR 26 or OR 217*
 - Concern about safety on narrow alternate routes such as Logie Trail and Rocky Point when Cornelius Pass is closed
 - Logie Trail pavement is poor on steep section
 - Post speed limit signs? Install speed radar signs?
 - Concern that Newberry is not suitable alternate route, due to geometry and pavement condition.
 - Need advance warning signs: "No trucks"
 - Contact truck firms with alternate route instructions:
 - Angel Brothers, Knife River, other firms
 - Contact major employers whose employees use the road, like Intel, Columbia and Washington counties, so employees can plan to use other routes when road is closed.
 - Need temporary signal at OR 30 and Newberry if Newberry is alternate route
 - Notify first responders and schools before construction