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For more information:

Don Hamilton, 503-704-7452, Don.B.Hamilton@odot.state.or.us

Jilayne Jordan, 503-731-8237, Jilayne.Jordan@odot.state.or.us

MEDIA ADVISORY

Open house set for bike/ped safety project on SW Kelly Avenue (U.S. 26) at Ross Island Bridge

ODOT will host a pre-construction open house on Monday, June 3 about a bicycle and pedestrian safety project on Southwest Kelly Avenue (U.S. 26) between First Avenue and the west end of the Ross Island Bridge.

This project was awarded to a contractor in early May and is scheduled to start construction in June with completion in late fall 2013.

The public may stop by between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. to learn about the project and the anticipated impacts to motorists and other users during construction. Staff from TriMet will also provide information about upcoming traffic impacts in the area related to the Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail project now under construction.

The meeting will take place at the National College of Natural Medicine's Administration Building, Ken Harmon Community Room (suite 325), 2828 S.W. Naito Parkway in Portland.

People who can't attend the open house can review information about the project and submit questions directly to staff online by visiting

www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1/pages/kellyavenue/index.aspx.

ODOT, the City of Portland, TriMet, the National College of Natural medicine, Portland State Business Accelerator and the South Portland Neighborhood Association partnered in 2012 to design a bicycle and pedestrian safety project on Southwest Kelly Avenue between 1st Avenue and the Ross Island Bridge with a focus on traffic calming. The project is expected to improve safety and to reduce the overall severity of crashes in the area. This project will:

- Reduce the exit to Naito Parkway from Kelly Avenue from two lanes to one lane to provide a safer pedestrian crossing and a marked bike lane on the ramp.
- Change Meade Street into a cul-de-sac at Kelly Avenue. Drivers will access Meade

Street via Water, Arthur and Corbett instead.

- Install a Rapid Flash Beacon and marked crosswalk on Kelly Avenue just south of Meade Street.
- Provide a pedestrian refuge and restrict turning movements by removing the inside southbound Kelly Avenue travel lane and replacing it with a raised concrete median island (from Meade Street to just south of Corbett Avenue).
- Restrict access to Corbett Avenue from Kelly Avenue for drivers traveling from the Ross Island Bridge. Drivers will access Corbett Avenue via Water and Arthur streets instead.
- Replace the pavement on Ross Island Way between Arthur Street and the ramp onto the Ross Island Bridge.

For more information about this project, please contact ODOT Community Affairs Coordinator Jilayne Jordan at 503-731-8237, or Jilayne.Jordan@odot.state.or.us; or visit the project Web page at www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1/pages/kellyavenue/index.aspx.

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