



Oregon Department of Transportation *News Release*
Region 1

Columbia, Washington, Multnomah, Clackamas and Hood River Counties

March 2, 2009

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Rehabilitation project: www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1/OR43_Willamette_River_Br/index.shtml

TRAFFIC ADVISORY

New Restrictions on Oregon City Arch Bridge

Weight restrictions for commercial vehicles

The Oregon Department of Transportation is placing a new vehicle weight restriction on the Oregon City Arch Bridge connecting Oregon City and West Linn. **Effective 12:01 a.m.**

Wednesday, March 4, 2009, new load limits will restrict commercial vehicles, large trucks and other vehicles weighing more than 14 tons from using the historic bridge. Passenger vehicles weighing less than 14 tons can still use the bridge.

Recent inspections of the historic bridge found damage on a few of the structure's floor beams. Limiting the weight of vehicles that can cross the bridge will allow the bridge to remain open for most motorists.

TriMet buses will no longer use the Arch Bridge. TriMet has rerouted Routes #35 – Macadam and #154 - Willamette to the I-205 George Abernethy Bridge. And TriMet has closed the north and southbound bus stops on the west side of the Arch Bridge. Emergency vehicles and school buses currently use the Abernethy Bridge and should not be impacted by the weight restriction on the Arch Bridge.

ODOT will begin a project to rehabilitate the historic bridge later this year. The project will require a full bridge closure. ODOT anticipates the project will take 18 to 24 months to complete. The load restriction may be lifted once the rehabilitation project is complete in 2011.

##ODOT##