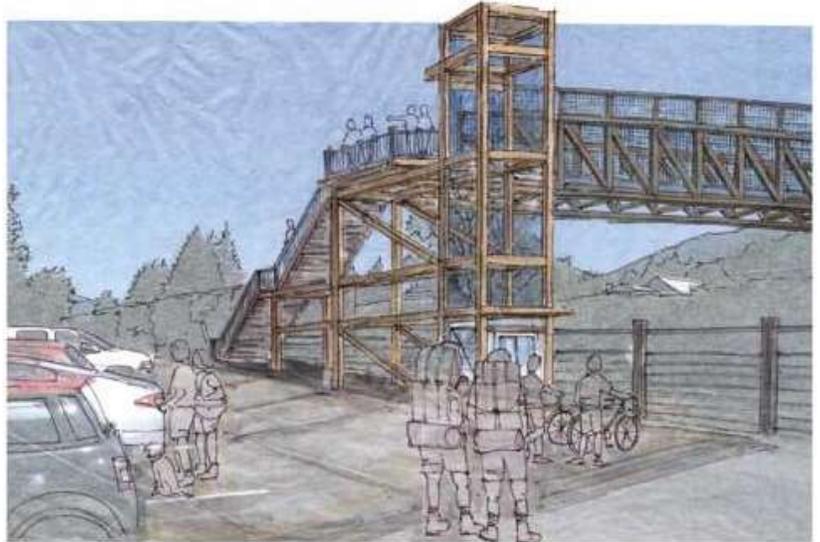


Port Report



Marine Park Overcrossing

For nearly a decade the Port has sought to improve the safety of the Marine Park entrance for all users. It is not ideal to have pedestrians, bicycles, strollers, vehicles, buses, RVs, and pick-ups towing boat trailers all using the narrow railroad underpass tunnel, with a blind corner and a height limit of 12 ft. Early in the discussion, the Union Pacific Railroad confirmed that they would not allow the current tunnel to be either deepened or widened, so the Port had to look at a new overcrossing into the park. In 2008, the Port received a federal earmark of \$800,000 to design such a facility for all users. In 2014, the Port Commission decided that adding larger vehicles to the park was not the impact they desired, so the funds were approved to be converted to a bicycle and pedestrian only facility. To date, studies have been conducted on the cultural, recreational, and environmental resources of the park to ensure that this project would result in the least impact possible to each. The overcrossing will start at Overlook Park (the Post Office parking lot downtown), span over the railroad tracks (with at least 23.5 foot clearance), then land in the park near the Community Center. On Wednesday, October 19th the Port and ODOT hosted a public workshop for local residents and agency partners to review designs for elevators, ramps, stairs, and materials. Several design alternatives were considered. The group discussion included considerations for tribal fishing access to the in lieu site, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), aesthetics, maintenance, and increased bicycle traffic with the Historic Highway reconnection project. For more info and to comment by November 7, visit: www.surveymonkey.com/r/MarinePark



Above: One of three design alternatives reviewed by Port Commissioners and community members during the October 19th Marine Park Overcrossing Public Open House.

Port Hiring New Bridge Manager Position

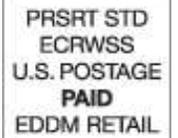
The Port Commission has approved the creation of a new Bridge Manager position. The position will be responsible for supervising Toll Booth operations, coordinating all bridge maintenance and construction included within the adopted 10 Year Bridge Operations & Preservation Plan, as well as implementing the enhanced toll technology project. This important position will be advertised during the month of November.

Bridge of the Gods NHS Certification

The Port has received formal notice that the Bridge of the Gods has been added to the National Highway System (NHS), providing system continuity between Oregon's Interstate-84 and Washington's SR-14. This formal NHS certification was necessary in order for the Port to seek federal funding opportunities for bridge projects. The certification request resulted from a partnership between the Port, engineering firm HDR, ODOT, WSDOT, and the RTC. The Port plans to spend about \$25M over the next 10 years in order to keep the bridge in safe operating condition at the current load rating of 40 tons (80,000 lbs). Scheduled bridge projects include new decking, seismic strengthening, a safer bicycle and pedestrian crossing, painting, and toll technology among others.



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Community Cocoa & Holiday Lights!

The railroad warehouse fire of August 2015 destroyed all of the Port's holiday light displays which typically decorate Toll Booth Park during the winter. Many bridge users were disappointed that there were no festive lights near the Bridge of the Gods last winter. The Port is proud to announce that insurance funds have replaced the entire collection with a fresh set of fun LED holiday light displays! Please join the Port and community members for hot cocoa and a brief count-down to flip on the switch to the holiday season Monday, November 21, 6pm at Bridgeside Restaurant. All are welcome. Thanks in advance to the Port Maintenance staff, to the Hood River County Sheriff's Office for assisting with safe street crossings, and to Bridgeside Restaurant for hosting the event. Umbrellas are recommended. In a related effort, the Port is partnering with the City and Business Association on a new collection of star lights on the street lights in the downtown and approaching the bridge.

Upcoming Port Office Closures

The Port Admin office will be closed on Fri 11/11 in observance of Veterans Day. The office will also be closed on Thurs and Fri, 11/24 & 11/25 for Thanksgiving. The bridge will operate as usual.

Marine Park Winterized

The only restrooms open in Marine Park over the winter are those located at the public boat ramp. Also, winter campground rates are in effect.

Port Annual Retreat to Cooper Spur

The adopted Port budget includes funding for the Port Commission to hold its annual retreat at Cooper Spur in mid-November. The location was selected because it is located within the Port district boundary. During the retreat, the Port Commission will work with key staff to update the Port Strategic Business Plan, review the General Manager's list of 5-7 year issues, and set the budget priorities for the approaching 2017-18 fiscal year. Guest speakers at the retreat this year will include two Hood River County officials, to discuss how the two organizations can better work together to enhance local economic development.

LOCAL TRIVIA QUIZ FOR PRIZES

Be one of the first three people to correctly answer this question (spelling counts) by email to: rare@portofcascadelocks.org, and win a gift certificate to a local business!

Adults: How many feet was the Bridge of the Gods raised in 1940 following the Bonneville Dam project?

Youth (Under 18): What United States holiday occurs on November 11th?