

News in the Corridor

January 2008

This email contains a mix of short news-bits and introductions for longer articles. Having trouble viewing this email? [Try our website.](#)

February Breakfast Forum

Ted Wheeler & Jeff Cogen Doing Business in Multnomah County

We may know why we love living in Multnomah County, but why would anyone want to do business here? Chair Wheeler and Commissioner Cogen, both elected to the County Commission in 2006, will discuss the pros and cons of doing business in this county. Perhaps they'll also show us how they plan to make it better. [More information and registration...](#)

**Wednesday, February 27th
7:30 am – 9:00 am**

Columbia River Crossing One Step Closer

The five alternatives for a new I-5 bridge over the Columbia River have been defined and the Task Force is scheduled to pick a preferred alternative in April. A 60 day public comment period will begin in March. [More...](#)

On January 27th, The Oregonian published an article supporting a new bridge and explaining the rationale for tolls. [A good read...](#)

Regulatory Improvement Assessment for the Columbia Corridor

ESA Adolfson has been picked as the consultant to explore ways to clarify, simplify, and potentially consolidate the environmental zoning regulations affecting the Columbia Corridor area within the City of Portland. In addition to the Environmental Overlay Zone, the Corridor is regulated by multiple natural resource management plans and plan districts, each with different and sometimes overlapping regulations. Additionally, development within the Corridor is subject to multiple regulations under different jurisdictions including other City Bureaus, the Multnomah Drainage District, and state and federal regulations.

Key elements of this project are:

- Confirming the project success criteria and reconnecting with the Corridor Stakeholders.

- Assessing the environmental regulations within the Corridor.
- Developing and evaluating options for clarification, simplification, and potential consolidation of Corridor regulations, including ways to address the compliance requirements of Metro Titles 3 and 13 and other Corridor specific state or federal requirements such as temperature TMDLs.

[More...](#)

November Economic Index

The University of Oregon Index of Economic Indicators™ rose 0.2 percent in November, partially reversing a fall in October and pulling the six-month annualized change above the rate associated with the 2001 recession. Despite the monthly gain, the trend over the past four months remains consistent with relatively weak economic conditions in the near term. [Full pdf report...](#)

Welcome New and Renewing Members!

CB Richard Ellis
City of Gresham
Columbia Steel Casting
Arclin Surfaces Inc.
Metro Metals
OPUS
Oregon Transfer Co.
Pacific NW Federal Credit Union
Perkins Coie
Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel
Skyport Properties
The Bookin Group

NE Columbia Blvd Sewer Project—the end is in sight

The sewer construction on NE Columbia Boulevard between NE 27th Avenue and NE 59th Place is nearing completion. All sewer pipes have been installed, but there will be some final paving work through February. The schedule is dependent on weather.

- The remainder of the work on Columbia Boulevard is testing, flushing, channeling and paving. Traffic control will be the same as during pipe installation, as these tasks are performed. This work should be completed by the end of February, weather permitting.
- **NE 42nd Avenue ramp** -The pipe work on this ramp has been completed, there is still some concrete work remaining and final paving. The ramp will be closed during the pavement process.
- **NE 33rd Avenue ramp** - The NE 33rd Avenue entrance and exit ramps to and from NE Columbia Boulevard will also be closed during paving.
- **NE Holland Court** - Paving on Holland Court will be a complete overlay of the existing street. This puts this area as the last section to be paved, by the end of February.
- **NE 59th Place** - Concrete curb, paving, and landscape work on this property will also be completed by the end of February.

Rivers still run through it

Portland depends on its working rivers. Like most cities of an earlier era, it got its start with waterborne trade and waterside industry. In 2008, it is one of a handful of U.S. cities whose riverside location remains as important as a century ago. [Read the January 13 Oregonian article by Carl Abbott...](#)

Upcoming Events

February 27: Breakfast Forum with Ted Wheeler

March 26: Breakfast Forum with Columbia Corridor State Senators and Representatives

April 30: CCA's Annual Trends & Forecasts

COLUMBIA CORRIDOR
A S S O C I A T I O N

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