

I-5: Delta Park to Lombard Project

Questions and Answers about the Columbian Cemetery

Winter 2003

1. What is the status of the I-5: Delta Park to Lombard project?

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) is in the early stages of this project. Three conceptual ideas are currently being designed and evaluated. Over the next few months design engineers will refine these ideas so that ODOT can determine the benefits and impacts of the project. By June of 2004, we should know the potential property impacts of the three alternatives. Our evaluation of other impacts (air quality, noise, construction, habitat, etc.) will continue through the summer and fall of 2004.

2. Will any of the alternatives under consideration for the I-5 Delta Park to Lombard project impact the Columbian Cemetery? Will ODOT need to purchase right-of-way from the Cemetery?

ODOT is very sensitive to the presence of the Columbian Cemetery adjacent to the project area. It is our practice to design projects to avoid impacting cemeteries whenever possible. At this point, it appears that we can design the project to avoid the Cemetery, making it very unlikely that ODOT will need to purchase right-of-way from the Cemetery for any of the alternatives.

3. What about indirect impacts such as shading effects from new freeway structures on the trees and other landscaping in the Cemetery? What about other impacts such as construction staging?

Concerns have been expressed that new freeway ramps and/or structures could have a shading impact on the Cemetery landscaping. Another concern for the Cemetery is whether there will be impacts due to construction and construction staging. As a part of our evaluation of potential impacts we will examine these issues. As mentioned in question 1, our evaluation of impacts will occur in the summer and fall of 2004. Prior to making any decision about the alternatives we will take our findings to the public for comments.

4. How can I stay informed about this project?

The best way to stay informed is to sign up to be on our project mail and e-mail list. By being on our mailing and e-mail list you will be informed of all opportunities to give input at key decision-making points in the project. You can do this by contacting either of the following:

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Another good way to stay informed about the project is to look at our project website: **www.I-5partnership.com** – click “Go to the Delta Park-Lombard website”

Also, feel free to call or e-mail us with other questions. The general fact sheet has some other ideas about how to stay involved and informed. It also has information about the current project schedule.