

ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY PROCESS

I-5 ROSE QUARTER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project is currently in an environmental study stage. The study aims to fully understand the benefits and impacts of proposed changes to local streets near the Broadway-Weidler interchange and to I-5 between I-84 and I-405 in Portland.

The project includes:

- Highway Covers
- New Bike & Pedestrian Crossing over I-5
- Local Street, Bicycle & Pedestrian Improvements
- New Hancock-Dixon Connection over I-5
- I-5 Southbound On-Ramp Relocation
- Ramp-to-Ramp (Auxiliary) Lanes
- Highway Shoulders

When completed, the project will reduce frequent crashes, improve travel reliability and improve community connections. Community engagement has been a big component of this project's development and is important in reviewing the environmental study.



WHAT IS A FORMAL "ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT"?

Because the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project utilizes federal funding, it must follow the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. This process allows transportation officials to make project decisions that balance engineering and transportation needs with social, economic and natural environmental factors, such as noise, air quality and traffic patterns. During the process, a wide range of stakeholders, including the public, businesses, interest groups and agencies at all levels of government, provide input into project and environmental decisions.

The environmental study for the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project is formally called an Environmental Assessment (EA). The intent is to ensure that the appropriate criteria and environmental factors are considered and made available for public input and comment during decision-making. The EA evaluates the benefits and impacts of two alternatives: one in which the project would move forward as planned, and one in which the project would not be built.

Once the EA is formally submitted to FHWA, they will review it along with public comment prior to developing the NEPA decision document. Following this process, technical information and public comment will inform future project design. Design would then begin in spring 2019 and construction could begin in 2023.



ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REVIEW AND COMMENT PERIOD

The environmental findings will be published in the project's Environmental Assessment at the end of January 2019, followed by a 30-day public comment period. The environmental study describes why the project is being proposed and examines the project's potential social, economic and environmental impacts including:

- Transportation
- Air Quality
- Climate Change
- Noise
- Resources
- Archeological
- Hazardous Materials
- Historic Resources
- Land Use
- Parks
- Socioeconomics
- Water Resources
- Environmental Justice
- Right of Way
- Utilities

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WAYS TO REVIEW AND COMMENT ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT



To review the Environmental Assessment after it is published in early in 2019, visit www.i5RoseQuarter.org to download the document or view a list of locations where paper copies are available. Information is available in alternative formats upon request.

Once the Environmental Assessment is published in early 2019, ODOT will provide notice of the 30-day review and comment period. Sign up to receive an email notification on the project website. There are many ways to provide your input during the 30-day comment period:



ONLINE OPEN HOUSE OR PROJECT WEBSITE
 anticipated late January 2019 at www.i5RoseQuarter.org



IN-PERSON OPEN HOUSE
 anticipated mid-February 2019



EMAIL
info@i5RoseQuarter.org



MAIL
 ODOT attention Megan Channell
 123 NW Flanders St.
 Portland, Oregon 97209



PHONE
 Leave a recorded verbal comment
 at (503) 423-3760

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY TIMELINE

