

Road maintenance moves to higher ground

Moving the Clackamas County Transportation Maintenance division operations out of a floodplain to a safer location to serve our community more efficiently and effectively.



Transportation Maintenance parking lot and vehicle shed during the 1996 floods.

July 2022

Maintaining our road system

Our 100-member team maintains the integrity and safety of 186 bridges, and 1,400 miles of county roads including shoulders, culverts, guardrails, traffic signals and signs. We operate the Canby Ferry and run the Adopt-A-Road program.

We're always on call to respond to weather conditions and emergencies to maintain safety on our roadways.

Where we're moving from

The Transportation Maintenance division has been protecting the traveling public on 20 acres (about 10 acres of usable land) at 902 Abernethy since at least 1903. The property houses four buildings, a repair shop, material stockpiles, vehicles and equipment.

The property sits in a floodplain, presenting a risk to public safety response as we saw in the 1996 floods.

Where we're moving to

Since the 1996 flood, county leaders have been investigating opportunities to move our road maintenance operations to a safer, more environmentally-reliable location to serve our community for our daily operations and in times of emergency.

Basic location details:

- 11-acre site
- 19314 S Beaver Creek Road, Oregon City near Clackamas Community College
- Staff and operations will move to site in winter 2022
- County services onsite will include Transportation Maintenance and Fleet Services

Community benefits

- Maintain a central location with access to rural and urban areas of the county.
- Structures built to modern seismic standards on a hill near bedrock rather than in a floodplain.
- Improved resilience for our first responders to attend to community needs during a flood, landslide, earthquake or other emergency efficiently and effectively.
- Preparing building for solar arrays on roof.
- Additional improvements brought to the area to open development for employment lands including signal improvements and construction of a roadway to future commercial business in Oregon City.
- The Abernethy site will be developed and return to the tax rolls of Oregon City.

Project funding

\$34 million for property and building comes from:

- \$20 million bond with annual debt service less than \$1.3 million annually. Of that \$1.3 million, \$300,000 will be covered by Fleet Services and \$1 million will be paid by Transportation Maintenance with the State Highway Fund over 20 years. This \$1 million contribution is less than 3.5% of our state highway revenues.
- No Community Road Fund/vehicle registration fees will be used.