



# NOTICE OF ROAD WORK

## OR Highway 11 road restriping - Milton-Freewater

Travelers are cautioned to watch for traffic pattern changes and parking restriction along Oregon Highway 11 on August 1 and 2 in downtown Milton-Freewater. ODOT crews and their contractors will be removing the existing highway striping and repainting new lines between SE 14<sup>h</sup> Street and SW 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. The new striping will transform the existing 4-lane route into three lanes, with one lane each direction, a dedicated turn lane in the middle, and two bike paths added on each side next to existing parking. ODOT requested the changes in order to **improve safety for motorists and pedestrians**, especially school children walking to/from the new K-3<sup>rd</sup> Gib Olinger grade school constructed one block off of Oregon Highway 11.

Construction Impacts/parking restrictions: Motorists and pedestrians can expect lane closures and parking restrictions during daytime and evening on August 1 and 2, plus minor impacts for painting of new legends that could continue through August 6. Cones and signs will be set out August 1 to block parking and channel traffic through the work zones. Visitors to the downtown area are advised to use alternate routes if possible and park on side streets in the work zone on August 1 and 2. The parking restrictions are expected to be lifted by August 3. No work is anticipated on August 3, 4 or 5. Please also try to avoid driving on newly painted lines.



Slow down, get used to new traffic patterns: The transformation from four lanes to three lanes will take some getting used to. Motorists and pedestrians are advised to pay extra attention as everyone becomes accustom to the safety enhancements. In the transition areas between the old and new lane configurations watch for turn restrictions, left turn only or right turn only direction arrows, and other modifications. Allow extra space in front and behind. Be extra mindful of pedestrian/bicycle traffic.

New school zone: ODOT will re-establish the school zone and install advance signage. The new school zone speed signs will have flashing beacons to improve visibility.

Proven safety enhancement: ODOT, the city of Milton-Freewater and the school district worked together on this program. Similar projects in other communities have resulted in slower traffic speeds, safer crosswalks, increased visibility for all system users and a reduction in the severity of injuries when a crash occurs.

Project info: ODOT is coordinating the work and repainting the lines and legends, with stripe removal performed by Specialized Pavement Marking, Inc. Total cost of the project is around \$150,000. Some of the work is being performed at nighttime to reduce the impacts to businesses and travelers in the area. All work on the project, including striping, new signage and other changes are expected to be completed by mid-August. The city is investigating additional safety enhancements which may be added in the future, as funding becomes available.

The city of Milton-Freewater and the Oregon Department of Transportation appreciate your patience during construction activities and while everyone becomes familiar with the new lane configurations.

For more information contact Dan Fine at 541-963-1562 or Paul Howland at 541-278-6044 (ODOT), or Brian Steadman 541-938-8272 (Milton-Freewater Public Works).