

**US 97 Bend North Corridor Project
Deschutes County, Oregon
ODOT Key Number: 14020
Federal-Aid Number: S004(112)
Draft Environmental Impact Statement
and Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation**

Submitted Pursuant to 42 USC 4332 (2)(c) and where applicable, 49 USC 303
by US Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)



Robert Bryant, ODOT Region 4 Manager



Phillip A. Ditzler, FHWA Division Administrator

07-12-11

Date of Approval

7-13-11

Date of Approval

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The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) propose to improve a segment of US 97 in Deschutes County, Oregon between the Deschutes Market Road/Tumalo Junction interchange and the Empire Avenue interchange. The project area consists of an approximate six-mile corridor. The build alternatives studied for the project would reroute US 97, from just north of Cooley Road to approximately Empire Avenue, east of its current alignment, adjacent to the existing railroad tracks. For this segment, the current US 97 roadway would become a local arterial; an extension of 3rd Street. A new interchange would be constructed in the northern portion of the corridor, near Bowery Lane. The estimated costs for the build alternatives include right of way acquisition and construction costs and range from \$170–\$220 million. Construction is planned to begin in 2014.

The primary beneficial impacts from the proposed action would be reducing traffic congestion, improving traffic flow, and enhancing public safety on US 97 between the Deschutes Market Road/Tumalo Junction interchange and the Empire Avenue interchange. Adverse impacts on the environment would include the conversion of approximately 131–180 acres of land to highway use; displacement of approximately 43–51 businesses and 13–19 residences; removal of one historic resource; and creation of 84–93 acres of new impervious surfaces.

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TO THOSE WHO HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE:

Dated: July 29, 2011

All comments must be
submitted within 45 days -
September 12, 2011.

**US 97 Bend North Corridor Project
Draft Environmental Impact Statement and
Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation
Deschutes County, Oregon
ODOT Key Number: 14020
Federal-Aid Number: S004(112)**

Thank you for your interest in the proposed US 97 Bend North Corridor Project.

The Federal Highway Administration and Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT, applicant) have completed the **Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)** and **Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation** for the proposed action, which is attached for your review and comment.

In accordance with 23 CFR 771.123(i), comments shall be submitted in writing to the applicant or the Administration within 45 days of the availability of the Draft EIS unless the Administration determines, for good cause, that a different period is warranted. Thus we request your reply **within 45 days** of the date at the top of this letter. If no comments are received, it will be assumed that you do not wish to comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation.

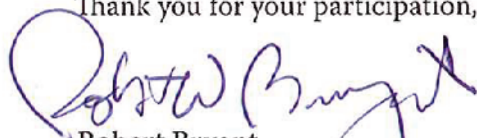
Please mail or email your comments to:

Amy Pfeiffer, Environmental Project Manager
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63030 O.B. Riley Road
Bend, OR 97701
Amy.L.Pfeiffer@odot.state.or.us

A public hearing in accordance with 23 CFR 771.111(h) will be held for this project. The location, date, and time for the public hearing are shown on the cover of this document. An open house, displaying maps and pertinent information to answer your questions about the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation, will accompany the public hearing. Opportunities for formal testimony (oral and/or written) will be provided. Although you are encouraged to attend the public hearing, it is not required. You may submit your comments directly to ODOT as indicated above.

If you have questions or need additional information concerning the proposed project, please contact **Amy Pfeiffer**, ODOT Environmental Project Manager at: (541) 388-6052.

Thank you for your participation,


Robert Bryant
ODOT Region 4 Manager

Notice of Document Availability

This Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation is available for review at the following locations:

Deschutes County Public Library:

Downtown Bend Branch

601 NW Wall Street
Bend, Oregon 97701

East Bend Branch

62080 Dean Swift Road
Bend, OR 97701

La Pine Branch

16425 1st Street
La Pine, OR 97739

Redmond Branch

827 SW Deschutes Avenue
Redmond, OR 97756

Sisters Branch

110 N Cedar Street
Sisters, OR 97759

Federal Highway Administration Oregon Division

530 Center Street NE, Suite 420
Salem, Oregon 97301

Oregon State Library

250 Winter Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301-3950

Oregon Department of Transportation Geo-Environmental Section

355 Capitol Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

These documents are also available on the project website:

www.us97solutions.org

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Distribution List**

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List of Acronyms

Acronym	Term
APE	Area of Potential Effects
API	Area of Potential Impact
BNSF	BNSF Railway Company
Btu	British Thermal Unit
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980
CETAS	Collaborative Environmental and Transportation Agreement for Streamlining
CO	Carbon Monoxide
dBA	Decibels Adjusted
DEQ	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Endangered Species Act
GIS	Geographic Information System
MPO	Metropolitan Planning Organization
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NO ₂	Nitrogen Dioxide
O ₃	Ozone
OAR	Oregon Administrative Rules
ODOT	Oregon Department of Transportation
ORS	Oregon Revised Statutes
Pb	Lead
PCB	Polychlorinated biphenyl
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976
SAFETEA-LU	Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy For Users
Section 4(f)	Section 4(f) of the US Department of Transportation Act of 1966
Section 6(f)	Section 6(f) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965
SO ₂	Sulfur Dioxide
T&E	Threatened and Endangered
TDM	Transportation Demand Management
TSM	Transportation System Management
UGB	Urban Growth Boundary
USC	United States Code
USGS	United States Geological Survey
v/c	Volume to Capacity

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