

Hamilton Delivers First ODOT CM/GC Project Four Months Early and \$12 Million Under Budget



Victor Mendez

"One other thing that excites me about this bridge is the innovative Construction Manager General Contractor (CM-GC) process by which it was built. This approach gets the contractor involved early in the process to help avoid problems down the road. Thanks to CM-GC, ODOT is delivering the bridge and its many benefits significantly ahead of schedule."

So, well done, Oregon! Thanks for showing the nation how to put innovation to work."

—Victor Mendez, Administrator, Federal Highway Administration,

Amidst an outpouring of community affection, congratulations from public dignitaries from across the country, and high profile media coverage, the northbound structure of the I-5 Willamette River Bridge was dedicated the last week in July. Going forward the project will be known as the Whilmut Passage Bridge in honor of the Kalapuya tribes who originally inhabited this area. Whilmut means "where the river ripples and runs fast".

Time and again special thanks went out to the Hamilton crews who did the work on the bridge

these past five years. Twelve elected public officials including Oregon Congressman Peter DeFazio, Federal Highway Administrator Victor Mendez, ODOT Director Matthew Garrett, mayors, and state senators – all proclaimed the project a complete and total success.

Then, at a public celebration during the last Saturday in July, more than a thousand people showed up to climb the stairs and enjoy the last opportunity to walk on the NB bridge before its scheduled opening to vehicle traffic on August 8.

Most notably, this project—the largest in ODOT history—was completed four months ahead of schedule and \$12 million under budget. Innovations in design and construction make this project a standout in all ways. ■



A WRB public appreciation day in July gave hundreds of bicyclists the last opportunity to enjoy an up-close glimpse of the Lillian Pitt sculpture between the NB and SB bridges which honors the Native American culture of the region.



Hamilton Project Managers, Federal Highway Administrator Victor Mendez, and members of the Kalapuya tribe who performed at the dedication.



More than a thousand citizens lined up in anticipation of walking on the northbound bridge during the WRB public celebration.



Westmoreland Project Moves Ahead On Schedule

A tight spot: within inches of heavy traffic, Hamilton crews lift and place the new three sided precast arch bridges at Tacoma St. Value engineering at this location was one example of how Hamilton has found ways to finish all the necessary work during the in-water work window.

Hamilton's crews are putting in some long hours at Westmoreland Park in Southeast Portland this summer in order to make sure work is completed during a tight six week in-water work window on this habitat restoration and bridge building job for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and ultimate owner, City of Portland. According to Project Manager Chris VanderPloeg, work is on schedule after a challenging start up, Hamilton has managed the diversion of Crystal Springs in order to remove concrete

curbing and tons of muck to make way for clean topsoil, nearly 15,000 native plants, placement of gravel riffles and woody debris that will improve the habitat for native salmon in the creek. ■



Large pumps with special noise dampening features work 24/7 to quietly pull water from Crystal Springs into diversion pipes.



When Hamilton's work is done, the park will also offer new amenities for human inhabitants as well as urban wildlife. Pictured here Levi Niemann (left) and Carlos Torres work on handrail that will be incorporated into more than 2,500 feet of new boardwalks and paths that will allow people to better view the re-established creek and wetlands.



Brad Sullivan and PM Chris VanderPloeg survey the stream diversion channel at the site of the former Duck Pond.