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Clark County projects inject \$37 million into local economy

Clark County construction projects planned for this year to improve county roads and build new parks will inject an estimated \$37 million into the local economy, according to Clark County commissioner **Marc Boldt**.

“This is a big year for major road and bridge improvements and new parks development,” says Public Works director **Pete Capell**. “Local contractors are doing most of this work, so our projects also help support family-wage, private construction jobs and related services in Southwest Washington.”

Funding for these projects come from a variety of sources including state and federal grants, impact fees and real estate excise taxes for parks, and the county road fund. This latter source includes the county share of gas tax revenues, transportation impact fees on new construction, and a portion of local property taxes.

Demolition of the old Kline Bridge this past week to make way for a new structure is the most visible current project. This \$9.2 million job employs several Clark County firms. Project funding comes primarily from a federal bridge replacement grant.

Work began last year on major road improvement projects on St. Johns Road and Northeast 72nd Avenue. Public Works expects to pay out an additional \$10.3 million this year to complete those jobs. Work will also be completed this summer on a major stream improvement project along Curtin Creek south of Northeast 119th Street. The county expects to spend about \$2 million during 2008 on this effort to better manage stormwater runoff in the area.

The county contracted recently to build four neighborhood parks in unincorporated Clark County this summer. These combined projects will cost about \$1.3 million. These projects are cooperative ventures with the Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Department. Public Works also opened bids this week on a \$6.0 million major road improvement project along N.E. 88th Street between St. Johns and N.E. Andresen roads.

Advance ticket bargains being offered for August county fair

Advance discount tickets are being offered on-line by the Clark County Fair that runs from Friday, Aug. 1 through Sunday, Aug. 10. Advance tickets must be purchased by July 31.

Adult one-day passes are \$7, senior passes \$5 and children's passes \$4.

All-day carnival wristbands are being offered at \$22 each. Thirty-coupon ride books are being offered for \$15 each.

Fabulous four-packs, two adult admissions, two children's admission are being sold for \$20 each.

The summer sizzle package, \$64.00 each, admits two adults, two children and includes two unlimited ride wristbands.

To order tickets, go to https://v2.interactiveticketing.com/tickets/t178_clark_county_fair_080514e141/form_buy_tickets.php?step=intro

Construction on northbound connection to I-205 at Mill Plain Boulevard to start

Construction will begin on the Mill Plain Boulevard, NE 112th Avenue I-205 connection with a ground breaking ceremony at 11 a.m., Wednesday, May 28, just south of Oscar's Bar and Grill, 400 NE 112th Avenue.

When completed, the new ramp is projected to reduce delays around the intersection of Mill Plain Boulevard and Chkalov Drive and at the northbound I-205 off ramp to Mill Plain Boulevard by 50 percent during peak travel times by year 2020. This addition will give drivers a direct connection to NE 112th Avenue, completely bypassing Mill Plain Boulevard.

Demos annual Jefferson-Jackson Dinner is Sunday, June 22

The annual Clark County Democrat's Jefferson-Jackson Day dinner and auction is from 4 to 8 p.m. Sunday, June 22, in the Hilton Vancouver Washington.

Invited speakers are as follows: Gov. **Chris Gregoire**, U.S. Sen. **Maria Cantwell**, U.S. Sen. **Patty Murray** and U.S. Rep. **Brian Baird** (D-3rd).

Tickets range from \$60 to \$250 each. For further information, call **Temple Lentz**, 798-0043.

WSDOT's free map available

The Washington State Department of Transportation has published 800,000 road maps of the state, each of which is free by going to www.wsdot.wa.gov/publications, or by calling (360)-7 05-7279.

The Washington State map, produced by WSDOT's nationally recognized cartographer **Mark Bozanich**, is unlike any map you can get anywhere.

"We produce the only map that is all Washington. Other maps link us with Oregon and therefore have smaller print, fewer icons, less detailed city information," said Bozanich.

The map lists Amtrak routes, all 281 cities and their populations, twelve city insets.

People

Jona Ensley, Washougal High School and **Jaimee Johnson**, Camas High School are this year's recipients of the Camas-Washougal Chamber College Scholarships.

Thursday on the air

Clark County Land Use Hearings (live)—6 p.m. CVTV

Tucson at Portland Beavers (live)—7 p.m. FSN, KKAD

Vancouver Green Ribbon Panel (5/16)—11 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the Weather

Greg Flakus back at the old stand. <> **Jeanne Kojis** pumping out promotional material. <> **Jim Caley** offering help. <> **Jack Allemang** responding promptly. <> **Betsy Williams** completes huge project. <> **Thursday**, morning showers, 50-60. **Friday**, afternoon light showers, 54-66. **Saturday**, scattered showers, 56-75.