

Transportation Road Engineering

December 11, 2024

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Multnomah County
Road Engineering

Overview

- **Road Engineering Program Overview**
- **Stark St Bridge Emergency Repair**
- **Future Stark St Bridge Plans**
- **Questions**



Road Engineering Program Overview

- **Lance Introduction**
- **[About our Road Program](#)**
 - *Design, construction and engineering of county roads are provided by the Road Capital Improvement Program. Maintenance and operation are provided by the Road Maintenance Program, and our clean water responsibilities are managed by the Water Quality Program.*
- Find out what we're doing this week that might affect your travel or your local roads by checking out our [This week in Roads](#)



Road Engineering Program Overview

- **Future projects/work**
 - **Gordon Creek Rd Culvert Replacement - Now**
 - **257th Safety Improvements - Starts Jan 2025**
 - **ADA project - Now**
 - **East County signal upgrades - 2025**
 - **Germantown Rd speed feedback signs - 2025**
 - **223rd Safe Routes to School project - 2026**
 - **Signal replacements - 2026**

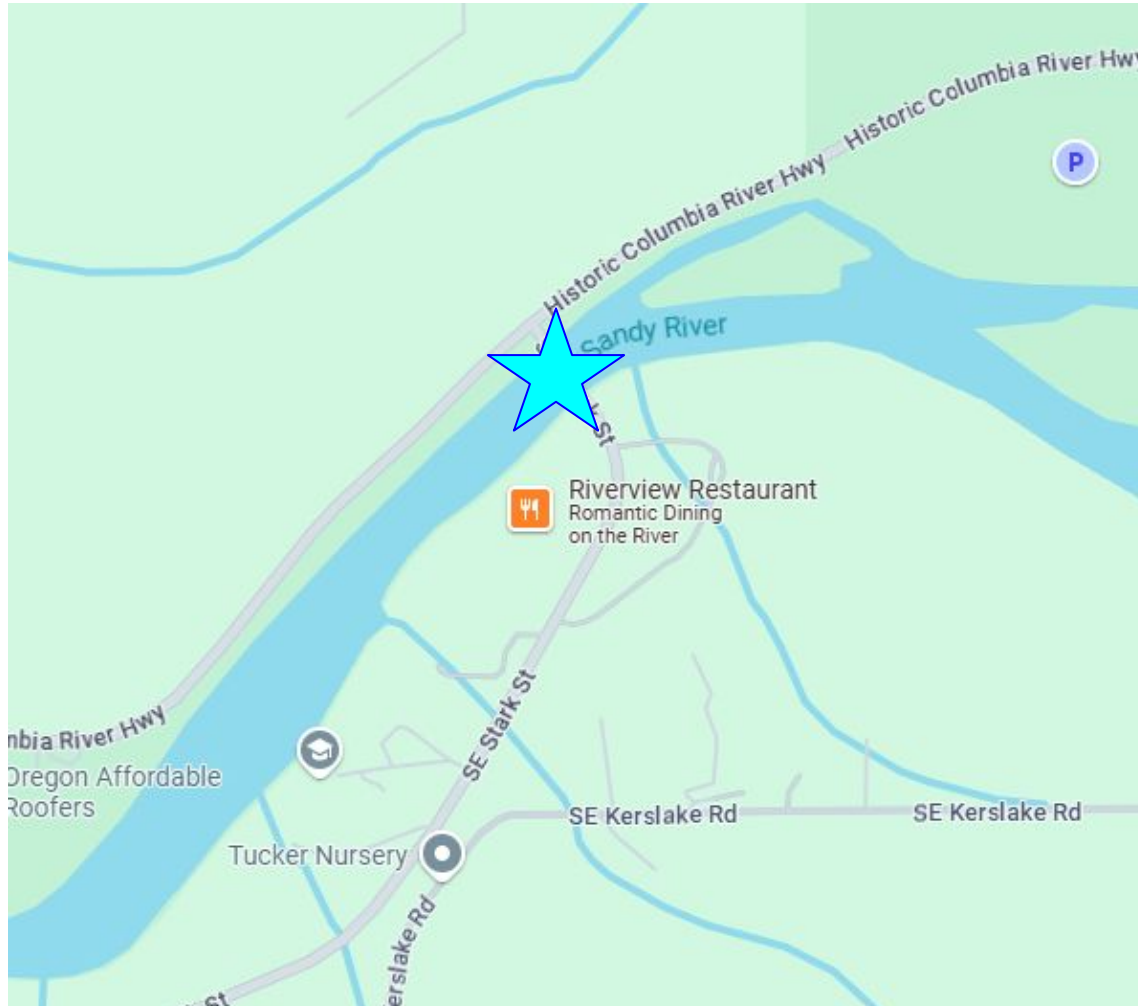


About the Stark St. Bridge

- One of the oldest steel truss highway bridges in Oregon
- A critical link across the Sandy River from East Multnomah County to communities in the Gorge such as Corbett and Springdale



Stark St Bridge Emergency Repair



Damage Background

- The barrier on the road approach has been hit multiple times throughout the years
 - Large trucks and cars have hit and even gotten stuck on this stone barrier while turning from the Historic Columbia River Highway (HCRH) onto the Stark Street Bridge
 - County maintenance has fixed the damaged barrier throughout the years



Damage Background

- Sept 17, 2024- The repeated damage to the barrier caused the stacked stone wall below to fail and structurally compromised the approach



After the failure

- The County started work the minute the bridge wall collapse was discovered and has been working non-stop with engineers, biologists, historical resource experts and a contractor to evaluate the situation and figure out the best way to repair the bridge.
- Multnomah County Board of Commissioners declared the failure an emergency.
- This allowed us to expedite our procurement of David Evans and Associates for engineering design and acquire Goodfellow Bros for the construction of the repair



Why did the County close the whole bridge?

- Since it was built on round rock, it was unsafe to only repair the one side or leave a portion of the bridge open for traffic.
- The other side of the approach also has some signs of failure and the County did not want to risk the public's safety.



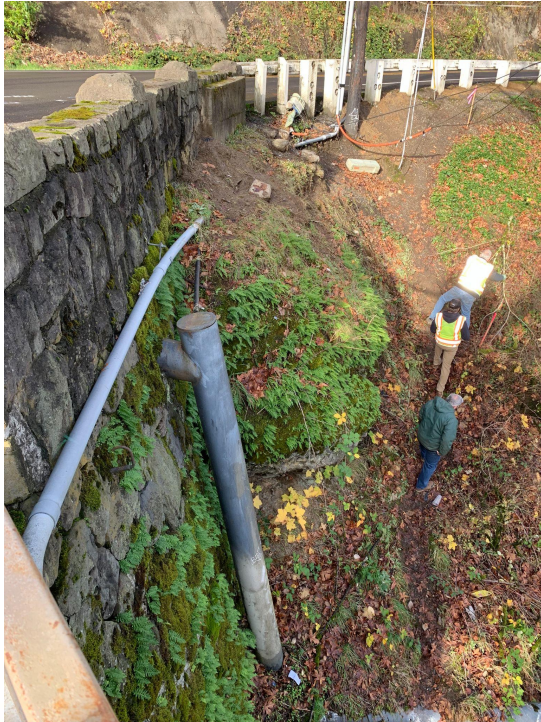
Permitting

- Since the bridge is located in the National Scenic Area and the historic nature of the site, County Transportation is working with the following agencies on acquiring permits for emergency work:
 - State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)
 - Archaeologist will be on-site during excavation
 - ODOT Traffic Control Permit
 - Any work on the Historic Columbia River Hwy has to be approved and permitted by ODOT
 - Multnomah County Land Use



Utility relocation - completed

- Gas - shut down and cut out of the way
- Water - shut down and cut out of the way
- Communications - pulled out of the way
- Power lines - relocated/raised
- Street light - raised



Schedule

- ODOT approved the Traffic Control Plan to begin installing temporary signal and signs on the highway (12/8)
- Our contractor, Goodfellow Bros (12/9) started delivering traffic control items to the site and are working to close one lane of the highway today (12/11)
- Excavation should start the week of December 16th
- Per the contractors schedule, the work is slated to be completed by 3/10/2025.
- While work on the guardrail and barriers occur, early opening and access of the bridge is possible (Winter 2025)



Future of Stark St Bridge

- The County was already working on the preliminary steps to replace or significantly rehabilitate the bridge because of its condition and lack of capacity.
- The County has completed a study on the anticipated permitting process which can take over a year to complete and includes design requirements, construction requirements and reporting requirements.
- County hopes to do this work in 10-15 years.

