

County rejects all bids for intersection project

TILLAMOOK — County commissioners signed an order June 6, rejecting bids for the Long Prairie Road/U.S. 101 intersection improvement project.

Last May the lowest of two received bids for this project was 37 percent over the engineer's estimate.

"Local agencies in the county are having quite a challenge with recent high bids for public improvement and capital projects," said Pat Oakes, engineering project supervisor at Tillamook County Public Works.

He added, "The county and the state still want the project to move forward. Currently the Road Department is pursuing possible Economic Development grant funds to make up an approximate shortfall of \$500,000 for this project."

Simultaneously, the Oregon Department of Transportation (Region 2) is reviewing its budgets for opportunities to help fill the shortfall, he said.

The project was originally funded entirely with an Oregon Transportation Investment Act (OTIA) grant award. Due to


added project requirements, ODOT has already come up with an additional \$342,000 prior to the bid opening in May.

Oakes said the county anticipates an application being submitted to Oregon Economic Community Development in the coming weeks.

"The county and ODOT look forward to hopefully rebidding a fully funded project this next Winter for construction work during summer 2008," Oakes said. "This project adds a west-bound right-turn lane to Long Prairie Road and provides for lane improvements to U.S. 101, including a new traffic warning signal over the intersection."

Once this is completed, he said, it will aid in moving traffic through this busy intersection.

TP FREIG



TILLAMOOK
2703 Thurston
Tillamook, OR
(503) 842-5588
1-800-558-5588

PORTLAND
1830 SE Commercial
Portland, OR
(503) 233-5588
1-800-521-5588