



MULTNOMAH COUNTY OREGON

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New markings will help pedestrians and bicyclists share Hawthorne Bridge sidewalks

New markings will be painted on sidewalks of the Hawthorne Bridge next week in an effort to reduce conflicts between pedestrians and bicyclists. Painters will apply the markings November 21 – 23, weather permitting. Both bridge sidewalks will remain open during the work, but sidewalk users may experience brief delays.

The Hawthorne Bridge sidewalks are extremely popular with bicyclists and pedestrians. Conflicts can occur when bicyclists attempt to navigate around other users. All users (bicyclists and pedestrians) need to be alert to everyone on the sidewalks.

On a sloped portion of the north sidewalk on the westbound SE Madison Avenue ramp approaching the bridge, a line will be painted down the center of the sidewalk to separate bicyclists and pedestrians. The line will direct pedestrians to use the outer portion of the sidewalk and bicyclists to use the road side of the sidewalk. The potential for higher bicycle speeds on this segment of the sidewalk warrants the installation of these improvements to provide a safer environment for all users.

These sidewalk improvements were recommended by consensus of a special Bridge Advisory Committee comprised of bicyclists, pedestrians and transportation planners that met several times this year to study and advise of ways to improve safety on the Hawthorne Bridge sidewalks. Multnomah County accepted the recommendations of the Bridge Advisory Committee and has directed these improvements to be installed.

Multnomah County maintains the Hawthorne Bridge and more than 350 miles of roads and bridges.

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