



Bingen Point Road To Get Facelift

Bingen, Washington – The Port of Klickitat is preparing to make significant repairs to approximately 2,000 lineal feet of Marina Way east of the Maple Street intersection. This section of Marina Way has been deteriorating for many years and suffers from a number of problems such as settlement, rutting, and linear, edge, and fatigue cracking. In many areas, these have led to near-total failure of the asphalt.

“The Commission asked staff to research repair alternatives, taking into account the future change to the elevation of the road and the financial constraints of the Port,” said Marc Thornsby, the Port’s Executive Director. “We looked at discrete skin patches, a full overlay, and a full-depth repair.”

A full-depth repair would have required that the existing asphalt be removed, the sub-grade repaired, and a new asphalt road paved in its place. This would have resulted in a much longer road closure and detour as well as an estimated construction cost over twice that of a full overlay. “That would have been the best and longest lasting choice,” added Thornsby. “However, the increased time and cost, combined with the expectation that future fill work on nearby properties will bury the road in ten to fifteen years, led us to eliminate it from consideration.”

Taking into account the costs and benefits of the remaining alternatives, the Port Commission chose a full overlay based on the extent of the current damage, the need to correct drainage problems, and the substantially longer anticipated life (ten to twelve years) provided by a full overlay. Expected to begin in mid-September, the project will place an asphalt overlay between one and three inches thick over the entire width of the existing road. A few of the worst areas will likely see extra work done in preparation for the overlay including cut-and-patch and the application of geotextile material.

To prepare for the project, Port personnel have begun removing the row of trees closest to the roadway at the east end of the project and will be working west over the next few weeks. “We’ve been reluctant to take them out,” said Port Maintenance Supervisor Josh Mead, “but they were originally planted too close to the asphalt. As a result, there isn’t room to construct the bioswale needed to drain water away from the road and prevent it from further weakening the sub-grade. Not only that, the tree crowns and roots are encroaching into the roadway from above and below, creating other problems.”

At A Glance...

Who:.....Port of Klickitat

What:.....Marina Way Paving

When:.....July 24, 2013

Where:.....Bingen Point

Quick Facts:..One to three inch thick asphalt overlay will be applied to nearly 2,000 lineal feet of Marina Way east of the Maple St. intersection. Some existing trees will be removed to improve safety and drainage.

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Combined with the work performed earlier in the year, this project brings the last of the Port's paved road surfaces up to current standards. Between 2010 and the end of 2013, the Port will have replaced most of the former Harbor Drive, removed the old traffic circle, replaced part of Bingen Point Way, relocated a section of Marina Way, and resurfaced most of the remainder of Marina Way. "It will be nice to have our roads back in shape," said Thornsbery, "but drivers need to remember that the posted speed limits aren't just suggestions. Law enforcement officers are authorized to cite drivers that exceed any speed limit on Port property."

About the Port of Klickitat

Economic development, transportation, and marine-based recreation are key functions of the Port of Klickitat. These are achieved through leasing industrial-zoned property, developing and renting industrial and commercial facilities, developing and maintaining rail spurs and dock facilities, assisting companies with an interest in locating in Klickitat County, creating and managing marine-based recreational facilities, and working closely with various partner organizations and agencies.

The Port of Klickitat is located in Klickitat County, Washington and was created in 1944. It is one of several port authorities located in the mid-Columbia region. It owns two industrial parks and several buildings, leases industrial property and space, operates a barge dock, and holds property set aside for a park and marina. Transportation access is provided via rail, river barge, highways 14, 35, and 197, and Interstate 84. More information can be found on the Port's web site at www.portofklickitat.com.

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