

**From:** [Marianne Fitzgerald](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#); [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Commissioner Mapps](#); [Commissioner Rubio](#); [Commissioner Ryan Office](#)  
**Cc:** [Warner, Chris](#); [Szigethy, Steven](#); [Cawley, Wendy](#); [Nate Scott](#); [Chris Lyons](#); [Katherine Christensen](#); [Tony Hansen](#); [Frederiksen, Joan](#)  
**Subject:** City Council Agenda Item 70, IGA between PBOT and ODOT, February 2, 2022 City Council agenda  
**Date:** Monday, January 31, 2022 10:25:34 AM  
**Attachments:** [Barbur Crossroads Construction Mailer Nov 2021.pdf](#)

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Dear Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners Hardesty, Mapps, Rubio and Ryan:

The project described in City Council Agenda Item 70, February 2, 2022 City Council Agenda, seems like a small project on the Consent Agenda. In reality, it is the Portland Bureau of Transportation's portion of a much larger (over \$3 million) Oregon Department of Transportation project <https://www.oregon.gov/odot/projects/pages/project-details.aspx?project=20438>, euphemistically called "Barbur Crossroads Safety Project" when we in the community doubt it will improve safety for people walking and biking in the West Portland Town Center. PBOT's portion of the project is window dressing to mitigate ODOT's project that changes motor vehicle traffic circulation and adds a motor vehicle travel lane in a way that will place more people in harm's way and impede access to the Barbur World Foods grocery store.

Since ODOT first unveiled this project in 2017 many people in the community expressed serious concerns and have tried to stop this project from moving forward. If it isn't possible to stop this project, please amend the ordinance and IGA and add a directive: "The Director of PBOT shall monitor the safety data in the vicinity of this project and report to the community on an annual basis. If the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists becomes more compromised, or if access to the Barbur World Foods grocery is impeded, PBOT shall work with ODOT to re-evaluate the project and determine immediate and long term solutions that will make it safer to walk and bike within the West Portland Town Center and access the grocery store."

ODOT's "Barbur Crossroads" Jughandle project (see attached flyer) will prohibit motor vehicles from making left turns from NB SW Capitol Highway onto SW Barbur Blvd. and Interstate-5, and reroute motor vehicle traffic onto PBOT roadways and sections of SW Barbur Blvd. that already have serious traffic safety issues (see data below). As far as I know, neither PBOT nor ODOT has committed to monitoring and evaluating the traffic safety data related to this project.

According to PBOT's Vision Zero data, in the vicinity of ODOT's Jughandle project, more people have been seriously injured or killed while walking and biking in the project area than while traveling in motor vehicles. PBOT must collect and report traffic safety data, focusing on pedestrian and bicyclist safety, in the vicinity of the following intersections that are affected by the ODOT's Jughandle project, including alternate routes recommended by ODOT. Here's the information I collected informally from PBOT's Vision Zero website (2010-2019 data).

SW Barbur at SW Capitol Highway and I-5 on-ramp (also known as "Crossroads"): 1 death while walking; 3 serious injuries while walking; 4 serious injuries in vehicles.  
SW Taylors Ferry at SW Capitol Highway and I-5 off-ramp: 2 serious injuries while walking.  
SW Taylors Ferry Road at SW 41st and SW Barbur: 2 serious injuries while walking; 3 serious injuries while biking, 1 serious injury in vehicles.  
SW Barbur and SW Huber: 2 serious injuries while walking; 1 serious injury in vehicles.  
SW Capitol Highway and SW Huber: 1 serious injury while walking; 1 serious injury while biking.  
SW Capitol Highway and SW Pomona: 1 serious injury while walking.  
SW Spring Garden and SW Dolph: 1 serious injury while walking; 1 serious injury in vehicles.  
SW Barbur at SW 30th: 1 death while walking, 2 serious injuries while walking.  
SW Barbur at SW 60th: 2 serious injuries in vehicles.  
SW Barbur at SW 64th: 2 serious injuries in vehicles.

Traffic safety improvements are core to the success of the draft West Portland Town Center plan and this traffic safety data worries me. If ODOT's new traffic pattern causes pedestrian and bicyclist safety conditions to worsen, or impedes access to Barbur World Foods grocery, PBOT and ODOT must correct the situation swiftly. With the additional motor vehicle traffic going through Crossroads, the "pedestrian plaza" will not be very healthy. Without bike lanes through Crossroads, bicyclists will be using the new "sidewalks" or taking the lane. City Council needs to know that while it is true that the "sidewalk" funded through the IGA is the more popular element of the project, the project itself is not popular and will not help Portland achieve its traffic safety or climate goals.

Thank you for considering the addition of a safety directive to this ordinance and IGA and make the West Portland Town Center a safer place to walk and bike to Barbur World Foods, the Barbur Transit Center, and other shops and services nearby.

Sincerely,  
Marianne Fitzgerald  
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Portland, OR 97219  
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# BARBUR CROSSROADS SAFETY PROJECT

## Construction Begins in November 2021



### About the project

The Oregon Department of Transportation is getting ready to start construction on a project to improve safety and reduce crashes in the Barbur crossroads area where SW Barbur Blvd, SW Capitol Hwy and SW Taylors Ferry Rd meet.

#### Project elements include:

- Updated, accessible sidewalk curb ramps on eight corners in the project area.
- New pedestrian countdown signals at the Barbur intersections with Taylors Ferry Rd and Capitol Hwy.
- Wider sidewalk on the east side of Capitol Hwy between Barbur Blvd and Taylors Ferry Rd.
- A right turn only lane for eastbound traffic on Taylors Ferry Rd approaching Barbur Blvd.
- Removing the option to turn left from SW Capitol Hwy (northbound) onto SW Barbur Blvd or the I-5 south on-ramp.
- New green bicycle markings on Barbur Blvd through the intersection with Taylors Ferry Rd, at the entrance to Barbur Transit Center, and across Capitol Hwy.



### Safety Improvements

- Improved Sidewalk
- New Right Turn Only Lane
- ..... New Bicycle Markings
- ← Prohibited Left Turns

(Not shown on map: accessible sidewalk curb ramps at all three intersections and pedestrian countdown signals at two intersections.)

### Project schedule and information

Construction begins in November 2021 and we expect it to continue until summer 2022.

To keep up to date with project news, visit:

**[bit.ly/barburcrossroads](https://bit.ly/barburcrossroads)**

### Expect construction impacts in the area

If you travel in the Barbur crossroads area, expect traffic impacts, construction noise, and possible delays during construction, including:

- Regular lane closures on Barbur Blvd, Capitol Hwy and Taylors Ferry Rd.
- 24/7 right lane, right turn or shoulder closures for up to a week at a time during concrete pouring and curing.
- Some limited road closures up to 20 minutes for signal work or sign installation.
- Some limited nighttime ramp closures on the I-5 ramps in the area for sign replacement.
- Nighttime noise. **For nighttime noise concerns, call 503-276-7812.**

Traffic impacts will change throughout construction as crews complete different activities. Check the project website or **TripCheck.com** to know what to expect as you plan your trips.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

QUESTIONS?  
CONTACT:

Hope Estes, ODOT Community Affairs  
503-731-4812 or [hope.estes@odot.state.or.us](mailto:hope.estes@odot.state.or.us)



## Safety Improvements Coming to Barbur Blvd.

[bit.ly/barburcrossroads](https://bit.ly/barburcrossroads)

For ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) or Civil Rights Title VI accommodations, translation/interpretation services, or more information call 503-731-4128, TTY 800-735-2900 or Oregon Relay Service 7-1-1.

Si desea obtener información sobre este proyecto traducida al español, sírvase llamar al 503-731-4128.

Qorshayaasha, adeegyada turjumaada/fasiraada, ama wixii macluumaad dheeraad ah ee ADA Title II ama Xuquuqda Madaniga Title VI wac 503-731-4128, TTY (800) 735-2900 ama isticmaal Adeegyada Gudbinta Wararka: 7-1-1.

للحصول على مرافق قانون المعوقين الجزء II أو الحقوق المدنية الجزء VI، أو خدمات الترجمة أو المزيد من المعلومات يرجى الاتصال بالرقم 503-731-4128، أو المبرقة الكاتبة 800-735-2900 أو استخدم خدمة المحول في أرجاء ولاية أوريغون على الرقم 711.

# BARBUR CROSSROADS SAFETY PROJECT

The Oregon Department of Transportation is getting ready to make changes in the area where Barbur Boulevard, Capitol Highway and Taylors Ferry Road meet in Southwest Portland.

This project will improve safety for travelers. It will change operations in the crossroads to ensure people who walk, roll, bike and drive are taking the safest paths available.

### Schedule

Construction begins in November 2021 and we expect it to continue until summer 2022. Find more detail about expected traffic impacts inside.

### Questions about the project? Contact:

Hope Estes, ODOT Community Affairs  
503-731-4812  
[hope.estes@odot.state.or.us](mailto:hope.estes@odot.state.or.us)

For more information on the project:  
[bit.ly/barburcrossroads](https://bit.ly/barburcrossroads)

To know before you go, visit:

**TripCheck.com**



**Construction  
starts soon  
near you**