

# Willamette River Crossing

## Eastside construction activities



The Willamette River Crossing project will deliver water to the west side of the river, even after an earthquake. The improvements we're making will enhance our water system's resilience and reduce future risks, ensuring safe and abundant water for generations to come.

### Work zones and construction phasing

Construction will occur in different segments on both sides of the river. Each segment requires different construction methods and traffic planning. Not all segments will be under construction at the same time.



**Area 1: Between the Willamette River and SE MLK Blvd construction activities include:**

- Winter 2023–Summer 2023**
  - Mobilizing at the PGE staging area between Portland Community College south parking lot and OMSI starting in winter 2023
  - Relocating power lines
  - Excavating the east-side shaft
  - Boring under the Willamette River to install pipe between the PGE site and South Waterfront Park
  - Installing and connecting the new pipe to the existing system using open cut construction at SE 3rd Avenue and SE Stephens Avenue
- Summer 2023–Winter 2024**
  - Relocating electrical panel
  - Installing pipe under the river towards downtown
  - Conducting ground improvements in the SE Water Avenue/OMSI parking area
  - Connecting pipe at SE 3rd Avenue and SE Stephens Street to the pipe under SE MLK Boulevard
  - Installing pipe using open-cut construction methods at SE Stephens Street from SE 2nd Avenue to SE MLK Boulevard
- Winter 2024–Summer 2024**
  - Receiving auger bore under rail line at SE 3rd Avenue and SE Stephens Avenue
  - Restoring site
  - Testing, sanitizing, and commissioning the new pipe

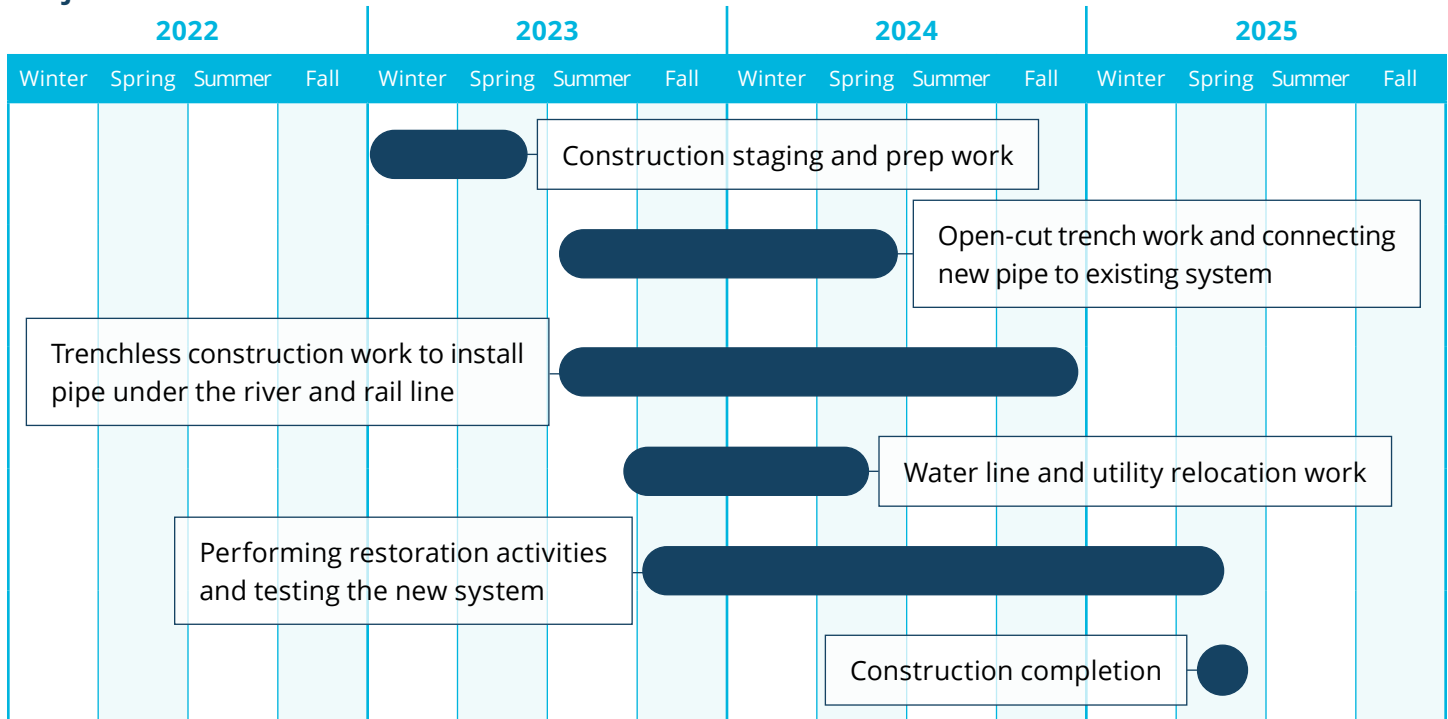
This two-year project will require road closures, lane shifts, and detour routes for people who use and travel through the area. We will continue to work hard to minimize impacts by sharing advance notification with details around what to expect during construction. Work will begin in early 2023 and take up to two years to complete.



**Area 2: East of SE MLK Blvd construction activities include:**

- Winter 2023–Summer 2023**
  - No work in this area at this time
- Summer 2023–Winter 2024**
  - Installing pipe using open-cut construction methods at the following locations:
    - SE Harrison Street between SE 7th Avenue and SE 10th Avenue
    - SE Stephens Street between SE Grand Avenue and SE 7th Avenue
    - SE 7th Avenue between SE Stephens Street and Harrison Street
  - Between Willamette River and SE MLK Boulevard
  - Installing pipe and connecting to existing pipes under SE MLK Boulevard
  - Connecting to existing water system at SE 10th Avenue and SE Harrison Street
- Winter 2024–Spring 2025**
  - Site restoration
  - Testing, sanitizing, and commissioning the new pipe

## Project schedule\*



\*Timeframes are subject to change

## Work hours

Crews will work mainly from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. In some areas on the east side, we will apply for a permit to perform work at night in order to minimize traffic impacts on the busier streets such as SE 3rd and SE 7th Avenues. This will include work Monday through Friday with possible Saturday work during limited periods of time.

## Dust and noise impacts

We don't expect this project to cause much excess dust because the type of construction methods we are using will not expose large amounts of bare earth.

The construction team will monitor dust, debris, and other materials on or emitted by equipment to minimize air quality impacts. On-site personnel will monitor airborne contaminants during active construction periods to ensure contaminant levels do not exceed permissible levels. We have developed plans to ensure that the construction site remains safe for the environment and our neighbors.

Construction-level noise will be generated by project activities. Locations near OMSI, on Water Avenue and at the intersections of SE 3rd Avenue/SE Stephens Street and SE 10th Avenue/SE Harrison Street will see the most impactful noise impacts. Occasionally, some of our work must be done in round-the-clock shifts, so will apply for a permit to work at night. We will keep levels below what is permitted by the City.

## Mitigation measures

During construction activities, we will employ best practices to limit airborne dirt, control dust, and limit noise:

- Maintaining a clean job site
- Establishing a visual air monitoring program to ensure that dust, debris, materials, and trash do not become airborne and travel off the project site
- Using white noise backup alarms on equipment
- Conducting regular street sweeping in work areas and nearby streets, as needed
- Using certified equipment when available
- Minimizing idling during all work with a five-minute limit.

## Site safety and security

We are committed to maintaining work area security and safety, both for the crew and for community members traveling in and near the site. Work sites and staging areas will be secured with temporary chain link fencing around the perimeter. Occasionally, some of our work must be done in round-the-clock shifts, so we will apply for a permit to work at night.

Steel street plates will be used to cover open-trench excavation areas during nonworking hours. Security guards will be used as needed and cameras may be used in specific locations. In case after-hours issues arise, contact information for security detail, local law enforcement, and City/contractor supervisors will be shared with area residents and businesses.



## Lighting

Pending City approval to work at night for limited periods of time, lighting will be necessary to ensure safety in the work sites. We will limit lighting to work zones and to areas where light is needed for crews to safely work and for the community to travel around the work site. When feasible, all lighting related to construction activities will be shielded or directed at the work area to restrict direct illumination onto properties located outside the project site.

## Site cleanliness and aesthetics

We pride ourselves on clean, secure work sites. Secure sanitation facilities for employee use will be rented and supplied at fixe-base work sites.

The team will rent additional sanitation facilities for short-term work, such as open-cut pipe installations. All units will be cleaned and emptied as needed by a sanitation company to maintain sanitary facilities.

We will use bins and dumpsters to separate waste. In addition, crews will set up containment areas for new oil, fuel, and used oil.





Heavy machinery will be used to excavate trenches during open-cut construction.

## What to expect during construction:

- Typical weekday work hours are 7 a.m.–5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Minimal night and weekend work will be required.
  - Lane restrictions will occur during active work periods. Local access will be maintained when feasible.
  - Pedestrian access will be maintained using detours when sidewalks and walkways are temporarily closed.
  - Safety barriers will include signage and fencing.
  - Parking will be restricted.
  - The contractor will work with businesses and vendors to ensure delivery access.
  - Bus stops may be temporarily relocated.
  - Emergency access will be maintained at all times.
- \*Start date, duration, and work hours are subject to change due to permitting, weather, and other factors.*

## Being a good neighbor

Keeping community members informed is a priority for us during this work. We will continue to communicate with residents, businesses, and interested groups to help minimize construction impacts. Some of the ways we will share the information you need to plan ahead include:

- Community meetings and briefings
- Regular email and text message updates
- Flyers at your door
- Signage around your community
- Social media updates
- A construction information hotline
- Prompt, individualized responses to inquiries

## For more information

- Visit the website: [Portland.gov/water/wrx](https://portland.gov/water/wrx)
- Email us: [wrx@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:wrx@portlandoregon.gov)
- Call us: 503-823-7499

The City of Portland is committed to providing meaningful access. To request translation, interpretation, modifications, accommodations, or other auxiliary aids or services, contact 503-823-7499 or 311 (503-823-4000), for Relay Service & TTY: 711.

Traducción e Interpretación | Biên Dịch và Thông Dịch | 口笔译服务 |  
अनुवादन तथा व्याख्या | Устный и письменный перевод | Turjumaad iyo Fasiraad |  
Письмовий і усний переклад | Traducere și interpretariat | Chiaku me Awewen  
Kapas | Translation and Interpretation: 503-823-7770 | [portland.gov/water/access](https://portland.gov/water/access)