



## South Waterfront Greenway Construction Update September 10, 2012

### Construction

- We recently completed work on the installation of the sheet pile walls that form the foundations for the Whitaker and Curry Street overlooks. Fortunately, the soils on the riverbank are very soft and it took only minimal vibration to get the sheet piles into the ground.
- Continuing construction of the vault wall. This is a system of interlocking concrete boxes that shore up the upper portion of the Greenway. Excavation for the vault wall has been completed and the contractor has begun placement of vaults. Installation of the lower row of vaults is proceeding north to south and will be followed by the upper row.
- When complete, the vaults will be filled with soil and planted with willows and other species native to this section of the Willamette.
- North and south of the vault wall, the contractor has begun removing steep areas of debris and lightly-contaminated soil, and replacing it with areas of riprap armoring. The upper portions will receive a blanket of soil and native plantings next spring.
- We continue to test soil for contaminants as we excavate.

### Water Levels – water levels are now at the lowest they will be this year.

- We are working longer hours and more days to complete as much of the construction as possible during low water.
- The river level is still not low enough for us to build the shallow-water habitat (a.k.a. the “beach”). That construction will take place in Summer 2013 and extend the duration of the construction through Fall 2013.

### Work Hours – The vault wall is an interlocking system, so once work began on it, PP&R was committed to completing it before the river levels rise again. This means that extra hours are required:

- September hours have increased to Mon-Sat, 7:00am-7:00pm (possibly 11:00pm).
- We may need to add Sunday work hours, 7:00am-7:00pm (possibly 11:00pm).

Please let me know if you have any questions, Elizabeth Kennedy-Wong, 503-823-5113 or [Elizabeth.kennedy-wong@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.kennedy-wong@portlandoregon.gov)