



Pioneer Courthouse Square Repairs Frequently Asked Questions, Updated January 2017



What is happening at Pioneer Courthouse Square?

Pioneer Courthouse Square will be receiving major repairs and renovation thanks to the [Parks Replacement Bond](#) approved by voters in November 2014. Due to a small part of this project (restroom expansion) being eligible for [System Development Charge](#) funding, the Parks SDC fund is contributing \$150,000 and will include a full time restroom attendant to support restroom operations for the over 301,000 annual public restroom users. Construction will start January 30, 2017, with substantial completion projected by the end of July 2017.

The project includes:

- Replacing the waterproof membrane under the bricks on the upper tier of the Square along SW Broadway and a section of SW Yamhill Streets
- Stoa column terra cotta repairs on SW Yamhill
- Site accessibility improvements
- All-user restroom renovation
- Repair of the HVAC system
- Structural reinforcing and upgrades in the HVAC/Mechanical Room

For a full project overview, visit parksreplacementbond.org.



Why is this construction necessary?

After thirty years of community enjoyment, the Square is in need of significant repair and renovation to address the failing waterproof membrane, the deteriorating brick plaza, structural failures, and stoa column repairs, as well as restroom upgrades for safety and accessibility. The existing membrane under the brick pavers was originally rated to last only twenty years. It is now near a state of failure after thirty years, which has led to water intrusion and increasing leaks to tenant spaces and mechanical room. Together, Portland Parks & Recreation and Pioneer Courthouse Square, Inc. are working to assure this unique public asset serves the next generation of Portlanders and the many visitors.

What should be expected during construction?

- All businesses located within the Square will be open during construction. This includes Travel Portland, Big Red Arrow and Portland Walking Tours, Starbucks, TriMet, Spellbound Flowers, Honkin' Huge Burritos, and Philly's on the Phly.
- KGW Studio will be moving its broadcasts to their alternative facilities during construction.
- Access routes to Square businesses and services may be altered to provide safe access. Informational signage will be installed throughout the construction project to aid in site navigation.
- Public restrooms in the Square will be closed, and signage will direct the public to alternate nearby public restrooms.
- The Square will continue to hold events in area not impacted by the construction.
- One traffic lane on SW Broadway will be closed periodically throughout the project during non-peak use hours.
- There will be sidewalk closures on SW Broadway, and intermittent closures on SW Yamhill Street.
- Normal construction hours will be 7:00am-5:00pm Monday-Friday with periodic work on weekends and after hours.
- There will be periods of noisy construction activities. To reach the 24-hour Noise Control Hotline, call 503-451-3855. To reach the Noise Control Office, call 503-823-7350.





What will happen to the bricks at the Square?

Over 74,000 supporters have paid to have their name permanently inscribed on bricks in Pioneer Courthouse Square. As part of the Parks Replacement Bond project, all of the bricks with names on them that are impacted by construction will be replaced with original inscriptions in a similar location. If you have questions about your brick, please call 503-223-1613 or email ashley@thesquarepdx.org. To find a map showing your brick's location, visit thesquarepdx.org/bricks/bricks-finder/.

Are bricks still for sale?

If you would like to buy a new brick, please call 503-223-1613, email ashley@thesquarepdx.org, or visit thesquarepdx.org/shop/bricks.

Will the Square's public restrooms remain open during construction?

The public restrooms will be closed for the duration of construction. The following is a list of alternate public restrooms in the area that can be used. All are ADA-accessible.

- Director Park – SW Taylor St. at SW 9th Ave. (Requires key from park host).
- Portland Loos – SW Park Ave. & SW Columbia St.; SW Ash St. & Waterfront Park; SW Taylor St. & Waterfront Park
- Portland City Hall – 1221 SW 4th Ave.
- Portland Building – 1120 SW 5th Ave.
- Waterfront Park, Hawthorne Bridgehead – North Stairs to Bridge
- Chapman Square – SW Madison between SW 4th Ave. and SW 3rd Ave. (Women's Restroom)
- Lowndale Square – SW Salmon St. between SW 4th Ave. and SW 3rd Ave. (Men's Restroom)

What will the new restrooms be like?

Once construction is complete in July 2017, the renovation will result in an all-user public restroom that will include 11 stalls including two ADA stalls and a baby changing station. An all-user restroom is a restroom that may be used by any person, regardless of gender identity or gender expression. The restroom will also include a full-time attendant that will oversee the restroom's operations for the over 301,000 annual public restroom users





Will businesses located at the Square remain open during construction?

Yes, the Square’s businesses will remain open. Standard operational hours are as follows. Please check individual business webpages for the latest hours.

<p>Travel Portland Monday-Friday: 8:30am-5:30pm Saturday: 10:00am-4:00pm Sunday: Closed (Through April) https://www.travelportland.com/</p>	<p>Spellbound Flowers Monday-Friday: 10:30am-6:30pm Saturday: 12:00pm-8:00pm Sunday: 12:00pm-6:00pm https://spellboundflowers.com/</p>
<p>Portland Walking Tours & Big Red Arrow Monday-Saturday: 8:30am-5:30pm Sunday: 8:30am-4:00pm http://www.portlandwalkingtours.com/ https://tickets.bigredarrow.com/</p>	<p>TriMet Monday-Friday: 8:30am-5:30pm Saturday and Sunday: Closed http://trimet.org/</p>
<p>Starbucks Sunday-Thursday: 4:30am-11:00pm Friday-Saturday: 4:30am-12:00am https://www.starbucks.com/</p>	<p>The Square’s Food Carts (Honkin’ Huge Burritos and Philly’s on the Phly) Daily 11:00am-3:30pm</p>

Will the Square still have events during construction?

Yes, the Square will continue to hold events in the space not impacted by construction. For a full list of events, visit thesquarepdx.org/events.

Can I still hold an event at the Square?

Yes, to hold an event at the Square, visit thesquarepdx.org/events/hold-an-event, email lindsay@thesquarepdx.org, or call 503.223.2613.

To sponsor an event at the Square, visit thesquarepdx.org/events/sponsor-an-event, email tvetsch@thesquarepdx.org, or call 503.223.1613.





What is the Parks Replacement Bond?

The Parks Replacement Bond was passed with the support of over 73% of voters in November 2014. Its primary focus is on repair and replacement of the most critical needs in the parks system. The total bond is for \$68 million, and work has begun on the first list of 33 Bond projects citywide.

Where can I get more information?

- **Pioneer Courthouse Square Project and Parks Replacement Bond:**
Maija Spencer, 503-823-5593, maija.spencer@portlandoregon.gov
parksreplacementbond.org

Where can I get more information about the Square?

- More information about the Square is available at thesquarepdx.org or by calling 503-223-1613.

