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Caveman Bridge facelift begins Sept. 5

GRANTS PASS — A \$5.3 million rehabilitation project to improve Caveman Bridge begins Tuesday, Sept. 5. The 17 month project will strengthen the bridge and update the aesthetics of the structure, a critical link for Grants Pass and southwest Oregon.

Due to the amount of traffic that uses the bridge every day, any work requiring lane closures will be performed at night. There are 12 full night closures on the project, along with nighttime single lane closures.

The rehabilitation project will be the first major upgrade to Caveman Bridge since it opened in 1931. The project will:

- Repair and strengthen sections of cracked concrete, exposed rebar and failed joints along the nearly 550 foot structure;
- Repair bridge deck delamination and replace it with stronger concrete overlay;
- Replace the bridge rail, maintaining its unique aesthetic while meeting today's safety standards; and
- Add new lighting that maintains the character of the bridge's historic looking street lights.

"Due to the importance of the bridge to traffic and the Grants Pass community, the project team balanced the closure times with the times the contractor can work. That extended the project completion date to early 2019," said ODOT Project Manager Tim Fletcher.

HP Civil of Stayton, Oregon is the prime contractor.

For more information, check out the project video and website: <http://bit.ly/2IZeqDc> and www.cavemanbridge.com.