



**Deschutes County Position Paper – Support Documentation**  
**Support of HB3130**  
**US 97/First Street Signalization Project, La Pine**

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Background

The US 97/First Street Signalization Project is identified within the US 97 La Pine Corridor Plan. ODOT is currently developing improvement plans for the project, however the project funding is not fully secured. Of the \$1.4 to \$1.5M necessary to construct the project, ODOT has allocated \$700,000 in the current STIP. With a \$200,000 contribution from the County, ODOT can leverage an additional \$500,000 in safety funds to proceed with the project.

Project Details:

In addition to operational issues that have resulted in lost development opportunities, the unsignalized intersection of US 97/First Street is described in the US 97 La Pine Corridor Plan as follows:

- a. There have been 14 reported crashes in a five-year period, including eight injury crashes.
- b. Inadequate sight distance in all directions.
- c. Significant difficulty in pedestrian use, particularly students crossing to utilize commercial services (see photo).
- d. Drivers on US 97 do not yield to pedestrians,
- e. It is difficult for drivers and pedestrians to judge oncoming speed of traffic on US 97.

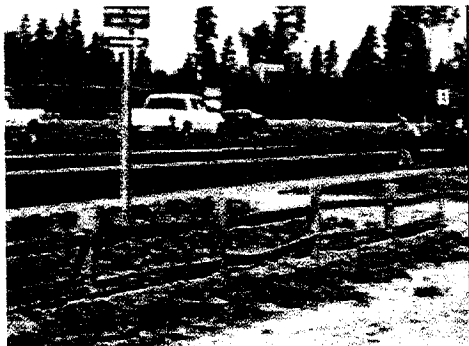


Exhibit 3-1. Pedestrian crossings at 1<sup>st</sup> Street



Exhibit 3-2. Pedestrian crossings at 1<sup>st</sup> Street.

Solution

The proposed US 97/First Street Signalization Project will not only add much needed capacity to facilitate development opportunities in the 300+ acre La Pine Industrial Park, it will also improve safety for motorists as well as pedestrians.



La Pine  
Industrial  
Area  
300+ acres