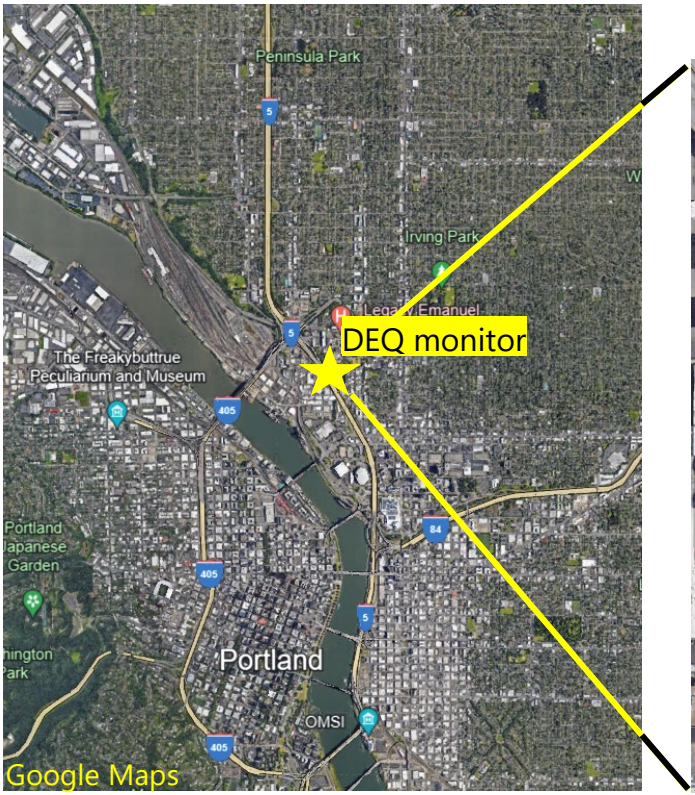
Fact Sheet

Air Quality Monitoring next to I-5 near Tubman School and Lillis Albina Park

Where will we monitor?

DEQ is planning on installing an air quality monitoring site between Interstate 5 and Lillis Albina Park. The monitoring station will be near the intersection of N. Commercial Avenue and N. Russell Street and will be 15 meters (or 50 feet) from the edge of the northbound lane. The maps below show the proposed site.



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800-452-4011 | TTY: 711 | deqinfo@deq.oregon.gov

State of Oregon DEQ Department of Environmental Quality

What is the monitoring purpose?

EPA's near-road monitoring program defines two Tiers of required near-road monitoring. This new monitoring site fulfills Oregon's obligation to install a new Tier 2 site.
Tier 1 near road-monitoring is required at the maximum heavy duty diesel freeway segment (without retaining walls) in metropolitan areas of over one million people. The purpose of these sites is to measure maximumroad exhaust concentrations in a Metro area. The Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro Core-base Statistical Area has a Tier 1 site along I-5 in Tualatin, between the I-205 and Hwy 217 interchanges. Two freeways converge into one along this section.
Tier 2 near-road monitoring requires a second near road site when a metropolitan area's population exceeds 2.5 million people. The Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro Core-base Statistical Area exceeded 2.5 million in the 2020 census, resulting in the requirement to install a new near-road monitoring site. The second site can be used to address public concerns or be used for research. DEQ is aware of public concerns around the impact of I-5 on Tubman School and the surrounding neighborhood. ODOT has plans to add a lane onto I-5 in this section of the road, and DEQ is interested in how this will affect emissions. Finally, this segment of freeway is between I-405 and I-84, and represents a good location to measure wherethe traffic of two freeways converges into one.

What pollutants will we monitor?

The site is required to monitor for nitrogen dioxide, which is a component of diesel exhaust and is a criteria pollutant, and a precursor for ozone (smog) formation. DEQ may opt to monitor for other vehicle emission pollutants such as carbon monoxide, ozone, particulate matter, and hazardous air pollutants (air toxics), or supporting meteorological data.Additional monitoring will depend on available operational funding.

When do we start and how long do we monitor?

DEQ intends to install the monitor in the summer of 2025 and will operate the site at that location indefinitely or until enough data is collected to draw conclusions about the impact of I-5 and the planned I-5 expansion. In the future, the site may be relocated to address other near road concerns.

How do you get the results?

DEQ will provide hourly nitrogen dioxide concentrations on the Air Quality Index web site and the AQI app. DEQ will include trend reports in the Air Quality Monitoring Annual Report on the DEQ Air Quality Monitoring web page. If DEQ monitors for air toxics, the results will be on EPA's Air Data web page and in the DEQ Air Toxics Monitoring Annual Report on the DEQ Air Quality Monitoring web page. DEQ is also available to present any results to community groups or other organizations upon request.

Provide comments

If you have comment or questions about the new air quality monitoring site, contact Anthony Barnack, ODEQ Laboratory and Environmental Assessment Division at: Anthony.Barnack@deq.state.or.us . Please submit comments before July 1st at 5:00 pm for inclusion in the Annual Network Plan submitted to EPA. Later comments will also be considered, but not sent to EPA.

Non-discrimination statement

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