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Statesman Journal

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Pride marches on in Salem



The Capital City Blossoms Color Guard Ensemble performs while marching in the Salem Capital Pride parade on June 13. PHOTOS BY KEVIN NERI/STATESMAN JOURNAL

Salem Statesman Journal | USA TODAY NETWORK

Revelers marched up Court Street NE and into downtown Salem to celebrate the start of Pride Month with a parade and block party June 13. • The event, hosted by Salem Capital Pride, was one of several such celebrations in the Mid-Valley and across the state. Hundreds attended the parade and block party, which streamed in front of the Oregon State Capitol building and stretched into the early evening on State Street NE between Liberty and Commercial streets. • Colorful outfits and drag performers entertained bystanders during the parade. Local vendors set up shop during the block party to offer their wares — some set up face-painting booths as well. To see more photos of the weekend's Pride celebration, visit statesmanjournal.com.



Spectators celebrate during the Salem Capital Pride parade and block party.

Oregon, Washington lawmakers raise concerns over I-5 bridge

Anastasia Mason
Salem Statesman Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

People are concerned about the bi-state project to replace the I-5 bridge that connects Portland and Vancouver.

Lawmakers and the public said as much no less than 20 times during a June 12 meeting of the bi-state legislative committee on the Interstate Bridge Replacement Program.

It was the first time the group of Oregon and Washington legislators met formally since the project's \$14.4 billion estimate was revealed.

The new estimates, ranging from \$13.5 billion and \$15.2 billion, are far above the previous 2022 estimates of \$5 to \$7.5 billion.

To help pay for the project, tolling could be coming to the Interstate Bridge connecting Oregon and Washington as soon as summer 2028.

Specifics around cost, impacts of tolling on I-5 bridge still in flux

Transportation commissioners from both states

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What to know for the summer solstice, longest day of the year

Ginnie Sandoval
USA TODAY NETWORK

Oregonians may be noticing extended daylight hours and longer days as June progresses and the region approaches the longest day of the year.

The summer solstice is set to happen on Sunday, June 21, marking the first day of summer. It also signifies both the longest day and shortest night of the year throughout the Northern Hemisphere, and marks the start of the Pagan holiday, Litha, a celebration of summer that is typically accompanied by bonfires and dancing.

Here's what to know about the summer solstice and how much daylight Oregonians can expect during the longest day of the year.

What is the summer solstice?

The summer solstice, also known as the longest day of the year, marks the start of summer in the Northern Hemisphere, while the Southern Hemisphere enters winter with its own solstice.

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