



MEMORANDUM

To: Board of County Commissioners
From: Grant DeJongh, Assistant Public Works Director
CC: Mike Russell, Public Works Director
Date: 02/12/2026
Subject: C93-2025 Rock Crushing Contract with Braxling, Inc. – Amendment No. 2

This memo outlines the proposed changes to C93-2025 between Columbia County and Braxling, Inc., for rock crushing services in Ross Pit.

BACKGROUND:

Columbia County owns and maintains Ross Pit in Saint Helens, OR, to provide rock materials for road construction and maintenance.

In July 2025, Columbia County entered into contract C93-2025 with Braxling, Inc., to provide rock crushing services in Ross Pit. This contract contemplated 15,000 CY of various materials for a total of \$180,950.

This contract was subsequently amended to increase the quantity of rock to be produced, taking advantage of the per-unit price. This increased the volume to 19,000 CY of various materials for a total of \$225,310. This amendment was negotiated prior to any contractor work at the site.

SUMMARY OF SECOND AMENDMENT:

I. Clean-up Drilling and Shooting

As part of the Knife River lease agreement, Knife River removed the overburden (soil, *etc.*) from the top of the site to be blasted and crushed.

When the drilling subcontractor inspected the site after the overburden was removed, he noted that an exposed knob of rock at the top of the quarry face was interfering with the drilling, which could result in improper fracturing of the quarry face. Two options were presented: (1) the subcontractor could shoot the knob off separately, which would ensure that the quarry face fractured properly; or (2) the subcontractor could proceed, but the quarry face could fall without fracturing. If the latter was selected and the quarry face did not fracture, staff would have to rent an excavator and break the rock, which would divert staff resources, incur additional costs, and delay crushing and stockpiling. During a previous crushing effort, when the face did not fracture, staff spent several weeks working on breaking up the rock.

Public Works elected to have the subcontractor shoot the knob off separately, which is incurred as the “Clean-up D/S” line, for a total of \$13,500.

II. Additional Drilling and Shooting quantity

The drilling subcontractor also noted that, based on the geometry of the site, we would be facing a similar situation – exposed knob creating drilling issues – the next time we had a crushing contract. By shooting additional rock this time, he could prevent that from happening, while also generating additional pit run.

Since this option generated additional pit run material, which can be crushed in a future crushing contract, as well as removed the need for another “clean-up shot” as part of a future contract, Public Works elected to have the subcontract drill and shoot additional material. The amounted to 4,501.42 CY, at an additional cost of \$14,269.50.

III. Modification to quantity numbers

Based on operational use and existing stockpiles, Public Works decided to reduce the amount of 3”-0 rock by 1,000 CY and increase the 1 1/2”-0 rock by 1,000 CY. This resulted in an additional cost of \$270.

IV. Changes in contract cost, rock volumes produced, and per-unit rock prices

The proposed price increase for Amendment No. 2 is \$28,039.50. Cumulatively with Amendment No. 1, there is a proposed total change of \$72,399.50, for a total contract cost of \$253,349.50.

Below is a table highlighting the changes in produced rock quantities and per-unit rock prices:

MATERIAL	ORIG. CY	FINAL CY	ORIG. \$/CY	FINAL \$/CY	% Diff.
¾”-0	10,500	14,500	\$12.20	\$12.37	101.35%
1 ½”-0	3,000	4,000	\$11.85	\$12.02	101.39%
3”-0	1,500	500	\$11.50	\$11.67	101.43%
Uncrushed rock	0	4,501	--	\$4.47	--

Any questions regarding the contents of this memo should be directed to the Public Works Department. Thank you.

ATTACHMENTS:

- C93-2025 Public Services Contract with Braxling. Inc., for Rock Crushing Services at Ross Pit
- C93-2025 Amendment No. 1
- C93-2025 Amendment No. 2 (proposed)