



Quarterly Newsletter | Twenty-Seventh Edition | August and September 2023

ODOT's Office of Equity and Civil Rights' newsletter, *Equity Line*, brings to you the newest content relevant to your business and business needs. Whether you work in transportation-related fields, construction, or just drive Oregon's roads and have an interest in what ODOT is doing for the Oregon economy, OECE's Equity Line is a newsletter you will want to read.

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## News from the Assistant Director

Here at ODOT, we are aware of the recent actions of the Supreme Court related to Affirmative Action in Higher Education. We are also aware of anti-affirmative action legislation in other states. While we do understand the landscape in which we are working, the commitment to equity at ODOT **has not**

changed. I am affirming our commitment to continue the work that we are doing to provide support to Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs), Emerging Small Businesses (ESBs) and other small businesses. In fact, the legislature recently passed SB 1048, which allows ODOT to move forward with the development of the Small Business Development Program.

Equity is a core value at ODOT, and even though we see what is happening around us, and we are thoughtfully thinking through the “what ifs”, be assured that our priorities are the same. We are still working to complete our Strategic Action Plan goals of getting more dollars to historically underutilized businesses.

Additionally, we currently have two Small Business Navigator positions open in the Office of Equity and Civil Rights. If you, or someone you know might be interested in one of these roles, please apply [here](#).

- Erika McCalpine

Assistant Director for the Office of Social Equity

Oregon Department of Transportation



## DEI post Supreme Court ruling

Many people are wondering what last month’s U.S. Supreme Court decision curtailing affirmative action within college admissions programs means for us. The ruling, which was focused solely on admissions in higher education, does not address employer hiring or workplace diversity, equity, and inclusion programs.

[Read Article](#)

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## Bid Opportunities

## Projects Open for Bids

**R2 Paving RFB - OR99W MP39 Paving McMinnville**

**BID:** [S-73000-00007790](#) **Opening\* Date:** 08/22/2023 03:00PM

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**R2 Paving RFB - R2 Bridge Maintenance Eugene 2023 Bundle**

**BID:** [S-73000-00007788](#) **Opening\* Date:** 08/24/2023 02:00PM

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**Umatilla County Transportation System Plan TGM 5B-22**

**BID:** [S-73000-00007738](#) **Opening\* Date:** 08/25/2023 11:30AM

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**Mini solicitation Oregon State Rail Plan 2024**

**BID:** [S-73000-00007574](#) **Opening\* Date:** 09/05/2023 05:00PM

*\* Opening date refers to the date that bids are due for each project. All of these projects and more are accepting bids.*

## Connect with ODOT on Social Media



Facebook

Twitter

Flickr

## Certified Firms



### **COBID Certification: Is it a Good Fit for Your Business?**

Becoming COBID certified can give your business an advantage when pursuing work with ODOT. Learn more about getting [COBID certified on the website](#) or click the video to learn more.

Not sure if your business is COBID certified or looking for a vendor, supplier or partner? Search the database to find out.

[Search Certified Businesses](#)

[Newly Certified Businesses](#)

[NAICS Codes](#)

## Interested in Doing Business with ODOT?



## Resources at your fingertips

The Oregon Department of Transportation contracts for a wide variety of goods, equipment, trade services, personal services, highway maintenance, public improvements, architectural and engineering and Related Services, and highway/bridge construction project. Explore contracting opportunities with ODOT by reviewing the following links:

[How to Get Started: Contracting with ODOT](#)

[Bid and Award Information](#)

[Oregon Buys and Procurement Office](#)

[Small Business Resources](#)

[Training](#)

Looking for help in your region? [Contact](#) your Field Coordinator or OCR Staff.

Not sure of your region? [Check here.](#)



## On-Demand ODOT Consultant Training Courses Now Available

### A&E and Related Services Invoice Requirements Training for Consultants

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Procurement Office is committed to ensuring our Consultants have the necessary tools, resources, and trainings to partner and contract with ODOT. To provide assistance, the office has short pre-recorded training sessions available online for consultants to watch.

This [training](#) session is recommended for staff who prepare and submit invoices, and anyone who is interested in learning more about the process and what is required.

For additional information, please contact the [ODOT Invoice Specialist](#).

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## Establishing Billing Rates with ODOT

In this [training](#), participants will learn why and how to establish billing rates with ODOT, ODOT billing rate policy requirements, components and difference between Escalated Salary Rate Schedule (ESR) and Negotiated Billing Rate Schedule (NBR), resources and more.

For additional information, please contact the [ODOT Billing Rates Specialist](#).

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## Four Key Things to Know about OregonBuys, the State's eProcurement System



ODOT uses [OregonBuys](#) for public advertisement of contracting opportunities (except for Highway and Bridge Construction projects, which are advertised on the [eBids system](#)). OregonBuys is also used by other state agencies and some local agencies in Oregon.

### Four key things you should know about OregonBuys are:

1. A free OregonBuys supplier account is required to do business with state agencies. (Click below to register!)
2. Suppliers/vendors must be registered in OregonBuys to bid or propose on advertised contracting opportunities.
3. Current and closed solicitations may be searched, even if you're not registered. (Use "search" or "advanced search" [at the top of this page](#).)
4. OregonBuys is integrated with the state's COBID system. When you register with OregonBuys, your account will automatically update to reflect your COBID certifications.

[Learn More and Register](#)

For questions about **OregonBuys registration**, call 1-855-800-5046 or [email](#).

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## About the OregonBuys eProcurement System

Interested in learning more about OregonBuys? Supplier registration, FAQs and other information about [is available here](#) or use the reference guides below for common questions from vendors.

- [Adding Users to Vendor Account](#)
- [Advanced Search for Vendors](#)

- [Attaching File Bid Quote](#)
- [Finding Closed RFPs, Closed and Open Bids](#)
- [Locate Quote Started by Vendor](#)
- [Submitting Quote for Mini-RFP](#)
- [Supplier Bid Solicitation Response](#)
- [How to View Bid Tab after Bid Award](#)

### Vendor Support from ODOT

For additional support, contact Melissa Lovejoy, 1-503-986-2997 or [by email](#), or Kayla VanHoose [by email](#).

## Upcoming Events

### Connect 2 Oregon

Wednesday, September 13, 2023 | 7:30am - 2pm | Lincoln City

[Learn More](#)

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### Connect 2 Oregon

Thursday, September 14, 2023 | 7:30am - 2:30pm | Tillamook

[Learn More](#)

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### Connect 2 Oregon

Tuesday, September 26, 2023 | 7:30am - 2:30pm | Klamath Falls

[Learn More](#)

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### Connect 2 Oregon

Wednesday, September 27, 2023 | 7:30am - 2:30pm | Medford

[Learn More](#)

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Looking for more information please visit our [website!](#)

**Do you have any ideas for our next Equity Line newsletter?** [Email us!](#)

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