

Oregon Research Advisory Committee Priorities:

ODOT Research Advisory Committee priorities provide guidance to agency staff, university researchers, and other stakeholders as they propose research topics for inclusion in the agency's research work plan. Additionally, these priorities will guide the work of the research staff and the agency expert task groups during the review of proposed research problem statements.

Research Outcome Priorities:

The Research Advisory Committee has identified the following desired post-research outcomes. The highest priority research proposals should:

Strategic Direction

The Oregon Department of Transportation will align the ODOT Research program with the Oregon Transportation Plan and the agency's Strategic Action Plan. The Goals of the Oregon Transportation Plan (OTP) will serve as the primary topic areas for the research program and the seeks transportation research problem statements addressing:

- Economic and Community Vitality
- Social Equity
- Mobility
- Stewardship of Public Resources
- Safety
- Sustainability and Climate Action

Each research proposal should be a study of one of these topics as it relates to transportation or the administration of the agency. For a detailed definitions and discussion of these goals please see the [Oregon Transportation Plan](#).

Proposal Evaluation Focus

Each year ODOT receives research problem statements that identify transportation issuers or problems that could be improved through with research. As the department reviews research problem statements, we will ensure that each proposal directly addresses one of the following research focus areas:

- Safety
- Equity
- Climate
- Organizational Structures
- Process, material, or equipment improvements
- Cost reductions or savings to construction, operations, or asset maintenance.
- Workforce Development

- Innovative Technologies and Systems

Problem statements will only need to address one of these focus areas. Directly addressing these focus areas should result in a high likelihood of and implementable agency action or decision that changes (or validates) an agency policy, procedure, work practice, standard or specification for one focus area. As with the OTP Goals, please see the [Oregon Transportation Plan](#) for definitions and discussion.

These focus areas will be related to the strategic direction discussed above. There is some overlap between the strategic topics and the decision-making focus areas. Proposed safety or equity research will have a one to one correlation while problem statements addressing mobility or stewardship will be asked to document what focus area successful research will help implement.

Post Research outcomes

The Research Advisory Committee has identified the following desired post-research outcomes. In addition to the focus areas above the committee seeks research that will:

- Produce solutions that can be used by the transportation workforce to improve the provision of transportation in Oregon. Research will deliver modern transportation technologies and processes that are ready for direct dissemination to and use by the transportation workforce.
- Produce solutions that support the efficient operations and administration of ODOT.
- Have demonstrated support from an ODOT unit that that has committed staff or budget resources for post research implementation of the expected research findings.

Program Administration Priorities:

The Research Advisory Committee has also identified the following program management goals for research proposals. These priorities will be applied to develop a diverse portfolio of research projects:

- Project selection should achieve balance with regard to addressing short, medium and longer term Oregon transportation needs.
- Project selection should focus primarily on applied transportation research that will support the ongoing work of the State's transportation workforce in providing transportation infrastructure, system management, and transportation services.
- Project selection may support emerging topics and solutions that are not explicitly identified in the agency's strategic documents.