

Chapter 190

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Intergovernmental Cooperation

190.003	Definitions for ORS 190.003 to 190.130	190.080	Powers of intergovernmental entity created by intergovernmental agreement; limits; debts of entity are debts of parties to agreement; procedure for distribution of assets; rules
190.007	Policy; construction		
190.010	Authority of local governments to make intergovernmental agreement	190.083	County agreements for transportation facilities
190.020	Contents of agreement	190.085	Ordinance ratifying intergovernmental agreement creating entity
190.030	Effect of agreement	190.110	Authority of units of local government and state agencies to cooperate; agreements with American Indian tribes; exclusion of conditions for public contracts
190.050	Fees for geographic data; uses		
190.070	Agreement changing service responsibilities requires changes in tax coordination resulting from change		

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION

190.003 Definitions for ORS 190.003 to 190.130. As used in ORS 190.003 to 190.130, "unit of local government" includes a county, city, district or other public corporation, commission, authority or entity organized and existing under statute or city or county charter. [1967 c.550 §2]

190.007 Policy; construction. In the interest of furthering economy and efficiency in local government, intergovernmental cooperation is declared a matter of statewide concern. The provisions of ORS 190.003 to 190.130 shall be liberally construed. [1967 c.550 §3]

190.010 Authority of local governments to make intergovernmental agreement. A unit of local government may enter into a written agreement with any other unit or units of local government for the performance of any or all functions and activities that a party to the agreement, its officers or agencies, have authority to perform. The agreement may provide for the performance of a function or activity:

- (1) By a consolidated department;
- (2) By jointly providing for administrative officers;
- (3) By means of facilities or equipment jointly constructed, owned, leased or operated;
- (4) By one of the parties for any other party;
- (5) By an intergovernmental entity created by the agreement and governed by a board or commission appointed by, responsible to and acting on behalf of the units of local government that are parties to the agreement; or
- (6) By a combination of the methods described in this section. [Amended by 1953 c.161 §2; 1963 c.189 §1; 1967 c.550 §4; 1991 c.583 §1]

190.020 Contents of agreement. (1) An agreement under ORS 190.010 shall specify the functions or activities to be performed and by what means they shall be performed. Where applicable, the agreement shall provide for:

- (a) The apportionment among the parties to the agreement of the responsibility for providing funds to pay for expenses incurred in the performance of the functions or activities.
- (b) The apportionment of fees or other revenue derived from the functions or activities and the manner in which such revenue shall be accounted for.
- (c) The transfer of personnel and the preservation of their employment benefits.
- (d) The transfer of possession of or title to real or personal property.

(e) The term or duration of the agreement, which may be perpetual.

(f) The rights of the parties to terminate the agreement.

(2) When the parties to an agreement are unable, upon termination of the agreement, to agree on the transfer of personnel or the division of assets and liabilities between the parties, the circuit court has jurisdiction to determine that transfer or division. [Amended by 1967 c.550 §5]

190.030 Effect of agreement. (1) When an agreement under ORS 190.010 has been entered into, the unit of local government, consolidated department, intergovernmental entity or administrative officer designated therein to perform specified functions or activities is vested with all powers, rights and duties relating to those functions and activities that are vested by law in each separate party to the agreement, its officers and agencies.

(2) An officer designated in an agreement to perform specified duties, functions or activities of two or more public officers shall be considered to be holding only one office.

(3) An elective office may not be terminated by an agreement under ORS 190.010. [Amended by 1967 c.550 §6; 1991 c.583 §2]

190.050 Fees for geographic data; uses.

(1) An intergovernmental group may impose and collect reasonable fees based on market prices or competitive bids for geographic data that have commercial value and are an entire formula, pattern, compilation, program, device, method, technique, process, database or system developed with a significant expenditure of public funds. An intergovernmental group may enter into agreements with private persons or entities to assist with marketing such products. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, intergovernmental group software product programming source codes, object codes and geographic databases or systems are confidential and exempt from public disclosure under ORS 192.502. Nothing in this section authorizes an intergovernmental group to restrict access to public records through inclusion of such records in a geographic database or system.

(2) Fees collected under subsection (1) of this section shall be used:

(a) For maintenance of the formula, pattern, compilation, program, device, method, technique, process, database or system; and

(b) To provide services through the formula, pattern, compilation, program, device, method, technique, process, database or system to public bodies paying a service charge to the intergovernmental group.

(3) As used in this section, "intergovernmental group" means two or more units of local government that have entered into a written agreement under ORS 190.010. [1991 c.335 §2]

190.070 Agreement changing service responsibilities requires changes in tax coordination resulting from change. (1) If any agreement entered into under ORS 190.010 to 190.030 or 190.110 between or among units of local government includes changes in service responsibility, that agreement shall set forth any changes in tax coordination resulting from the change in service responsibility.

(2) This section applies to agreements entered into after September 29, 1991, and before January 1, 1996. [1991 c.396 §9; 1993 c.424 §3]

Note: 190.070 was enacted into law by the Legislative Assembly but was not added to or made a part of ORS chapter 190 or any series therein by legislative action. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

190.080 Powers of intergovernmental entity created by intergovernmental agreement; limits; debts of entity are debts of parties to agreement; procedure for distribution of assets; rules. (1) An intergovernmental entity created by an intergovernmental agreement under ORS 190.010 may, according to the terms of the agreement:

(a) Issue revenue bonds under ORS 288.805 to 288.945 or enter into financing agreements authorized under ORS 271.390 to accomplish the public purposes of the parties to the agreement, if after a public hearing the governing body of each of the units of local government that are parties to the agreement approves, by resolution or order, the issuance of the revenue bonds or entering into the financing agreement;

(b) Enter into agreements with vendors, trustees or escrow agents for the installment purchase or lease, with option to purchase, of real or personal property if the period of time allowed for payment under an agreement does not exceed 20 years; and

(c) Adopt all rules necessary to carry out its powers and duties under the intergovernmental agreement.

(2) Except as provided in ORS 190.083, an intergovernmental entity may not levy taxes or issue general obligation bonds.

(3) The debts, liabilities and obligations of an intergovernmental entity shall be, jointly and severally, the debts, liabilities and obligations of the parties to the intergovernmental agreement that created the entity, unless the agreement specifically provides otherwise.

(4) A party to an intergovernmental agreement creating an intergovernmental entity may assume responsibility for specific debts, liabilities or obligations of the intergovernmental entity.

(5) Any moneys collected by or credited to an intergovernmental entity shall not accrue to the benefit of private persons. Upon dissolution of the entity, title to all assets of the intergovernmental entity shall vest in the parties to the intergovernmental agreement. The agreement creating the entity shall provide a procedure for:

(a) The disposition, division and distribution of any assets acquired by the intergovernmental entity; and

(b) The assumption of any outstanding indebtedness or other liabilities of the entity by the parties to the intergovernmental agreement that created the entity.

(6) An intergovernmental entity created by intergovernmental agreement under ORS 190.010 may be terminated at any time by unanimous vote of all the parties to the intergovernmental agreement or as provided by the terms of the agreement. [1991 c.583 §4; 2001 c.840 §3; 2003 c.195 §7]

190.083 County agreements for transportation facilities. (1) Before a county enters into an intergovernmental agreement creating an intergovernmental entity to operate, maintain, repair and modernize transportation facilities, the county shall obtain approval of the terms and conditions of the agreement from the governing bodies of a majority of the cities within the county.

(2) Subject to the provisions of this section, an intergovernmental entity created to operate, maintain, repair and modernize transportation facilities may issue general obligation bonds and assess, levy and collect taxes in support of the purposes of the entity.

(3)(a) To carry out the purposes of an intergovernmental agreement under this section, and when authorized at an election described in paragraph (b) of this subsection, an intergovernmental entity created to operate, maintain, repair and modernize transportation facilities may borrow moneys and sell and dispose of general obligation bonds. Approval requires an affirmative vote of a majority of the electors within the intergovernmental entity voting in the election.

(b) If the bonds are not subject to the limitations under section 11 or 11b, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution:

(A) The proposition submitted to the electors shall provide that the intergovernmental entity shall assess, levy and collect taxes each year on the assessed value of all taxable property within the intergovernmental entity for the purposes of paying the

principal and interest on the general obligation bonds;

(B) The election must comply with the voter participation requirements of section 11 (8), Article XI of the Oregon Constitution; and

(C) Outstanding bonds may never exceed in the aggregate two percent of the real market value of all taxable property within the entity.

(4) The governing body of an intergovernmental entity created to operate, maintain, repair and modernize transportation facilities shall issue the bonds from time to time as authorized by the electors of the entity. The governing body shall issue the bonds according to the applicable provisions of ORS chapters 287 and 288.

(5) The electors of an intergovernmental entity created to operate, maintain, repair and modernize transportation facilities may establish a permanent rate limit for ad valorem property taxes for the entity pursuant to section 11 (3)(c), Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

(6) An intergovernmental entity created to operate, maintain, repair and modernize transportation facilities may exercise the powers necessary to carry out the purposes of the intergovernmental agreement, including but not limited to the authority to enter into agreements and to expend tax proceeds and other revenues the entity receives.

(7) An intergovernmental entity created to operate, maintain, repair and modernize transportation facilities is not a district as defined in ORS 198.010 and is not subject to the provisions of ORS chapter 451.

(8) An intergovernmental entity described in this section is subject to ORS 294.305 to 294.565 for each fiscal year or budget period in which the entity proposes to impose or imposes ad valorem property taxes. [2001 c.840 §2; 2003 c.14 §88; 2003 c.235 §3]

190.085 Ordinance ratifying intergovernmental agreement creating entity. (1) Prior to the effective date of an intergovernmental agreement creating an intergovernmental entity, each of the parties to the intergovernmental agreement shall enact an ordinance ratifying the creation of the intergovernmental entity. An ordinance enacted under this subsection shall:

(a) Declare that it is the intent of the governing body enacting the ordinance to create an intergovernmental entity by intergovernmental agreement;

(b) Specify the effective date of the intergovernmental agreement;

(c) Set forth the public purposes for which the intergovernmental entity is created; and

(d) Describe the powers, duties and functions required of the intergovernmental entity.

(2) Not later than 30 days after the effective date of an intergovernmental agreement creating an intergovernmental entity under ORS 190.010, the parties to the intergovernmental agreement shall file with the Secretary of State copies of the ordinances required under this section together with a statement containing the name of the intergovernmental entity created, the parties to the agreement, the purpose of the agreement and the effective date of the agreement. [1991 c.583 §5]

190.110 Authority of units of local government and state agencies to cooperate; agreements with American Indian tribes; exclusion of conditions for public contracts. (1) In performing a duty imposed upon it, in exercising a power conferred upon it or in administering a policy or program delegated to it, a unit of local government or a state agency of this state may cooperate for any lawful purpose, by agreement or otherwise, with a unit of local government or a state agency of this or another state, or with the United States, or with a United States governmental agency, or with an American Indian tribe or an agency of an American Indian tribe. This power includes power to provide jointly for administrative officers.

(2) The power conferred by subsection (1) of this section to enter into an agreement with an American Indian tribe or an agency of an American Indian tribe extends to any unit of local government or state agency that is not otherwise expressly authorized to enter into an agreement with an American Indian tribe or an agency of an American Indian tribe.

(3) With regard to an American Indian tribe, the power described in subsections (1) and (2) of this section includes the power of the Governor or the designee of the Governor to enter into agreements to ensure that the state, a state agency or unit of local government does not interfere with or infringe on the exercise of any right or privilege of an American Indian tribe or members of a tribe held or granted under any federal treaty, executive order, agreement, statute, policy or any other authority. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to modify the obligations of the United States to an American Indian tribe or its members concerning real or personal property, title to which is held in trust by the United States.

(4) A unit of local government or state agency of this state may exclude any clause or condition required by ORS 279B.220,

279B.225, 279B.230, 279B.235, 279B.270 or 279C.500 to 279C.530 from an agreement under subsection (1) of this section if the agreement is with:

- (a) A unit of local government of another state.
- (b) A state agency of another state.
- (c) The United States.
- (d) A United States governmental agency.
- (e) An American Indian tribe.
- (f) An agency of an American Indian tribe. [Amended by 1963 c.189 §2; 1967 c.550 §7; 1985 c.267 §1; 1999 c.948 §3; 2001 c.611 §1; 2003 c.794 §208]