

THE OREGON TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION 2010 – 2011 WORK PLAN

APPROVED MARCH 2010



OTC 2010 / 2011 Work Plan

Introduction

This work plan is the culmination of OTC discussions between October 2009 and March 2010. The plan is organized into five categories:

- Transportation Planning
- Transportation Funding and Financing
- Transportation Project Delivery
- Transportation Governance
- Climate Change and Transportation

The primary drivers of this work plan are the Oregon Transportation Plan and the OTC Roles and Responsibilities. The OTP, the 25-year plan for the entirety of Oregon's transportation system, requires continuous attention to ensure its successful implementation. Oregon Statutes provide the foundation of the OTC Roles and Responsibilities. Each work item description includes its relationship both to the OTP Goals and to OTC Roles and Responsibilities.

In addition to the five categories outlining work that requires OTC involvement in the current biennium, the plan also includes monitoring items that the commission will oversee as well as ongoing work. The ongoing work is listed as part of the OTC Roles and Responsibilities.

While the work plan focuses on the current biennium, consideration of long term issues and future challenges are an ongoing priority for the OTC. The commission intends to conduct workshops in conjunction with OTC meetings to discuss these issues and challenges.

Work Plan efforts are divided into three primary categories:

- I. OTC Work Plan Items* - work that requires OTC involvement in the current biennium (pages 3 to 6).
- II. Monitoring Items* - work developed by staff and provided to the OTC for oversight (page 7).
- III. Ongoing Work* - work categorized according to the OTC Roles and Responsibilities (8 and 9).

Also included in the plan is a chart showing the relationships of the work items and monitoring items to each of the OTP Goals and the OTC Roles and Responsibilities (page 10), and a calendar showing the approximate timeframe for dealing with the work items (page 11).

Oregon Transportation Plan Goals

OTP Goal 1: Mobility and Accessibility

To enhance Oregon's quality of life and economic vitality by providing a balanced, efficient, cost effective and integrated multimodal transportation system that ensures appropriate access to all areas of the state, the nation and the world, with connectivity among modes and places.

Goal 2: Management of the System

To improve the efficiency of the transportation system by optimizing the existing transportation infrastructure capacity with improved operations and management.

Goal 3: Economic Vitality

To promote the expansion and diversification of Oregon's economy through the efficient and effective movement of people, goods, services and information in a safe, energy efficient and environmentally sound manner.

Goal 4: Sustainability

To provide a transportation system that meets present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs from the joint perspective of environmental, economic and community objectives. This system is consistent with, yet recognizes differences in, local and regional land use and economic development plans. It is efficient and offers choices among transportation modes. It distributes benefits and burdens fairly and is operated, maintained and improved to be sensitive to both the natural and built environments.

Goal 5: Safety and Security

To plan, build, operate and maintain the transportation system so that it is safe and secure.

Goal 6: Funding the Transportation System

To create a transportation funding structure that will support a viable transportation system to achieve state and local goals today and in the future.

Goal 7: Coordination, Communication and Cooperation

To pursue coordination, communication and cooperation among transportation users, providers and those most affected by transportation activities to align interests, remove barriers and bring innovative solutions so the transportation system functions as one system.

I. OTC Work Plan Items

Transportation Planning

Least Cost Planning

HB 2001, Sections 6 and 7, direct ODOT to develop a least cost planning (LCP) model for use in decision making in cooperation with local governments and Metropolitan Planning Organizations. The OTC sets the policy direction for LCP effort with assistance from the STIP Stakeholder Committee.

OTP Goals: *Mobility and Accessibility, Management of the System, Economic Vitality, Sustainability*

OTC Roles and Responsibilities: *Policy Development, Strategic Planning, Strategic Projects and Programs*

Statewide Freight Plan

Develop the statewide freight plan and investment strategies. Work includes collection and analysis of freight data to better understand and forecast freight needs as well as understanding the economic structure of the state that drives demand for freight services. The OTC will review and approve the final plan.

OTP Goals: *Mobility and Accessibility; Economic Vitality*

OTC Roles and Responsibilities: *Strategic Planning*

Oregon Rail Transportation Reports

This work item incorporates the “Rail Assessment and Action Strategy” from the OTC 2008 Work Plan and the requirements of 2009 legislation. The Rail Assessment Study results will be followed by the development of action strategies and the Oregon Rail Plan. The OTC will approve the plan and action strategies.

OTP Goals: *Mobility and Accessibility; Economic Vitality*

OTC Roles and Responsibilities: *Policy Development, Strategic Projects and Programs*

Selection Criteria for STIP Projects

HB 2001, Sections 16 and 17, directs the OTC to work with stakeholders to review and update the criteria used for STIP project selection and provides 10 policy considerations. The OTC will review and approve the STIP Stakeholder Committee recommendation and guidance for STIP process.

OTP Goal: *Management of the System*

OTC Roles and Responsibilities: *Strategic Planning, Policy Development*

Mobility Standards

OHP mobility standards are used for planning applications and provide direction for setting performance expectations and identifying system deficiencies. Mobility standards and related performance measures will go beyond volume/capacity (v/c) ratios to provide the right local and statewide balance between economic development and mobility. Work will link to various local Transportation Plan performance measures which may include reliability and accessibility. Specific initiatives related to this work include:

- Metro RTP - Alternative mobility standards may be required in conjunction with the Metro Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) which will require approval by the OTC.
- HB 3379 - As an outcome of House Bill (HB) 3379, passed during the 2009 legislative session, the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) was directed to adopt an administrative rule for an application process that local governments may use if they are not able to meet the funding requirements of the Transportation Planning Rule (TPR).

OTP Goals: *Mobility and Accessibility; Economic Vitality; Coordination, Communication and Cooperation*

OTC Roles and Responsibilities: *Strategic Planning, Partner and Stakeholder Relationships*

Transportation Funding and Financing

Innovative thinking and actions are needed to address the systemic and economic challenges to current transportation funding mechanisms. The OTC will continue policy discussions regarding tolling and other congestion pricing tools. The OTC will work to ensure the state maximizes the use of available transportation funds.

Congestion Pricing Pilot Programs

HB 2001, Sections 3 and 4, directs ODOT to develop one or more pilot studies in the Portland metro area to study the effect that congestion pricing may have on traffic congestion. The OTC sets policy direction for congestion pricing as outlined in the tolling papers. The OTC establishes policy criteria for the selection of pilot projects and approves administrative rules setting pricing levels that follow the policy direction.

OTP Goals: *Mobility and Accessibility; Management of the System; Sustainability; Funding the Transportation System*

OTC Roles and Responsibilities: *Strategic Projects and Programs, Policy Development, Strategic Planning*

Funding Allocations

The OTC allocates available funds including:

- STIP Program funding
- Flexible federal funds
- The Urban Trail Fund

OTP Goal: *Funding the Transportation System*

OTC Roles and Responsibilities: *Fiduciary Responsibilities*

Road User Fee Initiative

The Road User Fee Task Force was established by the 2001 Oregon Legislative Assembly. Its mission: To develop a revenue collection design funded through user pay methods, acceptable and visible to the public, that ensures a flow of revenue sufficient to annually maintain, preserve and improve Oregon's state, county and city highway and road system. The Road User Fee initiative is part of the larger policy discussion of addressing transportation funding. Two OTC commissioners are required to serve on this task force.

OTP Goal: *Funding the Transportation System*

OTC Roles and Responsibilities: *Partner and Stakeholder Relationships*

Federal Authorization Implementation

Provide guidance on Federal Authorization issues.

OTP Goals: *Funding the Transportation System; Coordination, Communication and Cooperation*

OTC Roles and Responsibilities: *Fiduciary Responsibilities, Strategic Planning*

Transportation Project Delivery

Jobs and Transportation Act 2009 - Transportation Projects Program

HB 2001, Section 64, requires construction of 37 projects the legislature identified plus additional projects to be identified by 12 local governments within available financial resources. The OTC will review and approve recommendations for local projects, monitor project implementation and per Section 64 (1), the OTC shall determine the order of completion for projects listed in Section 64 (2).

OTP Goals: *Mobility and Accessibility; Management of the System; Economic Vitality; Funding the Transportation System*

OTC Roles and Responsibilities: *Strategic Projects and Programs; Fiduciary Responsibilities*

Practical Design

HB 2001, Sections 19 and 20, directs ODOT to follow design practices that incorporate the maximum flexibility in the application of standards to reduce cost while preserving and enhancing safety and mobility and to provide a report to the legislature.

OTP Goals: *Mobility and Accessibility; Management of the System; Sustainability*

OTC Roles and Responsibilities: *Strategic Planning*

Transportation Governance

Policy Analysis of Governance Issues

HB 2001, Sections 1 and 2, directs the House and Senate Interim Transportation Committees to: a) Review the responsibilities / resources given to the state, counties and cities for highway system and make recommendations to align resources and responsibilities better, b) Review best practices for stakeholder involvement in transportation decision making, c) Identify opportunities for greater program efficiency through intergovernmental cooperation, and d) Study national best practices for improving the delivery of metropolitan transportation services through enhanced regional decision making. The OTC will be kept informed about the activities of the interim committee and engage in the development of related policies.

OTP Goals: *Management of the System; Funding the Transportation System; Coordination, Communication and Cooperation*

OTC Roles and Responsibilities: *Policy Development, Strategic Planning, Partner and Stakeholder Relationships*

Climate Change and Transportation

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction

SB 1059 requires the OTC to adopt a statewide transportation strategy on greenhouse gas emissions to aid in achieving the greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals set forth in ORS 468A.205, for greenhouse gas emissions resulting from transportation. The Bill further requires that ODOT and DLCD establish guidelines for developing and evaluating alternative land use and transportation scenarios that may reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The two agencies are also to establish a toolkit to assist local governments in developing and executing actions and programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from light vehicles.

OTP Goals: *Mobility and Accessibility; Economic Vitality; Sustainability; Coordination, Communication and Cooperation*

OTC Roles and Responsibilities: *Policy Development, Partner and Stakeholder Relationships*

Planning to Reduce VMT and GHG Emissions

HB 2001, Sections 37 through 39, requires Metro to adopt a land use and transportation scenario for the Portland metro area designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from light vehicles while accommodating population and economic growth. Local governments within the Metro boundaries are to adopt comprehensive plans and land use regulations consistent with the adopted scenario. Additionally, LCDC in consultation with OTC is to adopt rules that establish planning standards to achieve greenhouse gas emission reductions through a comprehensive planning process. The bill further requires the Central Lane MPO to adopt a land use and transportation scenario to achieve greenhouse gas reductions from light vehicles while accommodating growth.

OTP Goals: *Mobility and Accessibility; Economic Vitality; Sustainability; Coordination, Communication and Cooperation*

OTC Roles and Responsibilities: *Policy Development, Partner & Stakeholder Relationships*

II. Monitoring Items

ConnectOregon III

HB 2001, Sections 8 through 10, authorizes \$100 million in bonds for the ConnectOregon III program and requires that 5 percent of the proceeds be allocated to rural airports and that each region of the state receive no less than 10 percent, provided that there are qualified projects in the region. The OTC will approve the final list of projects to be funded under ConnectOregon III

OTP Goals: *Mobility and Accessibility; Economic Vitality; Funding the Transportation System*

OTC Roles and Responsibilities: *Strategic Projects and Programs; Fiduciary Responsibility*

Project Delivery Processes

This is a continuation of work begun under the 2008 work plan. The OTC will receive updates on the performance improvement initiatives identified at the March 2009 meeting as well as the strategies in support of System Optimization / Operational Improvement.

OTP Goals: *Management of the System;*

OTC Roles and Responsibilities: *Strategic Projects and Programs*

Environmental Stewardship / Green Standards

HB 2001, Section 18, directs ODOT to adopt rules that take into consideration environmental stewardship approaches developed for the 2003 Oregon Transportation Investment Act, to incorporate environmental performance standards into all highway projects and improve the permitting process for construction projects. The OTC will review and approve administrative rules on environmental stewardship.

OTP Goals: *Management of the System; Sustainability*

OTC Roles and Responsibilities: *Strategic Planning, Strategic Projects and Programs*

Co-Location of State and Local Facilities

HB 2001, Section 15, directs ODOT to prepare a budget request to facilitate the sharing of offices and facilities with local government in addition to its biennial capital construction request. The OTC will review proposed criteria for co-location projects and will review and approve any Program Option Packages.

OTP Goal: *Coordination, Communication and Cooperation*

OTC Roles and Responsibilities: *Fiduciary Responsibilities, Partner and Stakeholder Relationships.*

County Vehicle Registration Fee

HB 2001, Sections 40 and 68, authorizes a county with a population more than 350,000 to adopt a local option registration fee by ordinance to finance replacement of the Sellwood Bridge. Requires county or counties enter into an intergovernmental agreement prior to ODOT collecting a county registration fee. The OTC will be kept apprised of Multnomah County's efforts to implement the local option fee.

OTP Goal: *Funding the Transportation System*

OTC Roles and Responsibilities: *Fiduciary Responsibilities*

III. Ongoing Work

Categorized by OTC Roles and Responsibilities

Policy Development

Policies encompassing federal and statewide transportation policy; department planning and operations; and legislative affairs.

Examples:

- Oregon Modal Plans
- Oregon Transportation Plan
- Transportation system policy review and development
- Transportation funding options (tolling, mileage fees)
- Driver license issuance policies

Strategic Planning

Specific initiatives or work items targeted at long-term transportation improvements or advancements.

Examples:

- OTP implementation – review of progress toward OTP Goals
- Workshops on future challenges and innovative ideas
- Facility Plans (Interchange Area Management Plans, Refinement Plans)
- Legislative Concepts
- Oregon Administrative Rule approvals
- Safety Plan and Safety Annual Report
- STIP criteria approval
- Governor's initiatives
- Intermodal integration

Strategic Projects and Programs

Direct involvement and briefing on major projects, programs or issues.

Examples:

- Columbia River Crossing
- Freight Mobility
- OTIA III
- Safe Routes to Schools
- Major computer/program updates
- Performance measure / dashboard oversight

Fiduciary Responsibilities

Financial oversight of fiscal activities related to the financing and managing of transportation systems, including budget development, resource allocations, bond issuance and financial audits.

Examples:

- Maximizing the efficient use of transportation dollars
- Asset Management
- Agency Request Budget
- Monitoring of overall budget (via performance dashboards)
- Bond sale authorizations
- Funding allocations
- Policy Option Packages
- Approve and monitor special funding packages (OTIA, *ConnectOregon*, ARRA)
- STIP adoption and amendments
- Audits

Partner and Stakeholder Relationships

Develop and support contacts and relationships to plan, problem solve and advocate for Oregon transportation. Act as a sounding board for the ODOT Director.

Examples:

- ACT meetings and charter approvals
- Advisory committees (Bicycle Advisory Committee, Oregon Transportation Safety Committee, Public Transportation Advisory Committee, Oregon Freight Advisory Committee, etc.)
- Cooperative Improvement Agreements
- Meetings with other agency commissions
- Community and citizen meetings

OTC 2010 / 2011 Work Plan Relationships

**Chart of the OTC 2010 / 2011 Work Plan to
OTP Goals and OTC Roles and Responsibilities**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ OTP Goals ○ OTC Roles & Responsibilities 	Mobility & Accessibility	Management of System	Economic Vitality	Sustainability	Safety & Security	Funding Transp. System	Coord., Comm. & Coop.	Policy Development	Strategic Planning	Strategic Proj's/Prog's	Fiduciary Responsibility	Partner and Stakeholder Relationships
OTC Work Plan Items												
Least Cost Planning	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓		
Statewide Freight Plan	✓		✓						✓			
Oregon Rail Transportation Reports	✓		✓					✓		✓		
Selection Criteria for STIP Projects		✓						✓	✓			
Mobility Standards	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓			
Congestion Pricing Pilot Programs	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		
Funding Allocations												
Road User Fee Initiative						✓						✓
Federal Authorization Implementation						✓	✓		✓		✓	
JTA - Transportation Projects Program	✓	✓	✓			✓				✓	✓	
Practical Design	✓	✓		✓					✓			✓
Policy Analysis of Governance Issues												
Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions - SB 1059	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓				✓
Planning to Reduce VMT and GHG Emissions	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓				✓
OTC Monitoring Items												
ConnectOregon III	✓		✓			✓				✓		
Project Delivery Processes												
Environmental Stewardship / Green Standards		✓		✓					✓	✓		
Co-Location of State and Local Facilities							✓				✓	✓
County Vehicle Registration Fee						✓					✓	

Calendar of OTC 2010 / 2011 Work Plan Items

	2010				2011				2012 / Later
	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	
Work Items									
Least Cost Planning					✓				
Statewide Freight Plan				✓					
Oregon Rail Transportation Reports			✓						
Selection Criteria for STIP Projects	✓	✓							
Mobility Standards	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Congestion Pricing Pilot Programs	✓								✓
Funding Allocations		✓							
Road User Fee Initiative							✓		
Federal Authorization Implementation - Timing TBD based on bill passage			✓			✓			
JTA - Transportation Projects Program	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Practical Design	✓		✓						
Policy Analysis of Governance Issues				✓					
Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions - SB 1059						✓		✓	✓
Planning to Reduce VMT and GHG Emissions						✓			✓
Monitoring Items									
<i>ConnectOregon</i> III	✓		✓						
Project Delivery processes	✓								
Environmental Stewardship / Green Standards		✓							
Co-Location of State and Local Facilities		✓							
County Vehicle Registration Fee - Timing determined by county applications									
Workshops (to be determined by the OTC)									
Transportation Safety - DMV, MCTD, TSD									
Future Challenges									
Transportation Governance									