



Facts About The Oregon Innovative Partnerships Program

Progressive Leadership for Oregon's Transportation Future

Background: Mobility is at the core of Oregon's economy and our quality of life. The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) has been keeping people and commerce in Oregon moving safely and efficiently for decades via a modern network of publicly funded highways, roads, bridges, rail lines and public transit.

To secure Oregon's economic future, we must keep moving forward to maintain and operate a safe, reliable and efficient transportation system that keeps up with Oregon's needs. But there are challenges. For example, \$6 billion is needed in the Metro region alone to meet its mobility demands over the next 20 years. Yet, these public funds do not currently exist. At the same time, the costs to study, design and construct new highway infrastructure continue to rise. The fact is traditional public financing of highway construction and improvements—principally, the Oregon State gasoline tax (the last one-cent increase was in 1993)—has not kept pace with our increasing mobility demands and transportation infrastructure needs.

Profile: The Oregon Innovative Partnerships Program (OIPP) is a bold and progressive initiative to expedite the study, funding, design and construction of new transportation infrastructure necessary for Oregon's economic future. The OIPP is the result of the forward-thinking leadership of the Oregon Legislature, which in 2003 passed Senate Bill 772, breaking down many of the barriers standing between the State's transportation infrastructure needs and the critical but unfunded transportation projects identified to meet those needs.

The Oregon Innovative Partnerships Program paves the way for ODOT to fast track important transportation infrastructure projects by bringing new funding, expertise and technology together to maximize the public's investment in transportation.

Facts: Administered by ODOT, the Oregon Innovative Partnerships Program creates a platform for studying, designing, funding and constructing new transportation infrastructure projects that would otherwise be decades away or never constructed at all. It does this by:

- Supporting the creation of public-private partnerships between ODOT, other government agencies and the private sector to encourage early-stage innovation in highway project study, design, funding and construction.
- Allowing ODOT to issue requests for proposals and accept unsolicited proposals for transportation projects from private-sector firms, other government agencies or public-private partnerships.
- Authorizing flexible financing options for public-private highway, rail, public transit, airport and seaport projects, including private-sector funding, lease-back tolling operations, special improvement districts, and federal and State bonds.
- Allowing the fast-track study, design, funding and construction of State highway projects independent of the normal State procurement process, but under the authority of ODOT and the Oregon Transportation Commission.



Benefits: The progressive and pioneering Oregon Innovative Partnerships Program will help ensure Oregon's strong economic future by bringing the best of the private sector together with the best of the public sector to deliver transportation infrastructure projects to Oregonians better, faster and more efficiently by:

- Streamlining the study, design, funding and construction of transportation projects through public-private partnerships.
- Achieving cost and time savings by engaging the innovations, efficiencies and technologies unique to the private-sector.
- Creating opportunities for private-sector funding of transportation projects.
- Ensuring that ODOT retains control and requiring all projects to conform to strict environmental and land use regulations, and to be sensitive to the needs of the communities they serve.
- Ensuring that the expansion and improvement designs meet ODOT's performance standards at the lowest possible construction cost.
- Taking the responsibility for interest rates on the debt and repayment of the debt, lifting that burden from taxpayers.