

OREGON PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PLAN

A NEW STATEWIDE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PLAN FOR OREGON IS COMING SOON!

Over the past 20 years, Oregon has changed in many ways. More people have moved here, the population is aging, and technology and transportation preferences are different. The next 20 years is likely to bring even larger shifts, which will affect how people move within their communities and around the state. Public transportation is a key component in planning for Oregon's future.

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) is working with stakeholders across the state to develop a new Oregon Public Transportation Plan (OPTP). The OPTP will include policies and strategies to help people in Oregon proactively anticipate change and wisely invest public resources. Policies and strategies direct the work of ODOT and frame and support the decisions of transit agencies and regional and local government – impacting transportation decisions throughout the state.

The OPTP will become part of the family of mode and topic plans under the Oregon Transportation Plan. The Oregon Transportation Plan is the umbrella plan that sets direction for transportation in Oregon. Statewide mode and topic plans refine that document, establishing goals, policies, and strategies specific to

KEY TRENDS

State population has grown by one million people since the first OPTP was adopted.

- Demographics are shifting: baby boomers are aging, millennials are entering adulthood, and travel preferences are changing as a result
- The number of trips taken on public transportation has grown rapidly (90% increase since 1990)
- 20% of Oregon households use public transportation at least once per week



particular parts of the transportation system. Statewide mode and topic plans do not describe specific projects or investments, but they are important because they help guide and set priorities for local, regional, and state decisions about future investments.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN OREGON:

- Connects people to one another, to places, and to critical services within and between Oregon's urban and rural communities
- Supports Oregon's economic vitality
- Contributes to the health and safety of Oregon communities

WHAT WILL THE OPTP INCLUDE?

The OPTP will focus on policies and strategies that cover transportation services provided by or funded by public agencies, like fixed-route bus, demand response (door-to-door) services, streetcar, and light rail. The plan will also look at interactions between public services and existing and emerging private services, like intercity bus, ridesharing, and carsharing systems. The OPTP is a statewide plan – meaning it will provide a high-level foundation that will guide public transportation decisions and investment throughout the state.

WHAT ARE THE OPTP'S OUTCOMES?

- Setting a vision and goals for public transportation in Oregon
- Providing a statewide policy framework for decision-making
- Describing possible priorities under different levels of funding for public transportation
- Describing investment and implementation opportunities and challenges
 - Defining the role of public transportation as a key part of Oregon's transportation system



WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THE PLANNING PROCESS?

We are still early in the process! The ODOT project team is conducting research and analysis to form a picture of the current status of Oregon's public transportation system and identify opportunities and challenges. A Policy Advisory Committee is guiding plan development, including establishing a vision and goals for the future of public transportation. In addition, a Technical Advisory Committee and focus groups will provide information and verify plan components. The project team is working to understand the future financial needs of public transportation providers, while also assessing trends, opportunities, and challenges that will shape public transportation in the years to come. Public outreach throughout the process will inform development of all plan elements.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

ODOT needs to hear from everyone including community members, public transportation providers, and government agencies to ensure that the OTP reflects the public transportation needs and desires of the state as a whole.

ODOT is involving a wide variety of people – like community representatives, business, transit users, public health, and environmental representatives – in the conversation about public transportation and how it contributes to the overall transportation system in the state. This input, along with that from the interested public, will help shape the advisory committees' conversations about policies and strategies to include in the OTP.

Your participation will shape the OTP, and in turn, the future of public transportation in Oregon. ODOT will soon be reaching out to providers and the public to share the new plan's draft vision and goals and hear feedback about the public transportation issues facing communities in Oregon. Stay tuned for more updates this summer!

After outreach this summer, ODOT will return to ask the public for feedback on draft policies and strategies.

During a final round of outreach, ODOT will ask for your feedback on the draft plan before finalizing the document in early 2018.

OUTREACH MILESTONES

There will be several opportunities for the public to weigh in on the OTP:

Summer 2016 – input on draft vision and goals, public transportation issues

Spring 2017 – review draft policies, strategies, implementation actions

Spring 2018 – review draft OTP

PROJECT CONTACTS AND WEBSITE

You can find more information about the OTP and sign up for email updates at <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TD/TP/Pages/optp.aspx>. Email updates will help you to follow the Policy Advisory Committee and other OTP activities.

Project staff members are listed below:

Lucia Ramirez

ODOT Planning
lucia.l.ramirez@odot.state.or.us
503-986-4168

Jean Palmateer

Rail and Public Transit Division
jean.m.palmateer@odot.state.or.us
503-986-3472

Brooke Jordan

ODOT Planning
brooke.jordan@odot.state.or.us
503-986-3510

Amanda Pietz

Planning Unit Manager
amanda.pietz@odot.state.or.us
503-986-4227