

## **INTERIM PROGRESS UPDATE TO OREGON SUSTAINABILITY BOARD**

### **Progress To Date**

ODOT has been implementing the three main goals of our sustainability plan. Sustainability has been integrated into the update of the Oregon Transportation Plan (OTP) as one of seven high-level goals. Sustainability goals have been incorporated in the delivery of the OTIA III Bridge Repair Program. Tangible successes include: ninety-five percent of 2005 spending to Oregon firms; 3,100 sustained jobs anticipated over the program; workforce development opportunities for women and minorities; development of a mitigation banking program; development of a construction waste management plan. Lastly, an environmental management system (EMS) has been developed and rolled out for our maintenance yard activities. In addition, we have been engaged in various other activities, including: continued adoption of alternate fuels in our fleet; undertaking a study to determine the costs and benefits of renovating the Transportation building as a green building; working on various diesel emissions reductions projects.

ODOT hired a full-time sustainability coordinator in May 2005. ODOT is now able to expand the current sustainability plan into a comprehensive sustainability program that gives structure to ongoing initiatives and describes future goals. This program will allow proposed actions to be implemented against a backdrop of relevant policies and procedures. To facilitate the program development and provide support and expertise over the next 1-2 years, ODOT hired a consulting firm at the end of 2005. Recent activities have included a period of outreach, awareness raising, and information gathering, including a series of key stakeholder engagement interviews.

### **Current Activities**

Current activities are focusing on program development, and will continue into the beginning of the 2007-2009 biennium. Thereafter, specific sustainability projects will be initiated that contribute to the overall sustainability efforts of the agency. Elements of the sustainability program that are currently in development include:

- Key messages and program identity
- Customized sustainability training materials
- Sustainability indicators/performance measures for various focus areas

In addition, work continues on many of the initiatives described in the above section, including the OTP update, various aspects of the OTIA III bridge program, the Transportation building renovation study, and the North Portland Diesel Emissions Oregon Solutions project. Furthermore, a list of “quick win” projects is being developed to ensure that tangible successes are won and progress continues as the program develops. These projects are likely to include double-sided printing, recycling revitalization, and green team development.

### **Future Plans**

ODOT will participate in both the Sustainability Leadership Team and the Sustainability Interagency Network, and will work proactively on the State Procurement Interagency Team and the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Interagency Team. ODOT’s Sustainability Coordinator will continue to focus on developing the remaining elements of the Sustainability Program, including:

- Benchmarking against other DOT’s and countries
- Governance – formation of an internal oversight group
- Development of program document outlines (Strategic Plan and Vision, Annual Work Plan, and Annual Evaluation)
- Communications (Sustainability website, Suggestion scheme, Informational presentations/brownbags, and InsideODOT articles)