

DRAFT
OREGON MODELING STEERING COMMITTEE
MISSION, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the Oregon Modeling Steering Committee to:

- Improve the state-of-the-practice and promote state-of-the-art land use and transportation modeling in the state of Oregon.
- Serve as a consensus forum and support group to coordinate the land use-transportation modeling efforts of federal, state, regional and local agencies.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES - Specific goals and objectives guide the OMSC in meeting its mission.

Goal 1: Support to Decision-makers – Provide technical information and analyses to support informed decision-making.

Objective 1.1: Proactively identify policy discussions or decisions that could benefit from modeling and analysis as a tool to support decision-making.

Objective 1.2: Provide objective technical support to assist decision-makers in considering and analyzing policy choices. This includes serving as technical experts regarding use of modeling and analysis as a tool to support decision-making, including definition of assumptions and interpretation of output.

Goal 2: Communication and Coordination – Provide a forum for exchange of ideas and to encourage use of and share current and future technology.

Objective 2.1: Promote establishment and provide oversight of standards for new models and best practices for modeling statewide.

Objective 2.2: Support development of an integrated statewide modeling effort.

Objective 2.3: Provide oversight for quality control and consistency for modeling processes, products, and applications.

Objective 2.4: Serve as a forum for dialogue among agencies with forecasting or other technical responsibilities to ensure coordination and agreement on underlying assumptions for various programs statewide.

Goal 3: Technical Excellence – Support research, development and application of models at the local, regional and statewide level, to improve and expand capabilities, integration and use of transportation models statewide.

- Objective 3.1:** Prepare and regularly update a strategic research, development and implementation plan for modeling statewide, based on identified user and customer needs. Address all modes and both urban and rural modeling needs and users.
- Objective 3.2:** Define data gaps and needs, define and execute efforts to fill those needs, and identify best methods of maintaining data to support modeling efforts.
- Objective 3.3:** Coordinate and validate model input and assumptions, and calibrate and refine model output, including understanding limits of assumptions, outputs and dependencies.
- Objective 3.4:** Coordinate and support research efforts to improve state-of-the-art and implementation of modeling projects and programs.

Goal 4: Education and Training – Proactively promote and educate modelers on the capabilities of transportation modeling as an analytical tool to support decision-making, through coursework, training, symposiums and case studies. Inform policy-makers of analysis as an objective technical support for decision-making.

- Objective 4.1:** Provide and support training on model processes and application for transportation model developers and non-technical users.
- Objective 4.2:** Work with educational institutions to develop academic curricula for transportation modeling.
- Objective 4.3:** Sponsor workshops, conferences and special topic meetings related to modeling and analysis for both technical applications and for use as a tool for strategic planning and policy decision-making.
- Objective 4.4:** Proactively promote and educate decision-makers and others on the programs, opportunities, and capabilities of transportation modeling as an objective analytical tool to support strategic management and investment decisions.

Goal 5: Peer coordination and Support – Serve as a technical and professional support group to members, agencies, local governments, consultants and others to further transportation modeling knowledge and expertise, and to maximize resources.

- Objective 5.1:** Serve as a forum for OMSC members for open and honest discussion regarding policy issues and opportunities for modeling and analysis applications.
- Objective 5.2:** Provide a professional and personal network opportunity.
- Objective 5.3:** Proactively seek opportunities for shared or joint projects to share knowledge and to maximize staff and financial resources.
- Objective 5.4:** Provide peer review on projects and programs.

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