

## OWIN FAST FACTS

**WHY OREGON NEEDS OWIN** - Our vital public safety communications systems are based on 1950's technology and 80% of the infrastructure must be replaced. The current system puts first responders at risk and is a real liability for Oregon. Anyone with a cell phone can send photos. Many of our police officers can not. It's a digital world and we're still counting on an analog system for emergencies.

**PARTNERSHIPS** - Through cooperation with local governments, OWIN saves at least \$44 million in construction and siting costs. Savings will increase as more public safety agencies realize the value of OWIN.

**ECONOMIC STIMULUS** - OWIN means job creation in the short term and a long-term investment in public safety that delivers dividends for the next 30 to 50 years. OWIN provides family-wage jobs in construction and engineering. Roads will be built. Cement foundations will be laid. Steel towers will be erected. Electrical systems will be installed. Today's boost to the economy will mean enhanced public safety tomorrow and for decades to come.

**METRO CONNECTION** - By coordinating the development of a new public safety communications system with Oregon's three most populous counties (Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas), OWIN expects to save as much as \$30 million. The existence of 46 communications sites in the Metro area means OWIN won't have to build expensive new sites from scratch.

**MICROWAVE BACKBONE GROWING** - OWIN goes operational in the next few months with a microwave backbone that's one part of the larger system. It connects towers stretching from Salem to Portland to Hood River County to Bend and back to Salem. State costs reduced by securing a \$6 million federal grant from COPS (the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services).

**CONNECTING THE I-5 CORRIDOR** - A high-speed microwave communications link stretching from Medford to Portland will soon be another part of the larger system. By partnering with the U.S. Department of Justice OWIN was able to save the state \$2.8 million.

**PORTLAND TO PENDLETON** - Cooperation with the Columbia River Inter Tribal Fisheries Council will result in completed construction of a microwave network bringing microwave sites in the Columbia Gorge into the OWIN system. OWIN leverages federal dollars and gets a \$1.7 million project for \$700,000 in Oregon funding.

**THE SOUTHWEST SEVEN** - Southwestern Oregon will become a vital network in this OWIN “system of systems”. Local public safety agencies control costs by collaborating on a regional microwave network. OWIN and local agencies save \$9 million due to congressional funding.

**OVERSIGHT** - The OWIN Project Steering Committee has a Charter which describes and defines its roles and responsibilities. The Steering Committee is made up of the heads of four State agencies (Corrections, Forestry, State Police and Transportation), representatives of the State Interoperability Executive Council, the League of Cities, Association of Counties, Regional Radio System Partnership and the Association of Public Safety Communications. This Committee will be one of the lead watchdogs of the OWIN project. OWIN is set to hire an independent firm for Quality Assurance early this Spring.

**EFFICIENCIES** - The OWIN project management team works closely with the Legislative Fiscal Office to assure elected representatives that taxpayer dollars are being spent wisely. The LFO credits OWIN with doing “an excellent job” responding to its recommendations.

## OWIN IN ACTION

**PARTNERSHIPS** - Agreements signed with 35 local governments. One agreement signed with a consortium of Tribal governments. Two agreements signed with agencies of the Federal Government.

**SITE SURVEYS** - Completed at 31 integral locations in 11 Oregon counties.

**ENGINEERING** - Completed for 680 miles of microwave pathways linking 28 separate sites and 54 microwave radio installations. When Phase I of OWIN is complete, engineered sites will cover the 18 counties of Western Oregon where 80% of the population lives and works.

**TESTING** – Groundbreaking research by OWIN engineers revolutionizes industry approach to building public safety communications systems. OWIN drive tests prove 700 MHz to be a more efficient use of spectrum than VHF than had been believed.

**MANAGING THE PROJECT** – Over the next six months, OWIN will move forward by issuing RFPs for Quality Assurance services, Architecture and Engineering services, Construction Management and General Contracting services, Environmental Protection and Historic Preservation assessments and Radio purchases.

