



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Oregon Transportation Commission

Office of the Director, MS 11

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DATE: September 1, 2016
TO: Oregon Transportation Commission

[Original signature on file]

FROM: Matthew L. Garrett
Director

SUBJECT: **Agenda E** – Trade and Logistics Initiative Report

Requested Action:

Receive an informational presentation about the Trade and Logistics Initiative.

Background:

Oregon's economy depends on the ability of businesses to stay competitive in the global marketplace. Oregon exporters and importers face mounting logistics challenges due to the loss of Portland Terminal 6 container service and changes in the international maritime and transportation industries.

In April 2015, Oregon Governor Kate Brown launched the Trade and Logistics Initiative to work with small and medium-sized business across Oregon to help identify solutions to their trade-related freight logistics challenges. The Oregon Business Development Department, the Oregon Department of Agriculture, the Oregon Department of Transportation, and the Port of Portland engaged more than 300 people in community forums held in Albany, Grand Ronde, Hermiston, Medford, Ontario, Portland, Redmond, and Wilsonville, as well as consulted with freight experts to develop recommendations for action and implementation.

The Trade and Logistics Initiative released its report in February with recommendations for action. These recommendations fall into four categories:

1. Resolution of Terminal 6 labor-management issues and restoration of weekly container service.
2. Operational enhancements and actions to improve the existing logistics system.
3. Strategic investments in freight logistics to sustain services.
4. Policy actions to enhance Oregon trade and improve the transport of goods.

The recommended actions, coupled with ongoing shipper support, are intended to help Oregon businesses that are facing increased transportation costs, longer transit times, reduced reliability, greater business risks, loss of markets and market share, and other business impacts. The goal is to help Oregon businesses move freight to markets and compete globally.

Following release of the report, the Trade and Logistics Implementation Team broke into a number of workgroups that engaged stakeholders in developing plans for implementation of items in the report. Representatives of the agencies involved in the effort will brief the Oregon Transportation Commission on the initiative, including the report and implementation work team reports.

Copies to:

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