



OREGON PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Project Purpose and Objectives

ODOT will soon engage with stakeholders across Oregon to develop a statewide Public Transportation Plan. Once complete, the new Oregon Public Transportation Plan (OPTP) will replace the 1997 version, and become part of the family of mode and topic plans under the Oregon Transportation Plan. Over the past 20 years a lot has changed and the next 20 years is expected to include even more dramatic changes, including shifts in demographics, travel preferences, technologies and overall public transportation needs. The update to the OPTP will consider these issues and identify opportunities for a connected and coordinated public transportation system. The end result will be a policy framework to accomplish a system that benefits Oregon and strives to meet the diverse needs of travelers across the state.

Preliminary Objectives for the New OPTP Include:

- Provide a statewide vision and policy framework to help shape the public transportation system in Oregon over the next 20 or more years.
- Discuss the role of public transportation in the context of the multimodal transportation system.
- Describe how public transportation can impact or contribute to state goals such as accessibility, availability, connectivity, economic development and social equity, among others.
- Address the state’s publicly funded transportation system, including rural and urban transit, special needs transportation and intercity bus services, as well as connections between transit system elements and with the transportation system overall.
- Describe the existing public transportation system and present a strategic approach to sustaining or improving public transportation in the future. While not describing projects, discuss the types of actions and investments needed as well as prioritization considerations.



What Will the New Plan Mean?

Once complete, the Oregon Public Transportation Plan will provide a statewide policy framework for decision-making. It will help direct ODOT in the activities the Agency engages in, and local jurisdictions are to be consistent with the policies and strategies, looking to them to support context-appropriate decisions they make for their communities and transit systems. The plan is likely to lead to greater statewide consistency in public transportation goals and services, enhance coordination and collaboration across the state, and help to bring about a more interconnected system.



Plan Development Process

Initial work on the OPTP has begun with the project team conducting background research and analysis to form a picture of the current status of Oregon’s public transportation system and identify opportunities. Once this basic information is assembled, formal work on OPTP content will begin and include substantial stakeholder engagement throughout the entire project. A Policy Advisory Committee will be convened in early 2016 to guide plan development. The Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) will be chaired by a member of the Oregon Transportation Commission, and include diverse stakeholders from around the state, representing the interests of those using or affected by the transportation system. Existing stakeholder committees, such as the Public Transit Advisory Committee (PTAC), will be consulted throughout the project. In addition, a Technical Advisory Committee or topic focus groups will be used to help develop and verify certain plan components. Though there will be many participants in plan development, the final decision-maker for the plan is the Oregon Transportation Commission.

Project Timeline

Below is a diagram that shows a general timeline for development of the OPTP. The effort is estimated to take about two years after the PAC begins its work in 2016.

OPTP Development Timeline



Project Contacts and Website

You can find more information about the OPTP development project and sign up for email updates here: <https://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/Planning/Pages/OPTP.aspx>. Email updates will help you to follow the Policy Advisory Committee and other OPTP activities. Project staff members are listed below; the primary contact for the plan is Lucia Ramirez.

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