



Agenda/Notes
Office of Governor Kotek — Racial Justice Council (RJC)
January 15, 2026—Zoom Webinar
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

CHAIR

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Governor Tina Kotek
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MEMBERS

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ana Molina	Jenny Pool Radway	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Matt Newell-Ching
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Angela Uherbelau	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jimmy Howard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Melinda Del Rio
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Annie Valtierra-Sanchez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Josie Silverman-Mendez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mark Jackson
	Bianey Jimenez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Washington	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Paul Solomon
	Ciara Pressler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kim McCarty	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Perla Medina Alvarez Lucio
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cynthia Richardson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Latiffe Amado		Reyna Lopez
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Drae Charles	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marcus C Mundy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Shay Huber
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	James Cador	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maria Elena Guerra "Meg"	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Star Khan
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Janice Mason	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marin Arreola	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tristen Edwards
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	James Alan Parker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marcus LeGrand	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yulissa Magana

OTHER ATTENDEES

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Andre Bealer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Javier Cervantes		Taylor Smiley Wolfe
	Amy Schlusser	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jesse Hyatt		Valerie Colas
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Anca Matica	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Johnna Timmes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Vince Porter
	Aimee Fritsch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Johnna Papaefthimiou	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yasmin Solorio
	Bob Livingston	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim McKenna	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kirsten Ray
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chris Warner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> KC Ledell		Rachael Moser
	Doug Gafe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kelly Brooks		Constantin Severe
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Danny Moran	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kristina Narayan		Brandy Hemsley
	Rachel Currans-Henry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matthew Tschabold		April Rohman
	Erik Cole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maya Crawford Peacock	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rep Chotzen
	Rachel Moser	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Morgan Gratz-Weiser	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rep Lesly Munoz
	Shana McConville	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Svetha Ambati		Kate Nass

Topic/Lead	Notes/Main Points	Decisions/Action Items
Welcome— Javier/Andre	<i>Meeting starts at 3:03pm. Javier and Andre welcome attendees.</i>	
Legislative Preview Pt. 1— Governor	Governor: Waiting for revenue forecast for the first week of February. It's a very fast 5 weeks of adopting budgets. The co-chairs of Ways and Means and Rep. Sanchez working with law makers on ways and means to look at budget reduction lists. Budget hole they are trying to solve for is about \$750M. There's about \$400M of that that can be classified of new agency adjustments that have to be addressed. Bulk is related to HR1 back in July requiring us to spend money as state for SNAP, Medicaid and unexpected costs for health services. We have two reserves: rainy day fund and reserves. It's not necessarily accessible until certain triggers are met. Most of the conversation has been around reductions. We are in the process of grouping those	

reductions into three levels - 1, 2 and 3.

1 – reductions to agencies that have minimal impact such as not direct service but reduce things for the state to do things in the future.

2 - More impact and consequences

3 - Potentially cut back on programs provided today, significantly.

We will likely hit minimal level of 1% across agencies in all of our general fund lottery fund spending. In terms of process, this is mostly internal Ways and Means. Unlikely to see any lists until first week of February after revenue forecast is issued.

In terms of the Governor's Office (GO) – in short session, GO is allowed three legislative bill drafts. Bills we are working on are economic development, behavioral health workforce, and increasing housing for individuals 55+ older.

Annie: It's important to not lose that community. We're hearing it right now, if there's cuts to Medicaid we are relying on each other and community relationships to be in a healthier state of mind.

Governor: Building manufactured communities close to services and community but allow flexibility and getting to that connection piece.

Marin: What are the resources for funding fast track permitting is to clear pathway and see what we currently require and make all those things better so we can have more efficiency.

Governor: When we get bill numbers, we will let people know. Also send out one pagers as they are available on the bills.

Once bill numbers are assigned to the Governor's LC's, send one-pagers to RJC.

**Legislative Preview Pt. 2—
Rep. Chotzen & Rep. Muñoz**

Rep. Chotzen provides his insight on the upcoming session and legislation for session.

Rep Chotzen: Safeguarding students and families - If ICE shows up to a school, that schools are ready for a system to notify families so they are safe as possible. Bill locking down and safeguarding data so it's protected as possible.

Law Enforcement Accountability and Visibility Act (LEAVA) – generally bans masked police in communities. Ensuring we are holding immigration enforcement accountable, so when they are doing things there is a system of accountability.

Making sure system isn't assisting federal government and selling public lands. Want to make sure we are preparing for the next year and forward.

Rep. Munoz: You covered the bills well.

Marin: Can the state create laws to make ICE agents accountable?

Rep. Munoz: That's what I heard from my community the most. Woodburn is losing businesses and closing - has a lot of impact. My bill is allowing for people to sue an individual agent when their fourth amendment rights are being violated. Will help hold individual agents

accountable. My community said they wanted to have some type of ability to take action against these agents. Have a lot of energy to pass the bill. If I can think of a way for people to pass the bill will let people know.

Rep Chotzen: There is a lot we can do. Really trying to learn from other states to stop some of the harm and hold individual officers accountable when they are breaking the law.

Latiffe: Expectation on public safety – while no one can impede on federal operations, the rule of legal observer and investigations. What role can police departments take? We need to ensure we are protected and a way the police department can play a role of legal observers would be super helpful.

Appreciate the conversation on data and how we are protected – we know that data has been retrieved and weaponized. Still waiting on communications go out. When data is compromised through large corporations, I get a notification via mail. So many community members don't know their information was compromised. There are things we can do as a state to inform people of security breaches that have happened.

Assuming gender affirming care lawsuit, assuming they go into law, what's the states response for filling gender affirming care for youth to ensure we can keep it going for state dollars?

Rep Chotzen: For the police questions, been talking with advocates and individual officers and chief of police. We also want to be precise on messages going out. What they are witnessing are clearly unlawful situations. Rep Chaichi LEAVA is trying to put a tool in place so we know if it is a legitimate officer.

Governor: The good thing about Oregon is we have a robust dialogue with law enforcement, its unique situation for them. On data sharing and notification – will be honest don't think it's possible to know when data being shared with federal government is being used. It's a chilling effect and challenging.

We are still discussing how best to address issues with gender affirming care and scenario planning. We will pivot solutions to ensure people can get care that is still legal in Oregon.

Rep. Munoz: Because this is short session, we are limited to two bills only. Most legislators postponed their bills for longer session and uplifted their immigration bills since it's so important. We have a lot of ideas that couldn't come about due to short session, but we have plans and welcome any other ideas for long session.

Meg: Is there any kind of agreement for these protections you're putting on the table?

Rep. Chotzen: The values that underscore all of these bills are values that will protect Oregonians regardless of how they voted. I think we will welcome republican support and have a plan in place to ensure we can

take care of people being affected.

Annie: It sounds like there's different bills, how are you prioritizing? Are there any bills that might have these included so it's not all separate? When it comes to prioritizing, anything that takes funding will be shakier even if need is great. What's the strategy for all of this and is there a way to get those bills to have more than one ask?

Rep Chotzen: Yes, was looking at bills that don't cost money and we know there are communities that need more funding and all the urgent things we need to do there. There are ways we can combine them and it's not too late.

Rep Munoz: All the organizations signing on are signing onto the immigration package. Sometimes when you combine things it will fail because the other isn't going to pass. As individual bills, we can have a higher likelihood of passing things.

Yulissa: There's been many families that have been detained and there's been a financial burden and impact left. A lot of people are afraid to go to work and live and do daily tasks. There was talk about them to have ability to take legal action, how that would work if they are struggling financially? Is there any support that can be given to them if they don't have additional funds to do so?

Rep Chotzen: There's ways to crack legal action so the ability to seek justice isn't limited by financial up front. Rep Valderrama has an ask that focuses on children's stability.

Governor: We have structures and services in Oregon that can help with that. It's just about finding that. We're in a better place than having to create a whole new program.

John: This isn't new to the Black community, this kind of activity. Just want to make sure our interest isn't missed in these bills and other communities are being affected in different ways. We're all being hit differently and some of these topics and issues need to be talked about in addition to other hits.

Rep Munoz: I was thinking of that, in constitutional rights. That's why I highlighted fourth amendment as we want to include safety for everyone.

Short Session Advocacy—Andre B

Andre shares “RJC Legislative Session Advocacy Guidance”

It's important as we evolve the work of RJC, that we can evolve that work as well. Ensure we can collaborate to have the framework for short session and manage our compassion. Session is just two weeks away.

Important Dates:

Jan 13-Jan. 15, 2026 January Legislative Days

Jan. 16, 2026 LC Drop Deadline

Feb. 2, 2026 2026 Legislative Session Begins

Feb. 4, 2026 Revenue Forecast

Feb. 16, 2026 First Chamber Deadline (Bills must be voted out of

	<p>or they die)</p> <p>Feb. 26, 2026 Second Chamber Deadline (Bills must be voted out of their second-chamber committee)</p> <p>March 8, 2026 Constitutional Sine Die (End of Session)</p> <p>Will be important to get a concise list of bills so we can track and set us up so we can notify folks on alerts as things come down the pike.</p> <p>Feb 4th is the next revenue forecast. It's the forecast the legislature balances around. Understanding how bills may be impacted because of the forecast will be critical.</p> <p>For engagement principles – we have to move quick. Things are going to go so fast that we won't have a lot of time to sit and think and do a lot of going back and forth on if something is important. Early identification of bills is most important. Speed over perfection.</p> <p>Being consistent with your message and speaking with a shared voice. This is important so we are ready to go to provide testimony, letter, etc. It's important so we are prepped for your support or opposition for a bill. This will decrease the lift on our end.</p> <p>Engagement framework – Priority setting is the first step. So many great convos with legislators, they are keen on your priorities, they've seen the annual report and it has been very important. Several legislators we met with are on our radar and know what to expect.</p> <p>What we will be using are “Action Alerts”. Just a template for an email we will use for what the action is and it will tell you what's happening and why it matters to you all.</p> <p>OLIS Training on Jan 29th at 11am via Zoom.</p> <p>Every week we will do a short email on bills moving and important deadlines.</p> <p>Staff capacity – we will not be drafting letters on your behalf, and the letters need to be in your voice. During short session, we will not be requesting meetings with individual legislators. Will continue to track overall engagement for the bills.</p>	
<p>January Legislative Committee Update—Committee Members</p>	<p>Kim: Today met with staff from Sen. Campos' office, and met with Rep Valderrama. One of my take ways for those convos are to work with the BIPOC Caucus. Many folks are aware and want to be supportive of our priorities. It was good to hear that and hear how we can be supportive where there's overlap.</p> <p>Tristen: Met with Sen Pham and Broadman. From criminal justice side, there is a fiscal impact because it reaches our criminal legal system. Talking to Sen. Pham on HR1 and its impacts. She also seemed to be looking to RJC and exec branch for ways to be prepared and looking at Minnesota and what's happening there. With Sen Braodman its similar issue and initiatives and suggestions around revenue.</p> <p>Marin: Overall theme was very supportive of work of the RJC. The concern they have was budget and economy but overall you have support from individuals within RJC plan. Its one of the best benefits of these meetings to help in the long term to move the work of the RJC.</p> <p>Javier: By the end of the month we will have met with over 18 Reps and</p>	

	<p>Senators. Its impressive and want to commend those folks who have volunteered their time. It makes a big difference.</p> <p>Star: I'm interested in working on legislative team.</p> <p>Andre: Great, will have you sign up.</p>	
EEC/EJC Merger Report Out—Andre B. & Anca M.	<p>Andre: Want to streamline and have a one stop shop for advocating in the environmental space. It makes sense to combine the two groups. Anca will talk about what that looks like and next steps.</p> <p>Anca: We are trying to look for ways to help address redundancies. Feel like it's a great opportunity to combine forces.</p> <p><i>Anca screenshares "Racial Justice Council_EJC Presentation – Anca" slides</i></p> <p>Environmental Justice is something defined in statute. Definitions is vague. Environmental justice can be applied to a lot of the work agencies are doing. Environmental Justice Council (EJC). Hosted as a formal body by HB 4077 in 2022. Its responsible for the Environmental Justice (EJ) mapping tool. The map tool is important. We have deadlines and statue we are trying to meet. EJC is also tasked with advising the Governor and state agencies on best practices. EJC has 13 total seats.</p> <p>John: What's the different between this and Legislative Commission on Indian Services (LCIS)?</p> <p>Governor: LCIS was built 50 years ago, designed to enhance sovereign government to government in legislative branch. Comprised of the nine federal recognized tribes in Oregon.</p> <p>Anca: 2026 is a big foundation year for EJC. Want to ensure we get to quorum. This year is establishing policy lends for the RJC. Spending second half of this year on how to streamline thing with state agency. 2027 is a deadline heavy year, we have to implement EJ mapping tool and EJ reporting metric process.</p> <p>EJC/EEC merger- We'd love to have some of those Environmental Equity Committee (EEC) members. EJC is meting monthly for two hours. February will be short session chaos. March will be when EEC has their final meeting and we formally incorporate work of the EEC into EJC.</p>	
Annual Report Review—Javier C.	<p><i>Javier screen shares 2025 RJC Annual Report and gives an overview.</i></p> <p>Javier: By statute, the RJC is required to share its Annual Report with the Oregon Legislative Assembly, leaders of Oregon's Secretary of State, Bureau of Labor and Industries, State Treasurer, and the Attorney General.</p> <p>Marin: How do the legislators get it? Do you make hard copies?</p> <p>Javier: Via email, no hard copies.</p> <p>Marin: Do state agencies directors?</p> <p>Javier: Have not done that in past practice but great recommendation.</p>	
Open Mic—RJC	<p>Kim: Seem likes EEC has a lot of responsibility that RJC members doesn't have. Do our other subcommittees be taking on roles like that if that's the case?</p> <p>Anca: The current makeup of EJC is in statute they are their own body within the Governor's Office. Taking time to do that intentionally. Still hoping to have some of our EEC members remain on RJC and so we don't lost that perspective</p>	For March meeting agenda – Work search requirements

as well. That connection point between the two is crucial.

Annie: There is conversations around work requirements for those who are receiving OHP or Healthier Oregon program. We know there's work requirements for people who get SNAP and this is now a thing. Just wanting to know if this is something you're hearing about.

Governor: We might want to do a bit of a write up with the whole Council. The state has had to move forward with some of the work requirements in the SNAP program in HR1. Some work requirements have started. We don't have instruction from the federal government on requirements and how to implement. Direction to agencies is be creative and make sure you meet intent and flexibility. Specially in rural communities to meet "work search" may be hard to achieve. Maybe lets bring it back to March meeting. we'll have further guidance on that point.

John: How are we coming along with disparity study? Where's your perception on where you're at.

Andre: Jesse is doing a lot of good work. Believe they are on track to complete that by end of April or May. Can have Jesse give you info on that.

John: In first quarter, City of Portland is developing something similar.

Andre: Not aware, can have Jesse plug into that as well.

Yulissa: For the able-bodied portion – they are distinguishing eligibility for graduate students vs undergrad. If grad students aren't working full time, they would be legible if they were doing their undergrad but are ineligible because their grad students.

Governor: Let's do follow up on that and how much of that is in implementation at this point.

Star: Our community is in panic over looming ICE facility that our current administration is trying to build in Newport. At this point, we think the best course of action is to be proactive and prepare for the worst. What sort of support can the state offer to support our communities of color in this instance. What can we do?

Governor: When that news came, we did regular mtgs with Newport on what they could do there. Haven't had an update recently on that. We are doing everything possible to stop building something there.

Chris: We can follow up. Erin McMahan with OEM has been leading those. Courtney Flathers has been our lead there. Will get you most up to date information.

Star: Is there anything our local government can do to help until we get guidance from the state?

Chris: The local governments have been in those meetings.

Star: Working with local city council. We need more than performative assurances. Our city council wants to be more than performative. Do you have any suggestions on anything what can be legally done on the states perspective.

Chris: Will check with Courtney and get back to you.

(specifically for rural communities) and HR1

Andre to connect with Jesse on Disparity study update and City of Portland's work for John W.

Gov Office to team to look into eligibility for undergrad vs grad students re: SNAP requirements

Gov Office team to gather Newport updates.

	<p>Jan: A few reflections – We talked about human trafficking in state of Oregon, don't have any data but some of these folks wearing the masks and posing as federal officials and taking people – that concerns me and I don't have a direct correlation. It concerns me about what we don't know is happening. There is now an increase in student populations registering for law school, will be vitally important for the future. Not an expert on criminal justice or the law. Whatever we can do to support those students would be amazing. Don't know how we connect to arm our law enforcement to address the human trafficking which overlaps with bad actors pretending to be ICE officers.</p> <p>Annie: Noticing our Reps dropped off, but I did bring this up at our in-person meeting, the masking and I mentioned ICE taking youth and minors. That is very scary, if an adult is scared and not knowing what their rights are or who to contact – and having minors being taken. There is no difference. Really hoping these bills are heavy into the safety because that is probably the only things we will have if they pass. Being able to differentiate a mission enforcement vs other bad actors participating. We know there is a lot of trafficking in our state – this adds another layer of almost permission. Really scary.</p> <p>Kim: This is very real for many of us. What can our cities and state do. Does the state have any authority to do check points in front of these airports or places that we can know who exactly is being transported?</p> <p>Governor: Really interesting question. Circumstances of the world require us to get creative. Some of the things that have to do with the coast- is it a private or public space, do we have access, etc. these are abnormal times and we will have to figure out how to think creatively to think people safer. As it relates to our young people, Sen Gelser Blouin is working on something in the foster care system, that you are still connected with the state and going to mandated appointments.</p> <p>Andre: Thank you for showing up and helping us shepherd your advocacy.</p>	
Announcements/A djourn— Javier C	<p>Javier:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tarriff document - sent to you back in December. Will be resending it out and will also be in our minutes. • Please double-check calendars for your relative Committee(s) and Council dates. • OLIS training by Danny Moran on Jan 29th at 11am. • Optional public meeting law training from Ethics Commission on Feb 24th at 9:30am. • Spring recruitment soon. For those who will be terming out, we will be reaching out likely late April to see if you'd still like to continue. • Last thing – in-person meeting for either March, May or July. <p>Governor: We have great lawmakers working on a set of bills this upcoming session. Oregon remains steadfast, we will come up with ways to protect our communities.</p> <p><i>Meeting ends at 5:04pm.</i></p>	

Materials	 RJC Advocacy - Andre.pdf	 Trade in Oregon_August 2025	 Racial Justice Council_EJC Presenta	 Governor Kotek 55 and Older and Manu	 Governor Kotek Economic Developm
	 Reducing Barriers for Behavioral Health				

Zoom Chat

15:00:01 From Yulissa M(she/her/ella) to Hosts and panelists:

Hello :)

15:03:48 From Javier Cervantes, Gov. Office (El, He, Him, His) to Hosts and panelists:

Agenda: Racial Justice Council Meeting, Thursday, January 15, 2026 (times are approximate)

1. Welcome—Governor
2. Legislative Preview Pt.1—Governor
3. Legislative Preview Pt. 2—Rep. Chotzen & Rep. Muñoz
4. Short Session Advocacy—Andre B.
5. January Legislative Committee Update—Andre
6. EEC/EJC Merger Report Out—Andre B. & Anca M.
7. Annual Report Review—Javier C.
8. Open Mic—RJC
9. Announcements/Adjourn— Javier C.

15:04:21 From Andre Bealer (he/him) Office of the Governor to Hosts and panelists:

Andre Bealer, Equity and Racial Justice Director

15:04:27 From Anca Matica, Gov Office (she/her) to Hosts and panelists:

Anca Matica, natural resources & climate, communications/policy work for Governor Kotek

15:04:48 From Yasmin Solorio, Gov Office (She/her) to Hosts and panelists:

Yasmin Solorio, Executive Assistant

15:05:37 From Danny Moran (he/him), Governor's Office to Hosts and panelists:

Danny Moran, Deputy Legislative Director in Governor Kotek's Office

15:09:52 From Javier Cervantes, Gov. Office (El, He, Him, His) to Hosts and panelists:

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15:24:42 From Latiffe Amado (she/her/ella) to Hosts and panelists:

multi=generational households are the norm in the majority of the world =)

15:24:49 From Star Khan--she/ella to Hosts and panelists:

multigenerational families were heavily impacted by the fires in my area as well

15:27:49 From Jan Mason to Hosts and panelists:

Very interested in the development bill. Happy to support and provide input or desired on permitting, land use or zoning. Have fluency personally.

15:29:57 From Latiffe Amado (she/her/ella) to Hosts and panelists:

is public safety and the role of local PDs part of the agenda?

15:32:49 From Star Khan--she/ella to Hosts and panelists:

I was going to bring this up during open mic if it hadn't been discussed before then

16:01:44 From Rep. Willy Chotzen to Hosts and panelists:

I have to head out, but I'm deeply grateful to you all for allowing me to join you today. Please reach out to my office if you have follow-up questions or would like to discuss how to support any of this work. rep.willychotzen@oregonlegislature.gov

16:02:12 From Javier Cervantes, Gov. Office (El, He, Him, His) to Hosts and panelists:

thank you!

16:03:54 From Josie Silverman-Mendez (she/her), Willamette Health Council to Hosts and panelists:

Apologies all, I need to drop off for another commitment. Thanks for the great discussion and updates. I look forward to our shared advocacy during short session.

16:04:37 From MEG (she, her, ella) to Hosts and panelists:

I apologize, looks like we have 3 ICE cars in one of our properties. I need to leave

16:04:38 From Yasmin Solorio, Gov Office (She/her) to Hosts and panelists:

I'm not sure if it's just my computer but your volume is quite low, Andre

16:05:18 From Yulissa M(she/her/ella) to Hosts and panelists:

The volume is low on my end as well

16:09:21 From Jimmy Howard (he,him) - RJC to Hosts and panelists:

Thanks Andre, very helpful

16:10:37 From Kim McCarty to Hosts and panelists:

Thank you team for setting up the meetings.

16:12:15 From Andre Bealer (he/him) Office of the Governor to Hosts and panelists:

Apologies if you could not hear me. I am a bit under the weather. We will share out the slides after the meeting. Please reach out with questions.

16:16:14 From Governor Kotek (she/hers) to Hosts and panelists:

In the car and listening to

16:16:22 From Governor Kotek (she/hers) to Hosts and panelists:

THANK YOU for those leg visits!

16:17:42 From Perla Medina, she/her, RJC to Hosts and panelists:

Thank you Legislative committee!

16:19:17 From Javier Cervantes, Gov. Office (El, He, Him, His) to Hosts and panelists:

Remaining Agenda Items:

6. EEC/EJC Merger Report Out—Andre B. & Anca M.
7. Annual Report Review—Javier C.
8. Open Mic—RJC
9. Announcements/Adjourn— Javier C.

16:32:11 From Anca Matica, Gov Office (she/her) to Hosts and panelists:

Anca.Matica@Oregon.Gov

16:32:44 From Perla Medina, she/her, RJC to Hosts and panelists:

How do our EJ Committee RJC members feel about this merger 😊

16:33:44 From Anca Matica, Gov Office (she/her) to Hosts and panelists:

Happy to address the question or let members speak for it themselves! Have had a few conversations at the EEC level with members and had some 1:1 phone calls with folks too to gauge interest

16:33:44 From Ana Molina to Hosts and panelists:

The EEC folks have been a part of these convos and feel good about it. I think there is interest from some members to be a part of the EJC.

16:35:05 From Perla Medina, she/her, RJC to Hosts and panelists:

Love it, thanks Ana!

16:36:24 From Yasmin Solorio, Gov Office (She/her) to Hosts and panelists:

By statute, the RJC is required to share its Annual Report with the Oregon Legislative Assembly, leaders of Oregon's Secretary of State, Bureau of Labor and Industries, State Treasurer, and the Attorney General.

16:36:26 From Jimmy Howard (he,him) - RJC to Hosts and panelists:

Thanks for all of your work on this Javier!

16:37:21 From Governor Kotek (she/hers) to Hosts and panelists:

Thank you to the Annual Report RJC members and to Javier and Yasmin for all the great work to put this together!

16:38:37 From Kim McCarty to Hosts and panelists:

Would the requirements of the EEC transfer to the EJC? Would this merger and relative responsibilities make this committee of the RJC different from the other committees?

16:41:08 From Marin Arreola to Hosts and panelists:

Great meeting! I need to go to another meeting. Thank you.

16:45:05 From Jimmy Howard (he,him) - RJC to Hosts and panelists:

I have to hop off, see you all next time.

16:49:19 From Anca Matica, Gov Office (she/her) to Hosts and panelists:

I have to head out. Thank you very much for letting me present today and please don't hesitate to get in contact if you have any questions.

16:55:16 From Latiffe Amado (she,her,ella) to Hosts and panelists:

just wanna name that FBI and USFS have been cooperating with ICE and FBI raids have happened that are really collateral ICE raids all over the state. Happened in Medford last year and in Eugene last year. There is no federal agency that is safe right now.

16:56:28 From Jan Mason to Hosts and panelists:

Thank you Latiffe. I appreciate you noting.

16:58:28 From Javier Cervantes, Gov. Office (El, He, Him, His) to Hosts and panelists:

I will add the announcements in a separate email.

16:58:54 From Perla Medina, she/her, RJC to Hosts and panelists:

I wanted to share about a groundbreaking project that I am working on, hoping you can help me spread the word to ensure we have BIPOC representation from every corner the state:

Pride in Numbers (<https://prideinnumbers.org/>) is a community-led, statewide research project by and for Two-Spirit and LGBTQIA+ people across Oregon.

Through an online survey (<https://prideinnumbers.org/survey>), storytelling sessions, and a community art project, Pride in Numbers is creating a powerful portrait of Two-Spirit and LGBTQIA+ life across Oregon. The information and stories Pride in Numbers gathers will be shared back with the community, so advocates, can build the programs, services, and policies we deserve and dream of.

16:59:56 From Star Khan--she/ella to Hosts and panelists:

We already have factions of our community tracking us, people of color, for ICE. Just yesterday someone came through and put a paper on the door on the houses of just latinos where I live about Mexicans being wild beasts

17:00:50 From Latiffe Amado (she,her,ella) to Hosts and panelists:

I'm so sorry that is happening... hope you can report the Oregon DOJ hot line

17:01:22 From Star Khan--she/ella to Hosts and panelists:

we called the police. they said nothing criminal had been done

17:01:22 From Marcus LeGrand to Hosts and panelists:

Here is a bit of information about what is going on in Central Oregon <https://www.bendsource.com/news/localnews/a-seven-month-battle-against-ice/>

17:01:23 From RJC Annie Valtierra-Sanchez to Hosts and panelists:

Disheartening @Star, terrible!

17:04:34 From Latiffe Amado (she,her,ella) to Hosts and panelists:

even though it may not be criminal it can be documented as a hate incident AND there are victim services available

17:05:10 From Star Khan--she/ella to Hosts and panelists:



17:05:17 From James Alan Parker to Hosts and panelists:

Thank you all

17:05:22 From Drae Charles to Hosts and panelists:

Thanks everyone!



Governor Kotek's Bill to Produce 55 and Older Housing and Manufactured Home Communities (LC 94)

Background

Oregon is experiencing a well-documented housing affordability and production crisis. The impacts are being felt acutely by older and working-class Oregonians. The state needs solutions that will fast track housing for residents who need the affordable options offered by age restricted or manufactured home communities.

LC 94 uses the established SB 1537 (2024) tool to provide an opportunity for cities to add sites for housing for 55 and older communities or manufactured home communities within their UGBs.

Older Oregonians and Housing Affordability

Oregon's population continues to grow older¹ and older adults are often reliant on fixed incomes, requiring affordable housing options and opportunities to avoid more expensive housing in the general marketplace. Severe rent burden jumps from 12.8% for the 25-54 age range to 19.7% for the 55 to 64 age range, and only continues to increase for older age groups, reaching 35.5% for adults 85 and older.² This leaves many older adults without access to affordable housing options and unable to move or downsize into a community better suited for them. Providing more housing units for older adults also creates housing options for individuals and families that might not otherwise have access to these homes.

Manufactured Housing

Manufactured housing is one of the most affordable housing options for many Oregonians. A single manufactured housing unit can be produced at just 35% of the cost of a site-built house.³ According to 2024 data, manufactured homeowners paid almost half the monthly housing costs of all homeowners — \$711 compared to \$1,335.⁴ At a time when housing and homeownership costs are increasing and there are limited public resources to invest in affordable housing, facilitating manufactured home park development through use restricted sites can help Oregon create more affordable housing opportunities.

¹ [Oregon Office of Economic Analysis: Population and Demographic Outlook \(2025\)](#)

² [ACS 1-Year Estimates Public Use Microdata Sample \(2024\)](#)

³ [Harvard University Joint Center for Housing Studies: Five Barriers to Greater Use of Manufactured Housing for Entry-Level Homeownership \(2024\)](#)

⁴ [Lincoln Institute of Land Policy: State of Manufactured Housing \(2024\)](#)

Solution

LC 94 uses the established SB 1537 tool to provide an opportunity for cities to add sites to their UGBs for housing for 55 and older communities or manufactured home communities. Cities can bring in up to 50 or 100 acres – depending on city size⁵ – of non-resource or exception land that will support affordable age-restricted residential communities or manufactured housing developments. This creates opportunities for developers to acquire land at a price that enables the development of manufactured home parks or affordable older adult housing communities.

LC 94 also requires the development of complete communities, where older Oregonians or manufactured homeowners can access housing, shopping, and recreation, all within accessible distance. The LC mandates a concept plan for the new site that includes the following:

- Recreation and open space
- Neighborhood-scale commercial uses
- Diverse transportation infrastructure to support walking, biking, and public transit
- For 55 and older communities, a diversity of housing types at urban density levels

Cities may still use the standard SB 1537 site addition tool.

Impact

Depending on the city population, the tool could provide up to 200-400 manufactured homes. A single manufactured housing unit can be produced at just 35% of the cost of a site-built house. This means cities using this tool for a new manufactured home community could anticipate a similar reduction in the cost of housing and increase in affordability for city residents.

For 55 and older communities, there is a federal requirement for at least 80% occupancy by 55+ residents. In addition, LC 94 requires that housing be affordable to older Oregonians at 120% area median income or below – between \$68,000 and \$90,000⁶ and below in most Oregon counties (Hood River, Deschutes, Benton, and Metro counties are higher). Smaller cities could add sites supporting 250 or more units, while larger cities could add sites for up to 1,000 units. All cities in the state are eligible for the site addition.

For more information, contact:

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971-208-0894

Danny Moran

Deputy Legislative Director

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503-551-8636

⁵ The Metro UGB is capped at 300 total acres.

⁶ Household size of 1-2 persons.



Governor Kotek's Economic Development Package (LC 109)

Background

In December, Governor Kotek unveiled her Prosperity Roadmap alongside business and community leaders. The strategy lays out three broad goals: retain and grow Oregon businesses, catalyze job creation, and accelerate Oregon's economic growth.

Governor Kotek is advancing these goals through a series of administrative actions and LC 109, her economic development package for the 2026 session to jumpstart the Prosperity Roadmap.

FastTrack Permitting

Oregon's economic growth is being held back by slow, fragmented permitting processes that delay critical projects and discourage investment. Unpredictable timelines and high costs make the state less competitive for private investment and job creation.

To encourage major investments in Oregon's economy, LC 109 will establish **FastTrack Permitting** for qualified economic development projects in any of Business Oregon's targeted industry sectors. Businesses will qualify when making at least a \$150 million investment in the Oregon economy and seeking approvals from more than one state agency. Modeled after an existing federal program, FastTrack will support up to 10 large projects at a time with the potential to create jobs and grow Oregon's GDP.

LC 109 establishes the **Joint Permitting Council** to develop clear permitting timelines and the lead agency for these large projects. Similar models are already used in Pennsylvania, Maryland and Michigan. The council would provide monthly updates on their work and an annual report to the Governor and Department of Administrative Services (DAS).

Permit Audit & Refunds

Businesses across sectors consistently report that unclear, inconsistent, and prolonged permitting times are among the most significant obstacles to expansion and innovation. Permit processing delays stall projects, increase costs, and undermine confidence in the regulatory system.

To increase transparency and reduce delays, LC 109 will establish an inventory of permits for all natural resource agencies and the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). LC 109 requires agencies to have that review completed and revised permit processing timelines within 120 days. If permitting takes longer than the updated timeline, the state will refund the permitting fee.

Industrial Site Readiness

Oregon lacks shovel-ready industrial sites. There are critical funding gaps for local governments, including upfront costs for infrastructure, environmental mitigation, site assembly, and other site preparation needs.

LC 109 includes a **\$40 million investment** for industrial site preparation and infrastructure improvements through the Industrial Site Loan Fund at Business Oregon.

Enterprise Zone Modernization

The Enterprise Zone program is one of Oregon's most effective economic development tools, driving private investment, and supporting job creation and retention in local communities. But these tools need to be updated and made more predictable to become more accessible to a broader range of companies interested in investing and expanding in Oregon.

LC 109 would modernize enterprise zones to increase access for businesses that may not have otherwise qualified for this economic development tool by:

- Modifying the job creation thresholds so small and rural communities can participate;
- Allowing retention, productivity, or revenue improvements as qualifying criteria;
- Expanding eligible businesses' criteria beyond current restrictions for traded sector businesses; and
- Extending enterprise zone exemptions beyond 5 years and allowing more flexible hiring timelines.

Expanding access to this opt-in program will unlock greater opportunities for businesses to invest across the state, strengthening Oregon's economy and fostering long-term growth.

For more information, contact:

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Reducing Barriers for Behavioral Health Workers (LC 216)

Background

Oregon faces a behavioral health workforce crisis. Waitlists for mental health services have grown by months since the pandemic. More than 75% of addiction counselors, medical doctors, and psychiatrists report intent to quit due to overwhelming caseloads, administrative burden, and insufficient support.¹ When professionals leave, Oregonians in crisis go without care.

Governor Kotek established the Behavioral Health Talent Council to address this crisis. Working with frontline providers, licensing authorities, and experts across the state, the Council developed a comprehensive set of recommendations for improving training and education pathways into the workforce, streamlining licensing and credentialing, and improving recruitment and retention for providers.

This bill implements four critical legislative actions the Council identified:

Streamline Credentialing for Behavioral Health Workers

Currently, workers are required to be credentialed through the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), as well as separately through each entity that their provider bills for their services. This causes unnecessary delays that keep qualified professionals from serving patients who are waiting for care and requires providers to pay workers who are not yet able to provide care.

This bill will require OHA to adopt a centralized credentialing process for behavioral health workers, allowing qualified workers to begin providing care sooner and reducing administrative burden on providers.

Reduce Administrative Burden to Give Workers More Time to Care for Patients

Behavioral health workers report that increasing administrative requirements – including duplicative reporting – take time away from patient care and contribute to burnout.

This bill directs OHA to eliminate unnecessary administrative burden as part of their mission, and report to the Legislature and Governor every two years on steps they have taken to reduce administrative burdens on providers.

Expand Licensing Boards' Ability to Serve Licensees and Protect Consumers

¹ [Oregon Behavioral Health Talent Assessment](#)

The Mental Health Regulatory Agency (MHRA) was created in 2017 to coordinate the administrative and regulatory functions of the Board of Psychologists (BOP) and the Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists (LPCT). The Board of Licensed Social Workers (BLSW) was not included in this structure and stands alone, despite significant overlap in their duties.

This bill brings the BLSW under the MHRA to improve efficiency and customer service without raising costs. This structure will leverage current administrative capacity to provide enhanced structure, customer support, and accountability to better serve licensees and clients of all three agencies.

Implement Cross-License Supervision to Expand Access to Clinical Supervision

Prospective master's level licensees need supervised hours to attain their license, but a lack of qualified clinical supervisors has created a bottleneck. Current rules for some behavioral health licensees allow for supervision by "any qualified mental health professional," while others are more restrictive.

This bill directs the licensing boards to draft and implement rules allowing for any prospective master's level qualified mental health licensee to receive supervision from any qualified mental health licensed professional, regardless of whether they and their supervisor possess the same type of license. This will reduce barriers for qualified workers obtaining their license.

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RJC Legislative Session

Advocacy Guidance

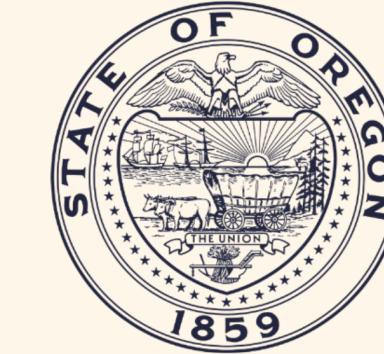
Legislative Session Important Dates



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IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE 2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION	
Nov. 21, 2025	Deadline to request new LCs
Jan 13-Jan. 15, 2026	January Legislative Days
Jan. 16, 2026	LC Drop Deadline
Feb. 2, 2026	2026 Legislative Session Begins
Feb. 4, 2026	Revenue Forecast
Feb. 16, 2026	First Chamber Deadline (Bills must be voted out of committee by this date or they die)
Feb. 26, 2026	Second Chamber Deadline (Bills must be voted out of their second-chamber committee)
March 8, 2026	Constitutional Sine Die (End of Session)

Engagement Principles



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- Speed over Perfection: Short, clear, values-based input is more effective than polished, lengthy analysis.
- Consistency of Message: Shared framing to reinforce RJC priorities across multiple messengers.
- Low Lift, High Impact: Engagement methods should minimize administrative burden, while maximizing volume and reach.



Engagement Framework

- Priority Setting
- Rapid Response
- Advocacy Pathways
- Coordination



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Templates



Sample Action Alert: Letter Writing (Quick Turnaround)

ACTION ALERT: Vote on letter(s) by [DATE] RJC Impact on [Bill Number] - Message (HTML)

File **Message** Insert Draw Options Format Text Review Help Acrobat Tell me what you want to do

To
Cc

Subject ACTION ALERT: Vote on letter(s) by [DATE] RJC Impact on [Bill Number]

Label No Label



Letter Writing Template

Support for [Bill Number] Advancing Racial Justice in Oregon - Message (HTML)

File **Message** Insert Draw Options Format Text Review Help Acrobat Tell me what you want to do

Aptos (Body) 9 **B** **I** **U** **A** Editor

To _____
Cc _____

Subject Support for [Bill Number] Advancing Racial Justice in Oregon No Label

Dear [Chair/Representative/Senator],

The Racial Justice Council is writing to express our support for [Bill Number], which is scheduled for consideration on [DATE] in the [Committee Name].

This bill is important because [describe issue]. Communities of color are disproportionately impacted by [harm/inequity], and [Bill Number] represents a meaningful step toward addressing these disparities.

From the RJC's perspective, we have seen how current policies affect [specific impact]. Advancing this bill would help ensure that Oregon's policies reflect our shared commitment to racial justice and equity.

Given the fast-moving timelines of the short session, timely action is critical. We urge you to support [Bill Number] and move it forward.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration.

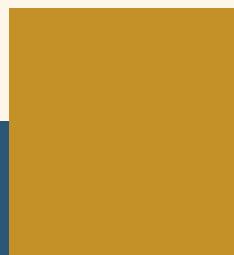
Sincerely,

[Name]
Racial Justice Council Member
[City/Region]

Andre Bealer (he/him)
Equity and Racial Justice Director
Office of Governor Tina Kotek
Scheduler: Yasmin Guerrero Solorio (yasmin.solorio@oregon.gov)
Voicemail: 503-986-6536



Questions?



Andre Bealer

Andre.Bealer@oregon.gov

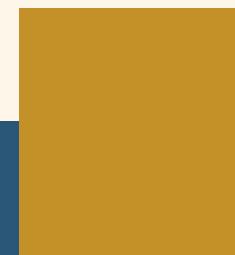
Equity and Racial Justice
Director



Javier Cervantes

Javier.Cervantes@oregon.gov

Racial Justice Council Advisor



Yasmin Solorio

Yasmin.Solorio@oregon.gov

Administrative Support



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Environmental Justice Council

Racial Justice Council Briefing



EJC Introduction

- Established in 2022 by HB 4077
- Advises the Governor and state agencies on how to implement environmental justice practices
- Responsible for developing an environmental justice mapping tool to identify environmental justice communities



EJC Composition

- 13 Total Seats
- 1 youth representative between 16-24
- 4 dedicated seats for appointees nominated by the following bodies:
 - Oregon Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs
 - Oregon Commission on Black Affairs
 - Oregon Commission on Hispanic Affairs
 - Legislative Commission on Indian Affairs



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2026-2027 Workplan



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2026 Workplan



1st Quarter

EJC Operations



2nd Quarter

State by State EJ Policy
Analysis

PRO & LCIS Collaboration



3rd Quarter

State Agency
Consultations

Legislation Info Gathering



4th Quarter

GRB Info Sharing
Strategic Planning



2027 Workplan

Implement EJ Mapping Tool

- Due:
12/31/2027

EJ Reporting

- Design EJ
Metrics
Process

EJ Policy

- In
partnership
with state
agencies



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EEC:EJC Merger



Merger Timeline

- **Fall 2025:** Facilitated workplan and strategic priority setting with existing EJC members and Ben Duncan, Kearns & West
- **January 2026:** First EJC meeting of the year, hit quorum with two new members, adopted bylaws
- **February:** Short session chaos!
- **March:** Final meeting of the EEC



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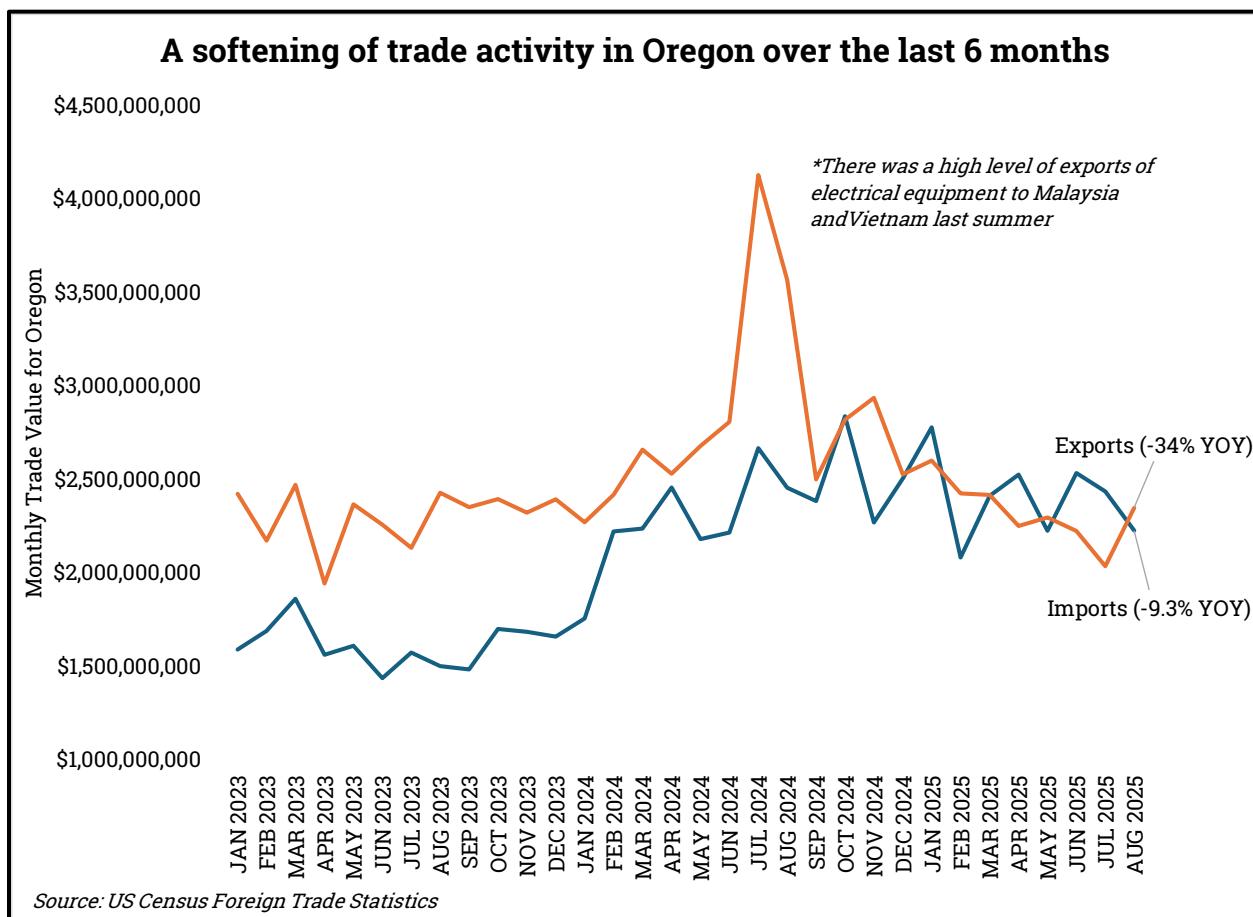
Thank You!

Trade in Oregon: August 2025 Update

Damon Runberg, Economist

The release of the monthly U.S. trade statistics was delayed for several months due to the federal government shutdown. However, the data for August 2025 was finally published on Wednesday, November 19. This release is particularly significant, as August marks the first full month of trade activity following the expiration of the 90-day freeze on reciprocal tariffs, which ended on July 9.

While it's still too early to draw definitive conclusions about how businesses are adapting to the new tariff environment, the August data offers some early insights into emerging trends. Both exports out of Oregon and imports into the state were down in August 2025 compared to a year prior. This pattern was consistent with the national trend, however the declines in Oregon were more pronounced.



Imports

As anticipated, Oregon's imports declined in August 2025 compared to the same month last year. Total import values fell by approximately 9.3%, a decline of around \$230 million in goods coming into Oregon, meanwhile imports into the US declined by 5.3%. This drop aligns with expectations, given the increased costs associated with newly implemented tariffs over the past six months.

The decline was broad-based, with notable reductions in imports of electrical machinery, medical and surgical equipment, chemicals and fuels, clothing, steel, and pharmaceuticals. Among Oregon's key trading partners, significant year-over-year declines were observed in imports from Taiwan, China, Singapore, Malaysia, and South Korea.

Despite the year-over-year decrease, it's important to note that August 2025 import levels remained well above those seen in 2023, suggesting that the overall volume of trade has not collapsed.

Exports

Oregon's exports also saw a sharp decline in August 2025, falling by 34% compared to August 2024, a drop of roughly \$1.2 billion. However, this steep decline is largely attributable to an unusually high volume of electrical equipment exports to Malaysia and Vietnam in July and August of last year. When comparing August 2025 to September 2024, the decline narrows significantly to just 6%, which is still notably higher than the US decline in exports of just 0.2% over the last year.

Even with the year-over-year drop, export activity to Malaysia and Vietnam remains above 2023 levels. In contrast, exports to Mexico, Canada, and Ireland have declined both from last year and from 2023 levels.

The downturn in exports spans multiple sectors, with the most pronounced declines in electrical and industrial machinery, vehicles, and wood products. While the drop in electrical machinery exports reflects last year's temporary surge, the declines in vehicles, industrial machinery, and wood products appear more persistent, with values also down from 2023.



Racial Justice Council Legislative Priorities

Codified into law in 2021, the [Racial Justice Council \(RJC\)](#) is composed of six committees, with individuals from across Oregon consisting of people with unique backgrounds and life experiences. The aim of the RJC is to build a way for the state to better engage with, listen to, and support Oregon's Black, Indigenous, people of color, and immigrants and refugees. The RJC has been a critical partner and advisor to Governor Kotek, helping to align priorities and the state's policies and operations with a racial justice and equity framework.

Housing and Homelessness

Theme: Impacts of Race-Based Housing Disparities

- Implementation of existing programs
- Housing Development

Economic Opportunity

Theme: Maintain existing equity-focused programs and build resilience of front-line communities to decide for themselves their economic opportunity and prosperity.

- Analyzing Agency Effectiveness
- Finalize Recommendations for an Updated Executive Order-22-15
- Workforce Workgroup: Implemented Recommendations for Future Ready Oregon and Modeling Workforce Development

Environmental Equity

Theme: Strengthen current policy and laws for the protection of vulnerable populations and advocating cost-neutral fiscal impacts.

- Partner on Efforts Related to the Oregon Environmental Restoration Funds
- Engage on Resiliency Efforts
- Working with Environmental Justice Council

Health Equity and Human Services

Theme: Provide values and equity framework to consider as we move into a budget constricted environment and inform how changes are communicated.

- Federal Medicaid & SNAP impacts to Oregon
- Coordinated Care Organizations
- Behavioral Health
- Healthier Oregon Program
- Traditional Health Workers
- Regional Health Equity Coalitions

Criminal Justice Reform

Theme: Accessibility, monitoring, and learning for the appropriate alignment of criminal justice reform.

- Affirming Sanctuary Law
- Advocate and maintain 1115 Medicaid Waiver for People in Custody and Continuation
- Restorative justice and reinforcing efforts
- Track relevant criminal justice bills to prevent widening of penalization system

Education

Theme: Information and data sharing and collaboration.

- Messaging the Fiscal Impact of Cuts
- School District Accountability

Meeting Calendar

The calendar of meetings can be found online at

<https://www.oregon.gov/gov/policies/pages/racial-justice-council.aspx>

Contact information

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