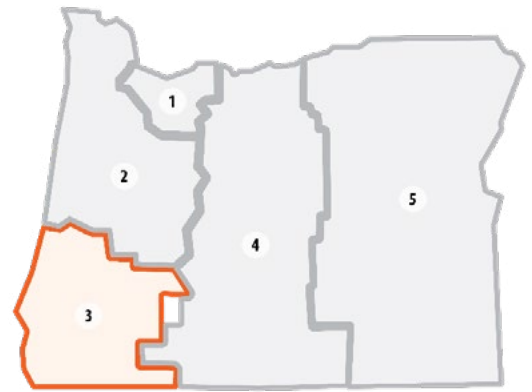


Level of Service Reduction: Region 3

We have long relied on gas tax revenue to maintain the transportation system, but that revenue is forecast to decline. More Oregonians are buying fuel efficient, hybrid and electric vehicles and using less gas. Meanwhile, the cost of doing business is increasing. ODOT can no longer maintain the system at the level Oregonians need and expect.

In response to this structural funding issue, we are reducing our expenses and services. We must prioritize our efforts and focus on safety. Drivers, cyclists, freight haulers, pedestrians – everyone who relies on our system – will experience a reduction in the service ODOT provides and a decline in the condition of the transportation system.



Region 3 serves southern Oregon and includes sections of I-5 and U.S. 101 along with lesser used state highways. Our crews operate out of 12 communities, maintaining 1,114 road miles, and 464 bridges.

Implementing our 2023-2025 budget

For our next budget, we implemented a 5% cut across all programs funded with state dollars. Within maintenance, we cut our services and materials an additional 15% to account for inflation and our reduced buying power. We are reducing service in three primary areas:

- Low-volume road maintenance.
- Roadside maintenance.
- Winter maintenance.

Additionally, we are reducing our use of overtime, reserving it for emergency events and storms. As we reduce the amount of proactive maintenance work we fund, we expect an increase in potholes, pavement ruts, and plugged and failed culverts.

ROADSIDE MAINTENANCE

We will reduce the volume and frequency of clearing and cleaning work in these areas:

- Mowing grass, spraying weeds and trimming vegetation.
- Removing brush and tree debris
- Litter and debris pickup.
- Graffiti removal.

In Your Area

We have reduced our seasonal litter patrol hires by 75%, which means you'll see more debris along highways.

Mowing and vegetation management will occur less often. We've reduced our mower fleet by one and may further reduce it in 2024. More vegetation may decrease visibility and increase the risk of wildfire starts and wildlife collisions. The landscape support we provide for partner agencies will decrease as well.

PAVEMENT MAINTENANCE

We are reducing pavement maintenance for low-volume roads – highways averaging less than 3,000 vehicles daily. We are deferring pothole and chip seal projects, and we are not repainting edge lines.

In Your Area

Roughly 36% of southern Oregon's state highways are low-volume roads. System users can expect rougher roads, with more potholes and deeper ruts. If conditions deteriorate enough, we may reduce speeds to give people more time and opportunity to navigate rough stretches of highway.

Edge lines will fade over time, particularly around curves. Drivers will need to rely on the centerline for lane locations. **We will not restripe faded edge lines** on the following highway segments:

- OR 138 from Elkton to Sutherlin and Glide to U.S. 97.
- OR 230 from Diamond Lake to Union Creek.
- OR 62 from Trail to Crater Lake National Park.
- OR 234 from Gold Hill to Eagle Point.
- OR 66 from Emigrant Lake to Klamath Falls.
- OR 273 from OR 66 to California border.
- OR 238 covering Provolt and Applegate.
- OR 260 from U.S. 199 to Robertson Bridge.
- OR 46 to Oregon Caves National Monument.
- OR 540 from Charleston to Cape Arago State Park.
- OR 241 from Bunker Hill to Glenn Creek Road.
- OR 42 S from Bandon to Coquille.
- OR 542 from OR 42 to Powers.
- OR 255 between Pistol River and Brookings.
- U.S. 101 to Cape Blanco State Park.

Reducing pavement maintenance and eliminating edge line restriping on low-volume roads allows crews to address critical maintenance activities on primary routes.

WINTER MAINTENANCE

This winter, we are reducing the amount of sand and deicer we apply to state highways. We will focus our efforts on key highways, hills, curves and known trouble spots.

In Your Area

With fewer seasonal employees, our crews will prioritize key routes, including I-5 and portions of OR 62, OR 42 and U.S. 199. Our crews will plow and sand other highways, including U.S. 101, OR 138, OR 66 and OR 38; however, sanding and plowing will occur less often.

We encourage area communities and travelers to prepare for the possibility of extended delays, closures, more chain restrictions, and varying degrees of traction as they navigate roads. With smaller budgets for staff and materials needed to plow, sand, and deice, the potential for traffic jams and crashes increases. Incidents will take longer to clear.

We strongly recommend travelers carry a fully stocked emergency kit, including a phone charger and weather-appropriate clothing, and refuel or recharge their tanks often.