OREGON PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PLAN

A NEW STATEWIDE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PLAN FOR OREGON!

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) has worked with stakeholders and the public across the state to develop a new Oregon Public Transportation Plan (OPTP). The new OPTP was adopted September 20, 2018 and is part of the family of mode and topic plans under the Oregon Transportation Plan, which provides overall direction for transportation in Oregon.

The OPTP:
• Establishes a shared statewide vision and goals for public transportation
• Provides strategies and initiatives for realizing the vision for public transportation
• Guides and supports investment decisions by state, regional, and local government agencies
• Positions public transportation to continue to play a key role in Oregon’s transportation system

Over the past 20 years, Oregon has changed in many ways. Many more people have moved here, the population is aging, transportation preferences have shifted, and transportation technology has provided new opportunities. The next 20 years will likely bring further changes, affecting how people move within their communities and around the state. The OPTP provides a statewide policy foundation for public transportation and guides decision makers in responding to these changes.

VISION FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

In 2045, public transportation is an integral, interconnected component of Oregon’s transportation system that makes Oregon’s diverse cities, towns and communities work. Because public transportation is convenient, affordable and efficient, it helps further the state’s quality of life and economic vitality and contributes to the health and safety of all residents, while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

THE PLAN’S 10 GOALS

1. Mobility – Public Transportation User Experience
2. Accessibility and Connectivity – Getting from Here to There
3. Community Livability and Economic Vitality
4. Equity
5. Health
6. Safety and Security
7. Environmental Sustainability
8. Land Use
9. Strategic Investment
10. Communication, Collaboration and Coordination

WHAT DOES THE OPTP MEAN BY “PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION”?

The plan provides policies and strategies to guide public agencies’ decisions about:
• Local, regional and intercity fixed-route bus lines
• Demand response (door-to-door) services
• Local and intercity rail services
• Interactions with current and emerging private services such as intercity bus systems, ridesharing and car sharing

The plan does not include specific projects or investments.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN OREGON:

• Connects people to one another, to places, and to critical services within and between Oregon’s urban and rural communities
• Supports Oregon’s economic vitality
• Contributes to the health and safety of Oregon communities
MOVING FORWARD

The OPTP is a plan for the whole state, guiding ODOT, cities, counties, metropolitan areas, tribal government agencies, and transit providers as they make decisions that affect public transportation services. Health and human services agencies, private transportation providers, and others that work with transportation agencies will also be informed by the OPTP policies and strategies. Implementing the OPTP will require all these stakeholders to work together, building on one another’s strengths and cooperating to achieve a seamless and successful public transportation system.

OPTP KEY INTIATIVES

These three initiatives are the focus for initial implementation of the plan. They touch on important themes raised throughout plan development, multiple OPTP goals, and are critical to OPTP success. ODOT and other stakeholders can each begin work on the initiatives, while most activities will require joint effort between ODOT and other transit stakeholders.

- **Plan Integration**: Agencies and providers working together to better integrate transit in their transportation, land use and other planning efforts
- **Regional and Intercity Services**: Improve and better connect public transportation services
- **Technology**: Anticipate, test and share new and improved technologies

NEXT STEPS

The OPTP provides a broad work outline for public transportation activities. In the months after adoption, ODOT will develop a more specific work plan for its early actions. The work plan will build on the OPTP policies and strategies and work ODOT has already begun, focus on the key initiatives and near term actions that ODOT can take, and identify implementation tasks that local and regional agencies can take.

ODOT is also working to implement the Keep Oregon Moving Act of 2017. This state legislation provides a new source of funding for public transportation, primarily directed to local providers, called the Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund. The OPTP is designed to support and build on priorities described in the Act, and ODOT will work on implementing both together. The OPTP establishes a statewide policy foundation while the new legislation and funding in the Keep Oregon Moving Act provide a powerful impetus for the future of public transportation in Oregon.

WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE NEW OPTP?

Policy Advisory Committee: diverse stakeholders that guided plan development
Technical Advisory Committee: stakeholders that advised on certain topics
Public Transportation Providers: large and small, urban and rural, public and private
Area Commissions on Transportation (ACTs): local officials and stakeholders
Metropolitan Planning Organizations
State agencies, boards, and commissions
Statewide transportation advisory committees
The public: in each of 2016, 2017, and 2018 ODOT presented and discussed the OPTP at public meetings throughout the state, and provided an online open house to gather input. Events included listening meetings, conference workshops, focus groups, and ACT meetings.

CONTACTS AND WEBSITE

Find the new OPTP and more information online at: oregon.gov/odot/Planning/Pages/optp.aspx
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