

2021-2026 ODOT Climate Action Plan Draft

What is the Climate Action Plan?

ODOT is developing a 5-year Climate Action Plan to help Oregon achieve a cleaner transportation future and address the impacts of climate change on the transportation system. Broadly, the plan will include actions to:

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transportation.
- Improve climate justice for all Oregonians.
- Adapt our transportation system to withstand extreme weather events.

ODOT has identified nearly 60 specific actions to pursue over the next five years, but they can't do them all. They're asking Oregon's communities for input, and to help prioritize what actions are needed the most.

Why do we need a Climate Action Plan?

Climate change poses a huge threat to Oregon's environment, economy, and way of life. The evidence is stark: wildfires, flooding, landslides, and other extreme weather have damaged our roads, destroyed homes, and cost Oregonians hundreds of millions of dollars each year.



Greenhouse gas emissions accelerate climate change, and in Oregon, greenhouse gases from transportation make up 40% of total emissions.

Climate is a critical lens by which ODOT will make decisions and investments, balanced alongside other important considerations like equity, safety, and the economy. ODOT recognizes of the importance of reducing carbon emissions from transportation and the impacts climate is having on moving people and goods in the state.

What is the scope of ODOT's legal authority?

The Climate Action Plan is unique to ODOT, and will only contain actions under the agency's authority.

What ODOT can do

- Reduce ODOT's carbon footprint from projects and construction.
- Design transportation infrastructure to withstand extreme weather.
- Increase investments for walking and bicycling and public transit.
- Support wider use of electric vehicles with fast, reliable charging infrastructure.
- Provide expertise and data on climate change and transportation in Oregon.

What ODOT can't do

- Establish incentives for the adoption of electric vehicles, this is a legislative action.
- Make improvements to local streets for walking, bicycling or public transit, this is the responsibility of cities and counties.
- Change or decide how land is developed, such as mixed use or high density housing.
- Set emission standards for vehicles, or regulate the use of alternative fuels.

Categories of actions

Policy & Investments

Solidify long-term commitment to climate in agency policy and investment decisions.

Partnerships

Partner with state agencies and support local jurisdictions to collaboratively pursue climate actions.

Community Engagement

Seek input from diverse communities about agency actions on climate change.

Equity and Climate Justice

Engrain climate justice and equity into agency policy, following the new ODOT Strategic Action Plan.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Mitigation

Programs and investments to expand electric vehicles, walking and bicycling, public transit, system operations and pricing.

Adaptation & Sustainability

Adaptation: *Make the transportation system more resilient to the effects of climate change.*

Sustainability: *reduce ODOT's carbon footprint.*

Performance Monitoring

Track and share progress towards ODOT's climate goals and incorporate climate performance measures into agency decisions.