

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING between the OREGON HEALTH AUTHORITY
and OREGON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Purpose

The Oregon Health Authority's mission is to help people and communities achieve optimum physical, mental and social well-being through partnerships, prevention and access to quality, affordable health care. OHA's guiding values are health equity, service excellence, integrity, leadership, partnership, innovation and transparency. The Oregon Department of Transportation ("ODOT") provides a safe and reliable multimodal transportation system that connects people and helps Oregon's communities and economy thrive. The values guiding ODOTs work are integrity, safety, equity, excellence, and unity.

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is hereby made and entered into between OHA and ODOT, hereinafter referred to as "parties". The purpose of this MOU is to guide the parties in working collaboratively to identify, develop and promote the relationships and intersectionality between health, transportation and equity; especially as these connections support priority populations and marginalized communities.

The parties voluntarily enter this MOU under the authority granted in the Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 190.010 which provides that State of Oregon agencies may enter into agreements with units of local government or other state agencies for any or all functions and activities that those agencies have the authority to perform.

Background

Transportation is essential to Oregon's quality of life and serves as the enabling network that provides for safe and equitable access throughout the state. A sound multimodal transportation system supports our existing economy, reduces the cost of congestion and inefficiency, and links us together. The transportation system serves important functions for all people in Oregon; employees commuting to work, children going to and from school, older adults getting to and from health care, farmers shipping crops to market, businesses receiving materials for use in manufacturing, high-tech manufacturers sending their products across the globe, consumers buying groceries at the local market, and visitors exploring our beautiful state. A safe, efficient and effective transportation system is critical for maintaining and enhancing Oregon's economy and quality of life for all.

Health is largely determined by the social determinants, including the built environment such as roadways and sidewalks. Transportation interrelates to health in several areas; for example, car travel and the availability of safe walking, biking, and public transportation options affect physical activity, weight, heart health, rates of vehicle fatalities and injuries, and mental health (e.g. road rage, social isolation). Additionally, transportation impacts equitable access to economic opportunities and services. Vehicle emissions are related to higher rates of respiratory disease, cardiovascular disease, adverse

pregnancy outcomes, climate change and environmental hazards (e.g. air pollution, water quality, heat islands, wildfire).

Governance Roles

Oregon Department of Transportation

ODOT develops programs related to Oregon's system of highways, roads and bridges; railways; public transportation services; safety programs; driver and vehicle licensing; and motor carrier regulation. ODOT is responsible for only a portion of the transportation facilities, primarily interstates and state highways, but also funds local projects and works closely with local governments and other entities to develop and maintain a safe and reliable transportation system.

The Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) is responsible for developing and maintaining state transportation policy. The commission also guides the planning, development and management of a statewide integrated transportation network that provides efficient access, is safe, and enhances Oregon's economy and livability. ODOT and the OTC are committed to the development of a transportation system that is modern, reliable, and serves all Oregonians in an efficient, environmentally responsible, and safe manner.

Oregon Health Authority

OHA works to fundamentally improve how health care is delivered and paid for. Because poor health is only partially due to lack of medical care, OHA also works to reduce health disparities and to broaden the state's focus on prevention and the social determinants of health. OHA is responsible for many of the state's major health systems including the Medicaid program known as the Oregon Health Plan, the Oregon State Hospital, public health, behavioral health, the Public Employees Benefit Board the Oregon Educators Benefit Board. OHA's Division of Equity and Inclusion works with diverse communities to eliminate health gaps and promote optimal health in Oregon

OHA is overseen by the Oregon Health Policy Board, a nine-member citizen board. The Oregon Health Policy Board develops and guides implementation of health care policy and is committed to providing access to quality, affordable health care for all Oregonians and improving population health. OHA works to improve health in partnership with a variety of organizations, including local public health authorities, tribal public health, hospital systems, community-based organizations and Coordinated Care Organizations.

Agreement

The parties agree to communicate, coordinate, and collaborate on activities that support their mutual goal to advance equity in health and transportation.

OHA and ODOT recognize that social determinants of health, such as living conditions and travel behaviors, are a key factor in the overall health of the population and transportation is intrinsically linked with human health. ODOT and OHA will work together to identify and address systemic barriers

to ensure all Oregonian's benefit from transportation and health-related services, and investments, meet mobility and health needs, while balancing the state's other complex interests. The parties will develop and implement initiatives that address the underlying causes of preventable morbidity and mortality through upstream, preventive approaches.

Partnership Goals

- Advance equity in health and transportation
- Improve traffic safety for all modes
- Increase safe active transportation options to improve healthy outcomes
- Improve air quality, reduce exposure to air pollution, and protect marginalized communities from impacts of climate change
- Improve equitable access to health care, employment, education, healthy food and other resources
- Improve preparedness for emergencies

Objectives

1. Coordinate policy and planning

OHA and ODOT have a shared interest in coordinated policy development and planning efforts to achieve the goals for the partnership. The parties will include mutual representation on advisory and rule-making bodies and committees at all levels of government, as applicable. The parties will coordinate on policy proposal development and implementation, including informal consultation as it pertains to shared priorities, as needed.

2. Foster alignment of health, transportation, and equity goals at state and local levels

OHA and ODOT will strive to improve communication and enhance relationships between the parties and between the transportation and health communities in Oregon. The parties will hold regular meetings and coordinate initiatives. Periodic updates will be provided to the Oregon Transportation Commission, and relevant committees of the Oregon Health Policy Board. The parties will conduct outreach to local communities and stakeholders to help create shared understanding about the connection between health, transportation and equity. OHA and ODOT will connect local partners across the State of Oregon, such as members of ODOT's Area Commissions on Transportation, the Oregon Transportation Safety Committee, the Governor's Advisory Committee on DUII, Coordinated Care Organizations, Local Public Health Authorities, Tribal Public Health Authorities, and the Coalition of Community Health Clinics. OHA and ODOT will identify potential resources and leverage funding to support this collaboration. In addition, the parties will seek opportunities for joint funding by highlighting that health is a factor in transportation planning and vice-versa.

3. Collaborate on research and data analysis

OHA and ODOT conduct research and collect data on injuries, deaths, physical activity, health care utilization, health outcomes and other related areas of interest. The parties will work together to

combine research work, share data sources, and supplement current data where appropriate. Together, they will work to identify the best tools available for analyzing the link between transportation and health on a state, regional or project scale. These efforts may include, but are not limited to an assessment of forecast models and Health Impact Assessments.

4. Support organizational diversity, equity and inclusion practices and policies

OHA and ODOT will support mutual organizational efforts of diversifying workforce, boards and commissions, advancing equitable operations and policies, and establishing a workplace culture that delivers authentic inclusivity. Training, policies and practices will focus on improving recruitment, retention and promotion. The partnership will also promote economic opportunity for Oregonians through investments, including working with businesses owned by people who have been historically and/or are currently marginalized.

The MOU was first signed in 2013 and reconfirmed in 2018. Given the changing landscape of health, transportation and equity, and shifts in organizational structures and priorities, the parties determined a revision of the MOU would be beneficial to more accurately capture the work in place and goals for the future. The process to achieve the shared goals will be multi-faceted, iterative and will require flexibility and innovation. The co-developed work plan will provide an up to date summary of strategies and activities being implemented in partnership by the parties. IN WITNESS THEREOF, the Parties hereto have through their respective duty authorized representatives, executed this MOU as follows:

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Name: Cooper H. Brown



Title: Assistant Director for Operations

Date Signed: March 1, 2021

OREGON HEALTH AUTHORITY

Name: Patrick M. Allen



Title: Director

Date Signed: March 8, 2021