



# Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

## Governor's Advisory Committee on DUII

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**TO:** Kelly S. Brooks  
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Juliana Wallace  
Behavioral Health Initiative Director

**FROM:** Chuck Hayes  
Chair | GAC – DUII

**DATE:** November 3, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Recap for October 6 Committee Meeting

*This report is intended to provide a brief synopsis of the discussions and recommendations of the Governor's Advisory Committee on DUII. It is not a complete record of the listed meeting. To request full meeting minutes or additional information, please contact Brandy Anderson Gillock at [Brandy.K.Anderson-Gillock@ODOT.Oregon.gov](mailto:Brandy.K.Anderson-Gillock@ODOT.Oregon.gov).*

### **SIGNIFICANT REPORT ITEMS**

- Drug-impaired driving continues to be an area of significant concern for the committee. At the previous committee meeting, ODOT data was shared which indicated 599 people were killed on Oregon highways in 2021, and 64% of the fatalities were substance-involved. Notably, there were significantly more fatalities attributed to drug-impaired drivers than to those solely impaired by alcohol. Chair Hayes shared drug toxicology information from the OSP Crime Lab that indicated cannabis, methamphetamine, fentanyl were the most common substances detected in samples taken from suspected impaired drivers, and 40% of samples were positive for three or more drugs.
- Oregon's impaired driving program underwent a comprehensive evaluation in April 2023 to identify its strengths, as well as its opportunities for improvement. The assessment team produced a 100-page report which included 14 priority recommendations for Oregon to consider. That report can be found on this committee's website ([www.oregon.gov/ODOT/Safety/Pages/GAC-DUII.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/Safety/Pages/GAC-DUII.aspx)), and an excerpt with the priority recommendations is attached.
- Oregon specialty/treatment courts are struggling to remain operational, in part due to lack of effective program coordination/offender accountability, and in part due to funding challenges. Committee member Justin Nielsen has reported that funding allocated to support these types of programs has not been distributed by DHS for its intended purpose consistently, if at all. This has left treatment providers unable to recoup costs that cannot otherwise be billed to insurance providers. These programs are intended to

offer intensive services to high-risk offenders and are understood to be significantly more successful at preventing recidivism than normal court supervision. Nonetheless, treatment court programs in Deschutes and Polk Counties have recently ceased operation, and comparable services are no longer available in those counties,

- This committee plans to begin holding its meetings in communities outside of Salem at least once per quarter, starting in January 2024. Public participation and engagement on local impaired driving issues will be actively sought at these regional meetings.

#### **COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS / RECOMMENDATIONS**

- ODOT Transportation Safety Office to begin updating the three-year Impaired Driving Strategic Action Plan for presentation to GAC – DUII for input and eventual approval.

#### **UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETING / NOTEWORTH AGENDA ITEM(S)**

- Next meeting will be November 3, 2023 at DPSST (4190 Aumsville Hwy SE, Salem), and via Microsoft Teams (link available upon request).