Transportation for Oregon’s Future

Working Together for Diverse Transportation Options for Oregon

VISION

Oregon needs to compete in the 21st century. Our state must move beyond the old highways-focused approach and invest in one that is people-focused. Urban and rural Oregonians deserve modern, connected transportation systems with safe, affordable, healthy options for everyone.

WHAT WE WILL RECEIVE FOR OUR INVESTMENT

• Transit services that meet increasing demand and connect communities.
• Safe routes to school for Oregon's children.
• Safer streets, sidewalks and crosswalks.
• Connected bike networks.
• Reductions in climate pollution to combat climate change.
• Increased use of clean electric cars and buses.

Join us at oeeonline.org/transport4OR #Transport4OR

Oregon’s next transportation package must dedicate $161 million annually to solutions that address pressing urban and rural transportation needs.
INVEST IN PUBLIC TRANSIT

Transit operations funding is the type of funding transit agencies say they need the most. This funding must be stable and reliable if agencies are to launch new service with certainty. However, the state of Oregon contributes only 3% of operations funding, compared with state contributions of over 24% nationally.¹

“Operating support provides a reliable transportation network that gets people to jobs and other services. The end result is better livability for Oregonians by getting more cars off the roads, reducing congestion and pollution.”

- Julie Brown, General Manager, Rogue Valley Transportation District and 2016 President, Oregon Transit Association

INVEST IN A FUTURE FOR ALL OREGONIANS

Young people with reliable, affordable transportation options are much more likely to be on time and present at school, and to be able to participate in after school activities. Transit improves outcomes for young people in low-income communities.

Providing greater mobility for seniors and those with disabilities connects them to the community and provides access to the services they need.

Even as Oregon’s population grows, and demand for transit services increase across the state, we are decreasing funding for transit.²

IN 2015, 16% OF OREGONIANS WERE OVER THE AGE OF 65

3

OF OREGON’S POPULATION WILL BE 65+
BY 2050

4

$200

monthly savings for residents with good access to transit, compared to those who live in car-dependent areas

5
INVEST IN MAKING STREETS SAFE FOR ALL

Many people rely on walking and biking to travel to and from home, school, work, and other destinations. However, not everyone in Oregon has a safe place to walk or bike. Oregon traffic deaths are up 24% since 2013.6

Better infrastructure for cyclists and pedestrians connects key destinations, provides affordable transportation options, improves safety, and increases community health and well-being.

Infrastructure, combined with education, such as with comprehensive Safe Routes to School programs, that include safety education increase walking and biking to school by 40%.7 Other benefits include:

- Improved health and academic performance. Walking or biking to school generally accounts for 66% of students’ daily recommended exercise.8
- Kids who walk or bike to school are able to concentrate longer and perform better in school.
- Safe Routes to School improve safety and contributes to a marked reduction of about 44% in pedestrian injury in school-aged children.9
- Protected bike lanes have been shown to increase biking levels between 21% and 171%.10

“I rode my bicycle to school as a child and I ride my bicycle to work every day now. I completed the full circle and realized that riding my bicycle makes me happy and healthy. We should create car-free corridors connecting points across cities where school children and adults can walk and ride their bikes.”

- Resident of Orenco Station, Hillsboro

INCREASE ODOT ACCOUNTABILITY AND INVEST WISELY

The public has low confidence that the state is investing in the most cost-effective transportation projects or those that will yield the greatest benefits in communities across the state. ODOT has the opportunity to rebuild trust, respond to the needs of average Oregonians, and make fiscally sound decisions.

72% of Oregonians consider road and highway maintenance important and would support tax allocation to increase these services.11

More than 50% of Oregonians support increased investment in public transit and consider this more important than investing further in roads.12

Living near plentiful and efficient transit options can reduce a family’s transportation expenses by nearly 2/3.13

72%

50%

2/3

“Building Trust – and a Better Future for Communities”

2021 Building Trust – and a Better Future for Communities

gasoline
$1.22
electric
$0.34
cost per mile

$950 average annual fuel savings after switching to electric14
INVEST IN ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AND CLEAN AIR

Transporting people and goods causes more climate pollution than any other source in Oregon, 37% of the state's total.15 Oregon is not reducing carbon emissions enough to meet our goals for 2020 and beyond.

Climate change hurts Oregon, and we all pay the price with damage to health, property, jobs, and the state economy. These impacts also hit first and worst in rural communities, low-income populations, and communities of color. To reduce climate pollution transportation strategies should prioritize reducing the need to drive, expanding the use of cleaner vehicles, and supporting cleaner fuels.

$500,000

amount each electric bus, over its lifetime, will save Lane Transit District.16

59%

less carbon is emitted for each mile traveled on TriMet, compared to driving alone.18

REFERENCES
1) National Transit Database, 2010-2012
2) Population Research Center, Portland State University (2016)
3) AASHTO Survey of State Funding for Public Transportation (2014)
7) Safe Routes to School Annual Evaluation, PBOT (2013)
8) Safe Routes to School Partnership, safesrtparts.org/healthy-communities/101/facts
9) Effectiveness of a Safe Routes to School Program in Preventing School-Aged Pedestrian Injury, Charles DiMaggio and Guohua Li, AAP News and Journals
10) Alliance for Biking and Walking Benchmark Report (2016)
11) DHM Research and Policy Interactive Research, 2013 Oregon Values and Beliefs Study
12) Ibid
14) Drive Oregon, driveoregon.org/discover/whats-electric-mobility
16) Renew Oregon Report Card
18) TriMet 2016 At-a-Glance Report

PHOTOS
Page 1
Banner: Tilikum Crossing by Sam Churchill, Creative Commons
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Bottom right: Eugene-Springfield Transit, ODOT

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MAX Light Rail by drburtoni, Creative Commons
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Page 3
Center: Kids on Bikes, City of Portland
Bottom: Electric Car, Creative Commons

Page 4
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Transportation for Oregon's Future is a network of concerned organizations, businesses, and citizen leaders supporting transportation choices for the 21st century. Steering committee members include:

1000 Friends of Oregon
Better Eugene Springfield Transit
OLCV
OPAL Environmental Justice Oregon
Oregon Environmental Council
The Street Trust (Formerly the BTA)
Transportation for America

Additional members include:

Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO)
Beyond Toxics
Bike Walk Roseburg
Climate Solutions
Community Cycling Center
Douglas County Global Warming Coalition
Drive Oregon
Eugene-Springfield SRTS
Native American Youth & Family Center
Natural Resources Defense Council
Onward Oregon
Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility
SRTS National Partnership
The Environmental Center
The Rosewood Initiative
Transportation Options Group of Oregon
Union of Concerned Scientists
Upstream Public Health

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