



ConnectOregon Initiative

In 2005, the State Legislature approved \$100 million for investing in transportation modes other than highways.

ConnectOregon is a lottery-backed bond initiative to invest in air, rail, marine and public transit infrastructure to ensure Oregon's transportation system is strong, diverse and efficient. It is focused on improving the connections between the components of a whole transportation system by improving the flow of commerce and easing delays in travel.

Some 100 organizations applied for *ConnectOregon* funding. The applications were reviewed by advisory committees consisting of stakeholders in the particular mode (air, rail, freight and public transit). Applications were also reviewed by the Area Commissions on Transportation and a specially created Portland metro area committee (because there is no ACT covering the Portland metro area). These recommendations were then forwarded to the *ConnectOregon* Consensus Committee.



The Consensus Committee, made up of representatives from the nine review committees, the governor's office and industry groups, evaluated the review committees' recommendations and developed a final list of projects for the Oregon Transportation Commission to consider in July 2006. A complete list of all the approved projects is available on the *ConnectOregon* web site, www.oregon.gov/ODOT/COMM/CO/.

ConnectOregon is the first major funding initiative targeted at multimodal or non-highway transportation in Oregon. This effort leverages the significant investments in the highway network (such as OTIA I, II and III) and the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program. *ConnectOregon* is helping attract and sustain business and jobs in Oregon, and ensuring Oregon is connected to world markets.



Gov. Kulongoski announced his backing of ConnectOregon to invest in air, rail, marine and transit infrastructure.