

Oregon Passenger Rail Project



ODOT is studying options for improved passenger rail service between the Portland urban area and the Eugene-Springfield urban area – a 125 mile segment that is part of the federally designated Pacific Northwest Rail Corridor.

The Oregon Department of Transportation is conducting the Oregon Passenger Rail project as the next step in improving passenger rail service in the Oregon segment of the federally designated Pacific Northwest Rail Corridor.

The project will include completing a Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act. The Federal Railroad Administration requires this study to be eligible to apply for future federal funding for design and construction of improvements.

ODOT is studying ways to improve intercity passenger rail service between the Eugene-Springfield area and the Portland-Vancouver, Wash., area. The study will help decide on a general passenger rail route and evaluate options for station locations, train frequency, trip time and improving on-time performance.

Project Decision Structure

Governor Kitzhaber established the Oregon Passenger Rail Leadership Council to guide the project and develop consensus-based recommendations that will be submitted to FRA for final approval. The Leadership Council is a core advisory group of mostly elected officials from the Willamette Valley.

In addition to the Leadership Council, ODOT will establish other groups. The Corridor Forum includes directors and elected representatives from cities and counties and key agencies and stakeholders in the study area. This forum focuses on broad-level issues, and its input will be provided to the Leadership Council. Community advisory groups will be established along the corridor to consider local issues and provide input to the Corridor Forum and Leadership Council. These groups will provide local stakeholders with an opportunity to help shape alignment options in their specific geographic area. In addition, an industry forum for railroad owners and operators and a technical advisory team will also be established.

For more detailed information, go to: <http://www.oregonpassengerrail.org/>

➤ For more information about the Oregon Passenger Rail project, contact:

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