

# House Bill 2917

Sponsored by Representative WILLIAMS (Presession filed.)

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Provides that selection criteria for Statewide Transportation Improvement Program and Connect Oregon include consideration of whether proposed transportation project may result in negatively impacting underserved communities.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to selection criteria for transportation projects; amending ORS 184.621 and 367.084.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1.** ORS 184.621 is amended to read:

5 184.621. The Oregon Transportation Commission shall work with stakeholders to review and  
6 update the criteria used to select projects within the Statewide Transportation Improvement Pro-  
7 gram. When revising the project selection criteria the commission shall consider whether the  
8 project:

9 (1) Improves the state highway system or major access routes to the state highway system on  
10 the local road system to relieve congestion by expanding capacity, enhancing operations or other-  
11 wise improving travel times within high-congestion corridors.

12 (2) Enhances the safety of the traveling public by decreasing traffic crash rates, promoting the  
13 efficient movement of people and goods and preserving the public investment in the transportation  
14 system.

15 (3) Supports improvements necessary for Oregon's economic growth and competitiveness, acces-  
16 sibility to industries and economic development.

17 (4) Provides the greatest benefit in relation to project costs as analyzed under ORS 184.659.

18 (5) Fosters livable communities by demonstrating that the investment does not undermine  
19 sustainable urban development.

20 (6) Enhances the value of transportation projects through designs and development that reflect  
21 environmental stewardship and community sensitivity.

22 (7) Is consistent with the state's greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals and reduces Oregon's  
23 dependence on foreign oil.

24 (8) To the extent practicable, ensures that the state's transportation infrastructure is resilient  
25 in the event of a natural disaster.

26 (9) Is located near operations conducted for mining aggregate or processing aggregate as de-  
27 scribed in ORS 215.213 (2)(d) or 215.283 (2)(b).

28 **(10) May result in negatively impacting an underserved community.**

29 **SECTION 2.** ORS 367.084 is amended to read:

30 367.084. (1) The Oregon Transportation Commission shall select transportation projects to be  
31 funded with moneys in the Connect Oregon Fund established under ORS 367.080.

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 (2)(a) Prior to selecting transportation projects, the commission shall seek input from the appli-  
2 cable area commission on transportation.

3 (b) Prior to selecting aeronautic and airport transportation projects, the commission shall solicit  
4 recommendations from the State Aviation Board.

5 (c) Prior to selecting freight transportation projects, the commission shall solicit recommen-  
6 dations from the Freight Advisory Committee.

7 (d) Prior to selecting rail projects, the commission shall solicit recommendations from the rail  
8 advisory committee.

9 (e) Prior to selecting marine projects, the commission shall solicit recommendations from the  
10 Oregon Business Development Department.

11 (3) In selecting transportation projects, the commission shall consider:

12 (a) Whether a proposed transportation project reduces transportation costs for Oregon busi-  
13 nesses or improves access to jobs and sources of labor;

14 (b) Whether a proposed transportation project results in an economic benefit to this state;

15 (c) Whether a proposed transportation project is a critical link connecting elements of Oregon's  
16 transportation system that will measurably improve utilization and efficiency of the system;

17 (d) How much of the cost of a proposed transportation project can be borne by the applicant for  
18 the grant from any source other than the Connect Oregon Fund;

19 (e) Whether a proposed transportation project is ready for construction;

20 (f) Whether a proposed transportation project has a useful life expectancy that offers maximum  
21 benefit to the state; *[and]*

22 (g) Whether a proposed transportation project is located near operations conducted for mining  
23 aggregate or processing aggregate as described in ORS 215.213 (2)(d) or 215.283 (2)(b)[.]; **and**

24 **(h) Whether a proposed transportation project may result in negatively impacting an**  
25 **underserved community.**

26 (4) To promote fairness in the selection process, the Director of Transportation may not choose  
27 a member of a final review committee:

28 (a) Who represents an entity that submitted an application for a Connect Oregon Fund grant  
29 that is being considered for funding by a final review committee; or

30 (b) Has a direct financial interest in an application that is being considered for funding by a  
31 final review committee.

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