

Connect Oregon is an initiative established by the 2005 state legislature to invest in non-highway modes of transportation. For the \$477 million awarded through Connect Oregon I through VI (including CORA and the Dedicated Projects) there have been 603 project applications received, 285 projects funded, \$1.003 billion in grants and loans requested. Because available funds must first go to dedicated projects, ODOT does not anticipate that there will be funding available until towards the end of the 2021-23 biennium for a competitive Connect Oregon program.

Industrial Rail Spur Fund. In 2003 the legislature gave General Fund moneys to fund this program - \$8,529,798 was spent. An industrial rail spur is a segment of trackage used for the rail transportation of raw materials and finished products between manufacturing facilities and main line rails or that serves a transloading, reloading and teaming facility. This program delivered a lot of "bang for the buck" for railroad needs in Oregon.

The projects on this list are illustrative of the types of projects that could be funded; funding decisions should be based on competitive discretionary processes for Connect Oregon and the Industrial Rail Spur Fund.

ORULE Suggested Rail Projects List

Oregon Rail Users' League

2021 and beyond

REGION 1

1. Reinstall Portland Union Station track 6 to improve freight and passenger train fluidity at Portland Union Station. An FRA grant is funding P/E and NEPA work to 30% design for seismic upgrades and repurposing depot's interior as well as drainage, utility, and other improvements.

2. Knife River Rock Train System Improvements (Regions 1 and 2)

Completion of rail project which would remove trucks from road in congested area by improving operational efficiency, eliminating bottlenecks, and improving safety.

\$1.9 million

Strengthen 14 bridges of the PNWR bridge infrastructure to maintain the railroad at 286,000 pounds.