

Overview of State and Federal Transportation Funding Opportunities for Local Government

(January 2017)

Enhance & Fix-It Funds - State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

The Statewide Transportation Improvement Program is Oregon's four-year transportation capital improvement program. It identifies the funding and scheduling of transportation projects and programs. It includes projects on the federal, state, city, and county transportation systems, multimodal projects (highway, passenger rail, freight, public transit, bicycle and pedestrian), and projects within Indian tribal lands. ODOT works in cooperation with local agency partners in developing the STIP and identifying projects that assist in moving people and goods through the transportation system. The STIP is divided into two broad categories:

- ***Enhance:*** Activities that enhance, expand, or improve the transportation system
- ***Fix-It:*** Activities that fix or preserve the transportation system

The Fix-It project selections are identified by technical inspections of pavement and bridge conditions.

Availability: The STIP cycle is determined by the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC), based on federal funding availability. Typically, it occurs every 2 years.

State Program Website: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TD/STIP/Pages/about.aspx>

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Connect Oregon

In 2005, the Oregon Legislature created the Multimodal Transportation Fund to invest in air, marine, rail, and public transit infrastructure. The Fund is part of the *ConnectOregon* program; providing grants and loans to non-highway transportation projects that promote economic development in Oregon. The legislature authorized issuance of \$100 million in lottery-backed revenue bonds to fund the program in each of the 2005-07, 2007-09, and 2009-11 biennia and \$40 million was authorized in 2011 for 2011-13. *ConnectOregon* projects have resulted in many successes: creating job opportunities, retaining major employers, reduced transportation costs, lowering barriers to economic development and improved safety.

State Program Website: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TD/TP/Pages/connector.aspx>

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To get updates on the latest *ConnectOregon* information, sign up for: [GovDelivery notifications](#).

The All Roads Transportation Safety (ARTS):

The All Roads Transportation Safety (ARTS) Program addresses safety needs on all public roads in Oregon. Only by working collaboratively with local road jurisdictions (cities, counties, MPO's and tribes) can ODOT expect to increase awareness of safety on all roads, promote best practices, compliment behavioral safety efforts and focus limited resources to reduce fatal and serious injury crashes. The program is data driven to achieve the greatest benefits in crash reduction without regard to jurisdictional boundaries. ARTS projects are listed in the STIP under the category of safety.

State ARTS Program Website: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/TRAFFIC-ROADWAY/Pages/ARTS.aspx>

Region 2 ARTS Website: http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/TRAFFIC-ROADWAY/Pages/ARTS_R2.aspx

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Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP):

The Federal Lands Access Program was established in 23 U.S.C. 204 to improve transportation facilities that provide access to, are adjacent to, or are located within Federal lands. The Access Program supplements State and local resources for public roads, transit systems, and other transportation facilities, with an emphasis on high-use recreation sites and economic generators. Local match requirement is 10.27%. According to the federal website, the next call for projects will tentatively be December 1, 2018.

Federal Program Website: <http://flh.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/flap/>

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Federal TIGER Grants:

The highly competitive TIGER grant program supports innovative, multi-modal and multi-jurisdictional projects, which are difficult to fund through traditional federal programs. Federal funds leverage money from private sector partners, states, local governments, MPOs, ports, and transit agencies. Applicants must detail project benefits for long-term outcomes - including economic significance, innovation and new partnerships. Typically one project per year is awarded in Oregon. The latest Tiger grants began in April 2016.

Summary of 2016 Awarded Projects: <https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/docs/TIGER%20Fact%20Sheets%20-%202016-28.pdf>

Federal Program Website: <http://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/freight/infrastructure/tiger/index.htm>

Federal "Build America" FAST LANE Grants:

This program provides dedicated, discretionary funding for projects that address critical freight issues facing our nation's highways and bridges, in line with the National Freight Strategic Plan released in October 2015, which identifies strategies to address impediments to the efficient flow of goods throughout the nation. FAST Act authorizes \$4.5 billion for (FY) 2016 through 2020.

Federal Program Website: <https://www.transportation.gov/buildamerica/FASTLANEgrants>

Funding for Transportation Planning

Transportation Growth Management (TGM):

TGM Grants help local communities plan for streets and land uses that support livable, economically vital and sustainable communities with increased opportunities for transit, walking and bicycling.

Availability: Annual Application process. Grants range from \$75,000-\$300,000 - typically suitable for small or mid-sized community planning efforts. Pre-Application process will begin in early 2017 and deadline will be Mid-June.

State Program Website: <http://www.oregon.gov/lcd/tgm/pages/grants.aspx>

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State Planning Research (SPR) Funds:

Updating City & County Transportation System Plans (TSPs) is a Region 2 Planning priority. Each TSP identifies and supports transportation investments based on realistic fiscal assumptions for the next 20 years. Recent examples include:

- City of Corvallis TSP and Transit Development Plan: <http://corvallistsp.org/>
- City of Lebanon TSP: <http://lebanontsp.org/>
- City of Philomath TSP: <http://philomathtsp.org/>

Availability: Ongoing, subject to federal funding availability. The funding amounts vary, according to local needs.

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For a useful overview of more local strategies for transportation funding, see the following link:

<http://transnet.odot.state.or.us/cs/ODOTHR/Shared%20Documents/compliancefd.pdf>