

Background

The Innovative Mobility Program (IMP) is a new program at ODOT that has a focus on social equity and helping members of historically excluded groups get where they need to go more quickly, cheaply, and safely. The IMP has a total of \$20M in available funding, with half through state funding and half through federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funds. The program will have three primary components: micro-grants, large competitive grants, and contracted services. Large competitive grants and contracted services are currently in the planning and design process, with applications for large grants expected to open in late 2023.

Scope & Purpose

The focus and purpose of the committee is to provide feedback to ensure that large grants and contracts are reflective of IMP goals, and that equity is centered in the design, implementation, and outcomes of the IMP. ODOT staff, in collaboration with contracted partners, will plan, design, and implement a large grants program under the IMP throughout 2023. ODOT will solicit feedback from this group on items such as:

- Key definitions
- Eligibility requirements
- Solicitation schedule
- Funding criteria
- Evaluation criteria
- Communications and engagement
- Application materials and processes
- Other policies, procedures, and guidelines, as needed

The committee will meet for six meetings, one held each month, after which ODOT staff will determine whether this committee should continue. There may be an opportunity for members of the IMP Technical Advisory Committee to join the scoring committee that reviews and evaluates large grant applications.

The IMP Manager will facilitate the meetings, coordinate the committee, and communicate committee feedback to ODOT staff. ODOT staff will finalize decisions regarding the scope, design, and implementation of the IMP grants and contracts. The Oregon Transportation Commission will make grant award funding decisions.

Public comment will be available on work products, and committee agendas and notes will be posted online.

Membership

Up to 8-12 positions for external stakeholders will be available.

Requirements

We are actively seeking members with a robust understanding of equity, and at least two of the following:

- Professional experience, subject matter expertise, or interest in multi-modal transportation, active transportation, and/or transportation options
- Experience designing, administering, applying for, and/or reporting on large competitive grants
- Experience collaborating with, or working at community-based organizations
- Experience applying an equity lens to programs or services, or using equity criteria in evaluation

- Experience working closely with underserved communities
- Understanding of underserved communities' barriers to transportation or transportation needs

Representation

Our goal is to create a committee with representatives from the following areas, with equal representation from urban and rural areas, to the extent possible:

- Transportation providers
- Community-based organizations
- Local/regional governments
- State partner agencies, such as the Oregon Health Authority
- Tribes
- Community members from historically excluded groups

Evaluation criteria

- Does the applicant fulfill the membership requirements? (See above)
- Have knowledge or interest in multimodal/active transportation?
- Represent a historically excluded group, or have an experience or position in life that provides perspective on historically excluded groups?
- Have the ability to engage as required to meet committee needs?

Timeline

January 2023 – Prepare technical advisory committee proposal.

February 2023 – Finalize proposal and application processes. Communicate opportunity through ODOT and partner channels. Solicit applications.

March 2023 – Continue to solicit applications. Review applications & finalize committee membership.

April 2023 – Hold first committee meeting.