

FREIGHT, RAIL, AIR, PIPELINE AND WATER TRANSPORTATION

In 2009, Clackamas County adopted “Open for Business – Economic Development Plan (EDP).” This plan provides a comprehensive guiding policy document for the County to improve, diversify and grow the economy in Clackamas County. Crucial to economic development is the infrastructure that supports the businesses and the employees that work in those businesses. Specific goals and actions called out by the Economic Development Plan include:

- Maintain mobility for people and freight in the face of expected growth; and
- Respond to the opportunities and challenges faced by its cities and rural areas, and support them in their efforts to develop quality jobs and businesses,

Freight, rail, air, pipelines and water transportation make significant contributions to the movement of people and goods; improve the quality of life; and support economic development in Clackamas County.

Policies relating to the movement of freight via roads, rail, air, pipelines or water transportation must also respond to new regulations to ensure the highest level of safety.

5.U. General Freight Policies

- 5.U.1 Coordinate the planning, development, maintenance and operation of a safe and efficient freight system for all freight modes in Clackamas County with the private sector, ODOT, Metro, the Port of Portland and the cities of Clackamas County.
- 5.U.2 Promote an inter-modal freight transportation strategy and work to improve multi-modal connections among rail, industrial areas, airports and regional roadways to promote efficient movement of people, materials, and goods.
- 5.U.3 Work with the private transportation industry, Oregon Economic Development Department, Port of Portland and others to identify and realize investment opportunities that enhance freight mobility and support the County, regional and state economy.
- 5.U.4 Make freight investments that, in coordination with the County’s economic development strategies, help retain and grow the County’s job base and strengthen the County’s overall economy.
- 5.U.5 Ensure that freight rail lines and truck routes do not have disproportionately negative impacts on sensitive land uses (places where people with increased risk of adverse impacts from exposure to noise and air pollution are likely to gather, such as schools, senior centers, hospitals, parks, housing). Prioritize mitigation efforts for current sensitive land use areas near freight rail lines and truck routes. Mitigate impacts to sensitive land uses by using vegetative buffers, establishing rail "quiet zones," and coordinating land use plans.

5.V. Freight Trucking Policies

- 5.V.1 Support the Truck Freight Route System, while not prohibiting the use of other roads for local pickup and delivery of goods and services. (See Maps 5-9a and 5-9b).
- 5.V.2 Improve and maintain the countywide Truck Freight Route System, the Regional Transportation Plan Freight Routes and Oregon Freight Plan Routes, as shown on Maps 5-9a and 5-9b.
- 5.V.3 Consider Heavy and Oversize Freight Movement requirements on State and County facilities when developing plans for transportation improvements and land use changes along freight routes designated as ORS 366.215 Corridors, as shown on Maps 5-9c and 5-9d.
- 5.V.4 Consider the safety of all travel modes that use the Truck Freight Route System when designing improvements to this system.
- 5.V.5 Accommodate freight travel on the Truck Freight Route System by improving facility design and operations.
- 5.V.6 Identify street improvements to reduce delays and to improve travel time reliability on roadways in the Truck Freight Route system
- 5.V.7 Work to improve the safety of Truck Freight Routes for all transportation modes.
- 5.V.8 Support the development of truck layover facilities/staging areas to reduce the conflicts between parked vehicles and adjoining land uses.
- 5.V.9 Utilize Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) solutions to improve safety and operations of freight movement.

5.W. Rail Policies

- 5.W.1 Support the safe and efficient movement of goods by rail.
- 5.W.2 Support the reduction of the number of at-grade crossings of arterial and collector streets on main rail lines to reduce conflicts between rail use and other transportation modes, and improve safety.
- 5.W.3 On new or reconstructed arterials and urban collectors, prohibit at-grade crossings of main rail lines without traffic restrictive safety devices.
- 5.W.4 Support expansion and maintenance needed to establish reliable, higher speed (110-125 mph) freight rail service and intercity rail passenger service in the Willamette Valley.
- 5.W.5 Encourage the development of rail-accessible land uses within industrial areas adjacent to main rail lines.

- 5.W.6 Support the development of convenient inter-modal facilities such as ramp, terminal and reload facilities for transfers from truck to rail for long-haul freight movement.
- 5.W.7 Improve the safety and operations of rail transport at at-grade rail crossings and ensure that all at-grade crossings meet the best practices for facilitating safe, multi-modal crossings, as identified in the most recent version of the “Railroad-Highway Grade Crossing Handbook” (Federal Highway Administration [FHWA]).
- 5.W.8 Identify and protect existing and abandoned rail rights-of-way for future transportation facilities and services.

5.X. Airport Policies

- 5.X.1 Coordinate with the Port of Portland, the Oregon Department of Aviation, and other affected agencies to implement the Mulino Airport Plan.
- 5.X.2 Coordinate with Marion County, the City of Wilsonville, the Oregon Department of Aviation, and other affected agencies to develop and implement the Aurora Airport Plan.
- 5.X.3 Allow new airports as conditional uses in appropriate zoning districts. Require new public use airports to be located within:
 - one mile of an arterial roadway, and
 - at least one mile away from urban residential areas.
- 5.X.4 Cooperate with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Oregon Department of Aviation and Federal Aviation Administration to minimize conflicts between airports and uses of surrounding lands.
- 5.X.5 Require that new airports, airport expansions, or expansions of airport boundaries, except those limited to use by ultra-lights and helicopters, have a runway at least 1,800 feet long and control at least enough property at the end of each runway through ownership, aviation easement, or long term lease to protect their approach surfaces until the approach surfaces are 50 feet above the terrain. Require the runway to be located so as to achieve at least a 20-foot clearance of the approach surface over a county, city or public road.
- 5.X.6 Apply a Public-Use Airport and Safety overlay zoning district to public-use airports, consistent with ORS 836.600 through 836.630, and as shown on Map 5-10.
- 5.X.7 Apply a Private-Use Airport and Safety overlay zoning district to privately-owned, private-use airports that served as the base for three or more aircraft, consistent with ORS 836.600 through 836.630, and as shown on Map 5-10.
- 5.X.8 Recognize privately-owned, private-use airports that served as the base for one or two aircraft on December 31, 1994, as shown in the records of the Oregon Department of Transportation and as shown on Map 5-10.

- 5.X.9 Encourage establishment of heliports in industrial areas in conjunction with state and federal standards for heliport design and location.
- 5.X.10 Support the role Clackamas County airports serve in supporting emergency response and disaster assistance.

5.Y. Pipeline Policy

- 5.Y.1 Work with state and federal regulatory agencies, affected communities and pipeline companies to provide safe, quiet, environmentally sensitive, and efficient transport of bulk commodities.

5.Z. Water Transportation Policies

- 5.Z.1 Maintain safe and convenient, multi-modal land access to the Canby ferry, and to public and commercial docks and boat ramps
- 5.Z.2 Support efforts to minimize noise and negative impacts caused by river transportation on air and water quality and to habitat for fish migration.
- 5.Z.3 Support the continued operation and maintenance of the Willamette Falls Locks to facilitate water transportation on the Willamette River.