

77th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2013 Regular Session
STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
House Committee on Transportation & Economic Development

**** CORRECTED ****
MEASURE: HB 2345 A
CARRIER: Rep. Read

REVENUE: No revenue impact
FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

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| Action: | Do Pass as Amended, Be Printed Engrossed and Rescind the Subsequent Referral to the Committee on Ways and Means |
| Vote: | 10 - 0 - 0 |
| Yeas: | Bentz, Cameron, Davis, Doherty, Gorsek, Lively, McKeown, Nathanson, Parrish, Read |
| Nays: | 0 |
| Exc.: | 0 |
| Prepared By: | Troy Rayburn, Administrator |
| Meeting Dates: | 2/27, 3/25, 3/27 |

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Establishes the Oregon Innovation in Infrastructure Task Force, consisting of 10 members: two appointees from the Oregon Senate; two appointees from the Oregon House of Representatives; four appointees from the Governor; one appointee from the Director of the Governor’s Regional Solutions; and one appointee from the State Treasurer. Directs task force to make recommendations to the Legislative Assembly regarding assessing the status of existing infrastructures and on the development and implementation of critical infrastructure projects. Requires the State Treasurer and Department of Administrative Services to provide staff support to the task force. Sunsets task force on June 30, 2014. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Tool that can be used for Oregon’s next-generation infrastructure as well as improvements or repairs to Oregon’s existing infrastructure (bridges, court houses, highways, public health clinics, and water hydro facilities)
- Review of British Columbia examples:
 - lessons learned (do not reinvent the wheel)
 - project life cycle
 - private / public funding
- Acquire collective interest and buy-in through Design-Build Model and Integrated Delivery Model
- Assure prevailing wage is included in request for proposals (RFP) or bid process
- Oregon’s next steps:
 - Initiate stakeholder outreach and appointment of task force (research and advisory)
 - Prioritize projects and then project components or aspects
 - Develop a predictable process
 - Secure start-up funds
 - Outreach to and capitalize on private sector expertise
 - Do not set too many expectations that are not deliverable
- Speaker rescind subsequent referral to Ways & Means (March 25, 2013 Letter)

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: The adopted -3 amendment replace the original measure.

BACKGROUND: The measure outlines Oregon’s interest in innovation of design, financing, and asset management to close expected multibillion dollar investment gap for development of critical public infrastructure through establishing a center of expertise that will allow the state to take advantage of opportunities for innovation, innovative financing and regional infrastructure development.

California, Oregon, Washington and British Columbia have combined to form the West Coast Infrastructure Exchange (WCX). The Rockefeller Foundation provided two grants totaling \$750,000 for initial financing or start-up costs.

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This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.

The WCX is designed to tap the expertise of development and finance leaders to save money and find innovative financing methods and proposes to achieve cost savings and better collaboration to make infrastructure projects more feasible. Some examples of what the Exchange proposes to accomplish include: managing projects more effectively; collaboration with industry experts and innovators; helping connect governments to expertise to help design and build projects; and connecting projects to innovative financing, including potentially private capital

In the early stages, small-scale energy and water projects are a top priority for some jurisdictions, but the Exchange could serve an array of project types, both big and small, in the future. None have been selected as of yet because participants are deciding which services the Exchange will deliver and how projects will be identified.

Some examples of existing projects that have utilized innovative financing are outlined on the Exchange's web site: www.westcoastx.com