



Oregon

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DATE: April 10, 2017

TO: Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Subcommittee on General Government

FROM: Jerri Bohard, Administrator
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SUBJECT: HB 2906

INTRODUCTION

House Bill 2906 forms the Oregon Geographic Information Council (OGIC) to serve as a governing body to better coordinate the sharing of geospatial framework data among public bodies.

DISCUSSION

The Oregon Department of Transportation has been part of OGIC since its inception under an Executive Order in 2000. However, the current Council is made up primarily of state agencies. The council has had successes with data sharing and efficiencies in gathering information. This next version of the council, as established by HB 2906, will be more diverse and include local governments, providing a welcome next step in the evolution of data sharing.

This is especially important to ODOT as our agency has the responsibility to maintain the 72,000 miles of public road centerline data. This data comes from various federal, state and local data contributors. Most importantly, the agency needs to share this transportation data that is provided more easily. Coordination of activities results in a reduction of overlap and wasted efforts, resulting in efficiencies gained.

Through a concerted effort, ODOT has developed agreements to share data among certain agencies. However, we haven't been able to freely share all of the data with other public agencies due to the limitations on the use of the data in some of the agreements. ODOT believes it is important to freely share road data to support emergency management and public safety needs.

Given that, the agency has participated in the workgroup that led to the development of HB 2906. The bill takes a first step toward advance the efforts around geospatial data sharing by providing a platform to work through issues.

SUMMARY

House Bill 2906 aims to better coordinate geospatial framework data sharing among public bodies. ODOT currently shares data through agreements with other public bodies. HB 2906 will provide a platform to address concerns through the newly-established body, the Oregon Geographic Information Council.