



Governor's Coronavirus Economic Advisory Council

Charter

Background

Oregon confirmed its first case of COVID-19 on February 28, 2020. Governor Brown declared a State of Emergency on March 8, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the coronavirus a pandemic on March 11, 2020 and on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency. Due to the scale and rapid spread of the coronavirus and the lack of a vaccine to cure or mitigate the effects of illness, COVID-19 impacts will be felt locally and globally for years to come.

Countries, regions and cities throughout the world are fighting to protect their populations by limiting mobility and closing down services causing immediate and lasting economic impacts. To avoid exposure, Oregon has mandated cancellation of events and large gatherings. Additionally, Oregonians will self-contain via quarantine or by choosing to limit exposure to others. These drastic changes in behavior cause an immediate blow to Oregon's economy, in both the short and long term.

Businesses are in the initial stages of an economic slow-down which will only increase over time. Traded-sector companies, employees and those in the tourism industry will be significantly impacted by decreased commercial activity leading to the potential of an unstable statewide economy.

Coronavirus Economic Advisory Council Mission

To stabilize communities and businesses by ensuring that the appropriate federal and state response is deployed to individuals, businesses and communities so Oregon may remain a prosperous place to live, do business, and visit.

Coronavirus Economic Advisory Council Objectives

- Identify and secure local, state and federal resources to help Oregonians and Oregon businesses mitigate the economic impacts of coronavirus.
- Identify innovative resources and/or programs to assist Oregonians and Oregon businesses in need.
- Assess the diverse impacts of the coronavirus and prioritize assistance needs.
- Provide the Governor, the State Legislature and members of Congress economic updates and requests for additional assistance.

Timeframe

The Advisory Council will meet for an undetermined period of time given the uncertainty of the conditions. The Advisory Council will continually advise the Governor and other local or elected leaders on actions needed to ensure economic stability in Oregon.

Geographic Coverage

The work of the Advisory Council will focus on the needs of the entire State of Oregon.

Coronavirus Economic Advisory Council Membership

Co-chairs: Christian Gaston, Governor's Workforce Policy Advisor and Leah Horner, Governor's Regional Solutions Director and Jobs & Economy Policy Advisor

State government representatives

- Chris Cummings, Business Oregon
- Todd Davidson, Travel Oregon
- Keith Leavitt, Port of Portland
- Alexis Taylor, Department of Agriculture
- Kay Erickson, Oregon Employment Department
- Margaret Salazar, Oregon Housing and Community Services
- Mark McMullen, Oregon State Economist
- Ben Cannon, Higher Education Coordinating Commission
- Andrew Stolfi, Insurance Commissioner
- Lou Savage, Department of Consumer Business Services
- Erin Seiler, Bureau of Labor and Industry
- Mark Gregory, Small Business Development Center

Business representatives

- Jason Brandt, Oregon Restaurant and Lodging Association
- Sandra McDonough, Oregon Business & Industry
- Duncan Wyse, Oregon Business Council
- Andrew Hoan, Portland Business Alliance
- Jenny Dressler, Chamber of Commerce Association

Labor representatives

- Jeff Anderson, UFCW
- Graham Trainor, Oregon AFL-CIO
- Melissa Unger, SEIU Local 49
- Stefan Moritz, Unite Here
- Reyna Lopez, PCUN

Local Government Representatives

- Gina Nikkel, Association of Oregon Counties
- Mike Cully, League of Oregon Cities
- Scott Cruickshank, Metro/MERC

Governor's Office Staff

- Shannon Singleton, Governor's Housing Policy Advisor