

HB 2411 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Economic Recovery and Prosperity

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Transportation

Meeting Dates: 2/4, 3/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires the Department of Transportation to identify specified transportation improvement projects that may require coordination with telecommunications providers. Requires notification of telecommunications providers of the identified projects and the opportunity to coordinate with the Department to modify a project to accommodate installation of underground utility infrastructure if the Department determines the project can be modified. Specifies the guidance to be developed by the Department for the procedures of engagement and coordination between the Department and telecommunications providers. Becomes operative January 1, 2022, effective on 91st day after sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Open trench notification to telecommunications providers
- Removal of barriers to expanding broadband access

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 Replaces section 2. Requires Oregon Broadband Office to develop registry of telecommunications providers, update registry at least once per year, and provide updated registry to Department of Transportation (Department). Requires Department to identify projects in State Transportation Improvement Program on an interstate highway that meet specified criteria, including construction of underground utility infrastructure, which could reasonably include, as determined by Department, installation of broadband conduit. Requires Department to notify telecommunications providers about identified projects and specifies requirements of notification. Includes procedures for permitting and protest within guidance to be developed by Department.

BACKGROUND:

The Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) is the Oregon Department of Transportation's (ODOT) capital improvement plan for state and federally funded projects. The Oregon Transportation Commission distributes funding among programs such as system enhancements, preservation, safety, non-highway, and local roads. The Commission and ODOT develop the STIP in coordination with a wide range of stakeholders and the public.

House Bill 2411 requires ODOT to determine whether a project involving an interstate highway planned under the STIP should be modified to accommodate installation of broadband infrastructure. The measure also requires the Department to engage with interested telecommunications providers to determine whether a project should be modified.