

ANALYSIS

Item 46: Department of Transportation

Crash Data System Replacement

Analyst: Ben Ruef

Request: Increase Federal Funds expenditure limitation for the Department of Transportation by \$1,108,198 for the State Electronic Data Collection Program grant award.

Analysis: The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) received a \$12.2 million State Electronic Data Collection (SEDC) grant award from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to replace the agency's existing Crash Data System (CDS). The Emergency Board retroactively approved ODOT's grant application submission in May 2024, which included the proposed 20% match (estimated \$4 million of in-kind staff time supported by the State Highway Fund) and a total project cost of \$16 million.

The NHTSA grant was awarded on December 11, 2024, and ODOT has since finalized an agreement for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2026, effective October 2025, totaling \$1,108,198. This request is therefore limited to the FFY 2026 agreement amount rather than the full award, and ODOT anticipates additional limitation increase requests in future federal fiscal years as subsequent agreements are executed for the remaining grant funds.

NHTSA established the SEDC program under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to support state efforts to modernize crash data systems and improve electronic reporting of crash and fatality information. ODOT indicates the current CDS is outdated and has limited ability to connect with other systems, including DMV driver and vehicle records. As a result, crash data must be handled more manually, which affects how quickly data can be processed, reviewed, and reported. The replacement system would support electronic data intake and allow crash data to be shared more directly with state and local entities. The system is also intended to align with NHTSA's Model Minimum Uniform Crash Criteria (MMUCC), which NHTSA defines as a voluntary set of standardized crash data elements used by states and other jurisdictions.

The replacement project has been underway since 2023 and is expected to be completed by the end of 2028. The project has received a Stage Gate 2 endorsement from the Department of Administrative Services Enterprise Information Services. Vendor selection for the new system is anticipated in early February 2026, with contract execution expected by summer 2026.

Recommendation: The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends that the Joint Interim Committee on Ways and Means recommend including an increase of \$1,108,198 in Federal Funds

expenditure limitation for the Department of Transportation in a budget reconciliation bill during the 2026 legislative session for the State Electronic Data Collection Program grant award.

Request: Increase Federal Funds expenditure limitation by \$1,108,198 for the Policy, Data and Analysis Division to administer a grant from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Recommendation: Approve the request during the 2026 Legislative Session.

Discussion: The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) applied to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) State Electronic Data Collection (SEDC) grant program. The grant program focuses on investments that will upgrade and standardize state crash data collections systems, enabling electronic data collection, interstate data sharing, and full electronic data transfers to NHTSA increasing accuracy, timeliness, and accessibility of data.

ODOT applied for this grant to replace the existing and outdated ODOT Crash Data System, which is used for crash data storage, management, and reporting. The agency received retroactive legislative approval to apply for the grant at the May 2024 meeting of the Emergency Board. ODOT was notified of receipt of the award in December 2024. ODOT has been working with NHTSA to finalize the agreement for the 2026 fiscal year with a signed agreement effective October 1, 2025. The total amount of the award is \$12,152,864 and requires a 20 percent or \$4,886,861 match. The performance period for the grant is five years. Additional Federal Funds expenditure limitation will likely be requested in subsequent federal fiscal year as new agreements are signed for the remaining grant funds. The SEDC grant allows the match to be supplied via in-kind staff hours, which are paid by the State Highway Fund.

Legal Reference: Increase the Federal Funds expenditure limitation established by chapter 634, section 3(3), Oregon Laws 2025, for the Department of Transportation, Policy, data and analysis, by \$1,108,198 for the 2025-27 biennium.



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Department of Transportation

Director's Office

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December 8, 2025

Senator Kate Lieber, Co-Chair
Representative Tawna Sanchez, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs:

ACTION REQUESTED

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Policy Data and Analysis Division requests approval for \$1,108,198 in additional Federal Funds expenditure limitation for federal fiscal year 2026 due to award of a federal grant. The agency noted the possibility of a limitation increase request in the grant letter submitted in April 2024.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS

On January 31, 2024, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) opened applications for the State Electronic Data Collection grant program, and applications were due May 15, 2024. The grant program purpose is to upgrade and standardize state crash data collection systems to enable electronic data collection, intrastate data sharing, and full electronic data transfers to NHTSA to increase the accuracy, timeliness, and accessibility of the data, including data relating to fatalities involving vulnerable road users. SEDC grant funds may be used for the following three areas:

- Equipment to upgrade a statewide crash data repository;
- Adoption of electronic crash reporting by law enforcement agencies; and
- Increasing alignment of State crash data with the latest Model Minimum Uniform Crash Criteria

ODOT applied for this grant to replace the existing and outdated ODOT Crash Data System (CDS), which is used for crash data storage, management and reporting. Data on motor vehicle crashes in Oregon serves a critical role in decision-making across all levels of federal, state, and local government agencies, including where and how to invest in transportation improvements. It is critical for decision makers to have access to timely and informative crash data. Issues with the current CDS hinder the timely collection, processing, and dissemination of this data. The lack of consistent electronic report submission options hinders the timely processing of crash data and impacts the ability to meet state and federal crash data reporting requirements. The current CDS also lacks interoperability with other key systems such as DMV Driver and Vehicle records preventing data users from conducting analysis on crash data.

Through replacement of the CDS, ODOT expects to expand the availability, timeliness, and accessibility of reportable crash data to create a system that will more rapidly and comprehensively identify crash trends, expand the number of insights derived from the data, and better enable analysis to inform policy and decision making. The planned replacement system will meet the current data collection, sharing, and

regulatory reporting needs. Additionally, the system will increase ODOT's alignment of State crash data with the latest Model Minimum Uniform Crash Criteria, the standardized guidance provided by NHTSA.

Grant Request: \$12,000,000
Matching Funds: \$4,000,000
Total Project Cost: \$16,000,000

This SEDC grant program requires a minimum 20 percent match and allows that match to be supplied via in-kind staff hours, which are paid for by the State Highway Fund. The greater-than-minimum match amount listed is due to the significant number of staff hours that will be dedicated to this effort. Grant funds are obligated upon a written agreement with NHTSA and must be expended no later than five years from that date.

ODOT was awarded this grant on December 11, 2024 and has worked with NHTSA to finalize the grant agreements for the 2026 federal fiscal year. The agreements were signed and effective October 1, 2025 for a total of \$1,108,198. Additional Federal Funds expenditure limitation will likely be requested in subsequent federal fiscal years as new agreements are signed for the remaining grant funds.

ACTION REQUESTED

ODOT requests that the Interim Joint Committee on Ways and Means increase the Policy Data and Analysis Division Federal Funds expenditure limitation by \$1,108,198.

LEGISLATION AFFECTED

Amend section 3(3), chapter 634, Oregon Laws 2025 to increase the Policy Data and Analysis Division Federal Funds expenditure limitation by \$1,108,198.

Sincerely,



Kristopher W. Strickler
Director