

Transportation Infrastructure

POLICY AGENDA

OUR VALUES

Investing in a more resilient and equitable Portland

Downtown Portland, the core of the State's economy, is in crisis. Urgent actions are needed to return it to its previous status as one of the safest and most attractive downtowns to live, work, and play in the nation. Downtown will not recover if employees do not feel safe going to work, and if retailers are not able to operate successful businesses. We urge elected leaders to invest in basic services, housing development, and livability to build a more resilient economy for Portlanders. We support transitioning Portland's antiquated form of government to a modern structure that meets the needs of a growing, more diverse, population.

Everyone deserves a place to call home

A record number of Portlanders are homeless and in need of outreach, mental health, addiction, transitional shelter, and housing services. We call on elected officials at all levels to urgently implement the new homeless services program and invest in short- and long-term solutions to bring an end to the humanitarian crises. Leaders must adopt policies and practices that encourage housing development. The city must enforce the adopted urban camping policies to maintain and build community trust.

Make Portland safe for everyone

In 2021, Portland witnessed record gun violence and homicides, particularly in historically underserved communities. A rise in car thefts and break-ins are negatively impacting retail businesses across Portland. We urge the city and county to invest in building Portland's police force and district attorney's staff to the national average for communities of our size, along with investments in 311 and Portland Street Response. We reject the false trade-off between having a larger police force and a better, more equitable police culture. Portlanders want and should have both.

Working towards a better climate future

We recognize the critical challenges posed by the growing impacts of climate change. We support policies that promote collaboration with the private sector to innovate and invest in clean technologies that will accelerate reductions in carbon emissions and reduce dependence on fossil fuels.

Keep Portland moving

To stay competitive and build shared prosperity, our region must not let our transportation infrastructure fall further behind the rest of the country. We support data-driven policies at all levels of government that relieve congestion, reduce emissions, allow the efficient delivery of goods, and support historically underserved neighborhoods and communities.

Policy

PRIORITIES

- 1 Expand investments that reduce carbon emissions
- 2 Prioritize policies that keep the region moving
- 3 Invest in alternative modes of transportation as a response to congestion



PORTLAND
BUSINESS ALLIANCE

1 EXPAND INVESTMENTS THAT REDUCE CARBON EMISSIONS

- Support policies and infrastructure investments that accelerate consumer transition to electric, autonomous vehicles, including electric infrastructure along the freeway, increased public fast-charging stations, and rebates for electric vehicles.
- Encourage private investments in clean fuels and infrastructure, as well as the increased safety and maintenance of current fuel terminals in the region.
- Advocate for policies that promote private-sector innovation and investment in clean technologies that accelerate reductions in carbon emissions and reduce our dependence on fossil fuels.

2 PRIORITIZE POLICIES THAT KEEP THE REGION MOVING

- Prioritize I-5 improvement projects, including the I-5 Rose Quarter project and the replacement of the I-5 bridge. The City of Portland must be a partner in maintaining this critical transportation corridor.
- Support the study of regionally deployed congestion-pricing programs.
- Advocate that City of Portland gas tax dollars be used to maintain current assets before building new infrastructure.
- Support transportation investments by Metro for all modes of transportation, especially improvements that address congestion throughout the region and prioritize East Multnomah County.
- Encourage coordinated development of autonomous-vehicle policy as the technology improves for both freight and personal vehicles.

3 INVEST IN ALTERNATIVE MODES OF TRANSPORTATION AS A RESPONSE TO CONGESTION

- Advocate for TriMet to prioritize improvements on accessibility, frequency of service, and connectivity in East Multnomah County. Encourage faster transit times for commuters traveling from east to west across the region.
- Support Central City in Motion. Stakeholders and businesses impacted by Central City in Motion must be included in the design and implementation of the projects.
- Advocate for the City of Portland to focus on and partner with alternative modes of transportation that will alleviate congestion in the region, including app-based transportation and increased frequency of streetcar service.

These policy priorities and values are developed in active collaboration with members and community partners of Portland Business Alliance. Find out more: PortlandAlliance.com/advocacy.

CONTACT:

Government Affairs
503-224-8684
feedback@portlandalliance.com