

Washington, DC — The United States Senate today approved legislation funding a variety of Oregon projects. Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D-Ore.) requested the funding last year.

Highlights of funding for the Portland region include:

- 77.5 million for Tri-Met's Interstate MAX light rail extension to North Portland
- \$100,000 for the City of Portland's Public Market (Farmer's Market)
- \$400,000 for Multnomah County for replacement of the Sauvie Island Bridge
- \$290,000 for the City of Portland's streetcar extension to the Eastside of the Central City
  
- \$425,000 for the Columbia River Gorge Commission's Air Quality Strategy
- \$400,000 for Portland State University's Intelligent Transportation Research Center
- \$50,000 for the Collaborative Nursing Education Project between Mount Hood Community College and the Center for Advanced Learning
- \$30,000 for the New Avenues for Youth's Alternative Education Center
- \$50,000 for the Oregon Community Health Information Network's West Coast Health Information System
- \$650,000 for buses and bus facilities operated by Tri-Met
- \$500,000 for a study of transportation options in the Damascus area
- \$500,000 for Regional Job Access Program, which will continue existing Jobs Access services and fund expanded services such as rural shuttle services, bike racks and showers, and real time information at bus stops.
- \$400,000 for the Portland Development Commission to pursue the development of affordable housing as a part of the South Waterfront/North Macadam Central District Project
  
- \$900,000 for the City of Portland Wet Weather Pollution Control Project
- \$225,000 for the Northwest Center for Small Fruits Research

The funds for these Oregon projects were included in the Fiscal Year 2004 Consolidated Omnibus Appropriations bill, legislation funding most federal government programs and agencies for 2004. The House of Representatives approved the bill in December. The President has indicated he will sign the legislation into law.