

Number: 25-27

Proposed Title: Unveiling Women's Mobility: A Dive into the Female Experience of Navigating ODOT's NW Infrastructure.

1. Concisely describe the **transportation issue** (including problems, improvements, or untested solutions) that Oregon needs to research.

This research seeks to comprehensively examine the experiences of women in the NW region of Oregon while utilizing ODOT's transportation infrastructure, with a focus on sidewalks, bike lanes, and buses. Building upon [Los Angeles Metro's Customer Experience Survey](#), this study aims to identify key improvement areas such as reliability, frequency, safety, cleanliness, and their intersectionality with gender, race, income and age. The survey will provide insights into the unique challenges faced by women, considering the diverse demographic landscape of the region.

2. Document how this **transportation issue** is important to Oregon and will meet the [Oregon Research Advisory Committee Priorities](#)

This research project will address social equity, mobility, and safety through several key aspects in its design, objectives, and methodology:

1. **Intersectional Analysis:**

- By incorporating an intersectional lens, the study aims to recognize and understand the unique experiences of women from different racial, economic and age groups. This approach helps identify disparities in access to transportation resources, safety concerns, and overall mobility experiences.

2. **Inclusive Sample Selection:**

- The research will strive to include a diverse and representative sample of women from various racial, economic and age demographics in the NW region of Oregon. Those who identify as a Woman will be included. This inclusivity ensures that the findings reflect the experiences of a broad spectrum of the population, contributing to a more equitable understanding of transportation challenges.

3. **Identification of Disparities:**

- Through the survey and interview process, the project will specifically address disparities in reliability, frequency, safety, and cleanliness across different demographic groups. This identification of disparities is crucial for formulating targeted recommendations to improve social equity in transportation services.

4. **Comparison with Los Angeles Metro's Findings:**

- By drawing inspiration from the Los Angeles Metro's Customer Experience Survey, the research project will leverage lessons learned from another metropolitan area. This comparative analysis will inform potential strategies to enhance social equity, mobility, and safety in the NW region, considering successful interventions in a similar context.

5. **Recommendations for Improvement:**

- The study aims to provide actionable recommendations for ODOT based on the identified intersectional disparities. These recommendations will target specific areas such as infrastructure enhancements, safety measures, and mobility services to address the unique needs of different demographic groups.

6. **Impact on Daily Well-being:**

- By exploring the impact of transportation infrastructure on the overall well-being and daily routines of women, the research will highlight the role of mobility in contributing to social equity. Understanding how transportation influences daily life is essential for crafting policies and improvements that positively impact individuals' quality of life.

7. **Consideration of Homelessness:**

- The study will investigate the intersectional challenges related to homelessness, recognizing it as a social equity issue. By understanding how homelessness intersects with women's transportation experiences, the research can inform strategies to improve safety and support services for vulnerable populations.

In summary, the research project is designed to be a comprehensive exploration that not only identifies disparities but also provides actionable insights for promoting social equity, enhancing mobility, and ensuring safety in ODOT's transportation services in Oregon's NW region.

Key Objectives:

1. Evaluate the reliability, frequency, safety, and cleanliness perceptions of women using ODOT's sidewalks, bike lanes, and buses in the NW region of Oregon.
2. Examine the intersectional dimensions of these experiences by considering race, income and age as key factors.
3. Identify specific improvement areas for ODOT based on the intersectional analysis, drawing parallels with the Los Angeles Metro's survey findings.
4. Explore the impact of transportation infrastructure on the overall well-being and daily routines of women from different racial and age groups.
5. Investigate the intersectional challenges related to homelessness, if any, and its impact on the experiences of women utilizing ODOT's transportation services.

****Methodology:**** *The research will employ a mixed-methods approach, combining quantitative surveys and qualitative interviews. The survey instrument will be designed to capture intersectional perspectives, and efforts will be made to ensure a diverse sample representing various races, income and age groups within the NW region of Oregon.*

3. What final product or information needs to be produced to enable this research to be implemented?

The final product of this research project will be a comprehensive report detailing the nuanced experiences of women using ODOT's sidewalks, bike lanes, and buses in Oregon's NW region. The report will include a thorough analysis of survey responses, interview data, and demographic information, emphasizing an intersectional approach to highlight disparities across race, income and age groups. The findings will be presented in a format that clearly identifies key areas for improvement in social equity, mobility, and safety within ODOT's transportation infrastructure.

In addition to the report, the research should produce actionable recommendations for ODOT, grounded in the identified disparities and informed by successful interventions in comparable contexts, such as the Los Angeles Metro. Their study resulted in the design and implementation of [La Sombrita](#), a bus shade with the bus schedule and lights. These recommendations will serve as a practical guide for policymakers, urban planners, and transportation authorities to implement targeted initiatives aimed at improving the overall transportation experience for women in the NW region. The final deliverables should empower stakeholders with insights and strategies to enhance social equity, mobility, and safety, fostering a more inclusive and efficient transportation system.

4. (Optional) Are there any individuals in Oregon who will be instrumental to the success of implementing any solution that is identified by this research? If so, please list them below.

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5. Other comments:

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