

JOBS, WORKFORCE AND SMALL BUSINESS GROWTH

**CREATING FAMILY-WAGE JOBS, EXPANDING CAREER
PATHWAYS AND STRENGTHENING SMALL BUSINESS
PARTICIPATION THROUGH INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT**

A major investment in Oregon's transportation system, the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project is creating jobs today while strengthening the region's construction workforce and expanding opportunities for small businesses to support long-term economic growth.

Construction in the Rose Quarter is generating family-wage jobs across a wide range of skilled trades, including carpenters, laborers, electricians, ironworkers, power equipment operators, truck drivers and cement masons. In addition to these trades, the project is creating pathways into mid-level roles including field engineers, supervisors and project managers, expanding opportunities for advancement within the construction industry. Together, this workforce is building and maintaining the critical infrastructure that keeps Oregon's transportation system and economy moving.

The project also promotes workforce development by supporting apprenticeship pathways and providing on-the-job training opportunities. These opportunities help apprentices and early-career workers develop skills that lead to stable, long-term careers in the construction industry.

Expanded subcontracting opportunities, mentorship and training are increasing access for small and emerging contractors to participate in complex infrastructure work. These efforts help build long-term capacity within Oregon's construction industry and strengthen the local small-business ecosystem.



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THE PROJECT IS BUILDING OREGON'S CONSTRUCTION WORKFORCE

- Approximately **70,000 craft labor hours** in 2025–2026
- Roughly **\$10 million in payroll** supporting construction workers
- Goal of **12% registered apprentices by trade**
- Expanded opportunities for **small and emerging contractors**

INVESTING IN A REGIONAL WORKFORCE AND LOCAL BUSINESSES



Family-Wage Jobs

Infrastructure investments support thousands of hours of work for skilled trades workers across the region.



Career Pathways Through Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships provide earn-as-you-learn pathways into high-demand trades, helping workers build long-term careers in the construction industry.



Opportunities for Small Businesses

Smaller work packages and subcontracting opportunities help local and emerging contractors gain experience delivering major infrastructure projects and grow their capacity.



Building the Next Generation Workforce

Training and workforce development programs help prepare workers to build and maintain Oregon's infrastructure in the future.

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