



from the office

of

Sen. Brian Boquist

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mar. 6, 2017

Jonathan Lockwood
Communications Director

971-645-2140

Jonathan.Lockwood@OregonLegislature.gov

Boquist responds to ODOT audit, optimistic about transportation package

SALEM, Ore.- An audit was released today by Secretary of State Dennis Richardson, which found that the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) "could potentially realize significant savings by tracking unbalanced bid items."

When contractors submit abnormally high or low prices for individual line-items in construction contracts, it is called an "unbalanced bid." Unbalanced bids can lead to cost increases if construction projects are later changed.

State Sen. Brian Boquist, R-Dallas, released the following statement on the [secretary of state's ODOT audit](#):

"Senate Republicans will work toward a transportation package that includes measures to improve management, cost efficiencies and outcomes. Senate Republicans thank the secretary of state's office and we are optimistic about conversations with the Oregon Transportation Commission and other stakeholders."

Key findings, □from the audit:

"We reviewed data for all 413 ODOT-run construction projects completed from 2011 to 2015 and found that over 90% of these projects had at least one unbalanced bid item, and 61% had one or more unbalanced bids that were at least double their estimated cost.

"Total cost for the 413 projects was \$1.8 billion, slightly below the total estimated costs of \$1.9 billion, but 69% of projects exceeded their bid amounts. However, total project costs contain other expenditures not included in the contractor's original bid amount, such as performance pay factors for meeting specific quality standards."

###

For media requests please contact Communications Director Jonathan Lockwood at 971-645-2140, or Jonathan.Lockwood@OregonLegislature.gov.