



Friday Forum

4/9/2021

**Reach Code
Delayed Again**

**Budget Bills
Get Fast-Trackd**

**American Rescue
Plan Allotments
Announced**

OHBA Week in Review

Reach Code Delayed Again

The [HB 2398](#) committee vote has again been delayed until Monday, April 12. This time the delay was due to legal concerns raised by the Oregon Construction Coalition and Vice Chair Rep. David Brock Smith (R-Port Orford) around reach code adoption as the baseline code. While environmentalists insisted that the [-14 amendment](#) addressed adoption issues in some jurisdictions and not others, Legislative Council's initial interpretation is that if reach codes are made part of the statewide building codes they are no longer voluntary because cities cannot opt-in or out.

We expect both the Building Codes Division and Legislative Council to be brought back to the work session to address the concerns raised by the construction industry.

E-Permitting, 20 years in the Making

While E-permitting already exists in many jurisdictions, [HB 2415](#) would require local governments to either create their own system or adopt the state system that is currently funded via a statewide surcharge on permits by January 1, 2025. This legislation represents a practical step towards ensuring that the industry is utilizing technology that is already readily available. The bill passed out of House Business and Labor unanimously and will move to the floor with a do pass recommendation.

Indirect Source Pollution

[HB 2814](#) has the potential to slow the construction permitting process by giving the Environmental Quality Commission the authority to adopt rules to implement an indirect source review program. The program would include requirements for permits, emissions mitigation payments as well as public notification requirements for affected residents and businesses. We will continue to track this legislation.

100% Clean Energy

After numerous delays, amendments and negotiations, HB 3180 and HB 2021 will have their day in Committee. While the goal of the legislation is similar, their approaches to getting to 100% clean

energy for utilities is drastically different. HB 3180 employs a renewable portfolio standard increase, in-state siting requirements for new renewable energy plants and credits towards the 100% goal for legacy hydroelectric power generation. HB 2021 is an emissions based standard that does not include the same in-state siting requirements, which could see investments made in other states rather than Oregon.

Budget Bills Get Fast-Tracked Near Midway Point

As the 2021 Legislative Session nears its midway point, we are beginning to see some signs that progress will speed up in the coming weeks - at least on the state budget.

Republicans have agreed to waive the full reading of budget bills on the House floor, a concession that will help the constitutionally-mandated budget process to move forward more quickly. The constitution requires a two-thirds majority to skip the full reading and move to title only, which gives a minority party the opportunity to stall the proceedings on policy bills.

A computer audio system will continue to read non-budget bills out loud on the House floor for now, which can take hours. There are several dozen bills currently awaiting readings.

Friday is the 80th day of the 160 day session, and there's still a lot of work to be done. We'll keep you posted with updates as that work continues.

OHBA Code-Change Classes Scheduled Through June

The 2021 ORSC Building Code Changes went into effect on April 1, as we now enter the 6-month grace period before it becomes mandatory for all builders in Oregon. Builders will likely need to make several changes to their current operations to meet the new code. OHBA is currently offering classes led by Mike Goodrich, presenting an overview of the changes

occurring this fall. New classes have been added and are open for enrollment. Visit [the OHBA website](#) to sign-up for a future class.

FYI: County Allotments from American Rescue Plan (In Millions)

Multnomah County, \$157.65
Washington County, \$116.68
Clackamas County, \$81.10
Lane County, \$74.10
Marion County, \$67.46
Jackson County, \$42.85
Deschutes County, \$38.34
Linn County, \$25.16
Douglas County, \$21.52
Yamhill County, \$20.77
Benton County, \$18.05
Josephine County, \$16.97
Polk County, \$16.70
Umatilla County, \$15.12
Klamath County, \$13.23
Coos County, \$12.51
Columbia County, \$10.15
Lincoln County, \$9.69
Clatsop County, \$7.80
Malheur County, \$5.93
Tillamook County, \$5.24
Union County, \$5.20
Wasco County, \$5.17
Jefferson County, \$4.78
Crook County, \$4.73
Hood River County, \$4.53
Curry County, \$4.45
Baker County, \$3.13
Morrow County, \$2.25
Lake County, \$1.53
Harney County, \$1.43
Grant County, \$1.40
Wallowa County, \$1.40
Gilliam County, \$0.37
Sherman County, \$0.35
Wheeler County, \$0.26