

*Oregon Infrastructure Construction*

# **SAFETY SYMPOSIUM**

SALEM CONVENTION CENTER



*FEBRUARY 20TH, 2025*

[Learn more at www.apao.org](http://www.apao.org)

# OREGON ROADWAY WORK ZONE CONSTRUCTION SAFETY SYMPOSIUM

FEBRUARY 20TH, 2025

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## BREAKFAST & WELCOME, 7:30AM

### SESSION ONE, 8:00AM

*Oregon's Work Zone Safety Billboard Design Winners & Safety & Mobility Policy Advisory Committee Update*

We are in our second year of the contest, which helps teach new drivers about the unique dangers of roadway work zones by having them design a billboard to encourage safe driving! Other states have started following our lead and are creating contests. The session will showcase the most recent winners and highlight how the contest is helping make work zones safer. Safety & Mobility Policy Advisory Committee members will also talk about lessons learned, challenges, and new initiatives – which include speed safety cameras, driver education efforts, and more.

### SESSION TWO, 8:30AM

*Commercial Vehicles & Work Zone Safety  
Oregon Trucking Association*

Similar to roads and highways, commercial vehicles are part of every community's backbone because they transport every tangible thing we use and own. Although most people don't recognize their importance, we all see them when driving. Their size, weight, and maneuverability create special challenges for drivers and work zones – and those challenges are growing with the driving public becoming less patient and more distracted. This session will connect the challenges to work zone safety.

### SESSION THREE, 9:00AM

*Risks and Liabilities of Poor Temporary Traffic Control*

Temporary traffic control is how we manage traffic and keep work zones safe from drivers. Designing it well and understanding how and why it works (or doesn't work) can make a huge difference in maintaining safety. This session will provide a unique glimpse into the standards and what can happen when either designs or implementation fall short. We will also hear about how and why some contractors set a high bar when it comes to temporary traffic control.

## BREAK, 10:00AM

### SESSION FOUR, 10:30AM

*Project Showcase – Partnerships Improving Safety  
Oregon Department of Transportation, David Evans & Associates, and HP Civil*

Over 2024, two projects highlighted different approaches to improving work zone safety. The I-5 Over 26th Avenue Improvements Project implemented a strategy that is often not considered on interstate highways – a full weekend closure. Also on I-5, the Aurora-Donald Interchange Project utilized a new approach to major interchanges and highlights how safety can be improved when the contractor, designer, and owner work together during construction. This session will present different approaches to inspire the audience to constantly look for opportunities at all project phases.

### SESSION FIVE, 11:30AM

*The Case for Including Mental Health in a Safety Plan and How to Do It*

The industry has evolved from ignoring mental health to recognizing that almost everyone goes through periods where they need help. We also know that mental health is directly related to jobsite safety. Despite the awareness, the industry still struggles with exactly how to make mental health part of a safety plan. This session will highlight how pervasive the issue is and provide easy and meaningful steps to make improvements.

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**LUNCH BREAK, 12:00PM, EQUIPMENT DEMONSTRATIONS OUTSIDE**

**SESSION SIX, 1:00PM**

*How Smart Can Work Zones Get?*

*Speakers: Scott Allison & Damian Casados, Coral Sales Co.*

Although we often blame technology for making work zones less safe because drivers are distracted, technology can also help make work zones safer. Last year we explored how portable rumble strips are waking drivers up and this year Scott and Damian will talk about how a fully connected work zone can make things even better.

**SESSION SEVEN, 1:30PM**

*Luckily OSU Does More Than Play Football*

*Speakers: John Gambatese, PhD, PE*

There are only a handful of universities in the Country that recognize construction safety as an issue worthy of considerable research – and we are lucky to have one of those Universities in Oregon! Professor Gambatese constantly challenges his students to consider work zone safety and has led research on everything from designing to promote safety to new technologies. In this session he will discuss recent projects that might make you ask – why aren't we doing that now?

**SAFETY SYMPOSIUM CONCLUDED, 2:00PM**