EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 26-27

PROTECTING ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE

WHEREAS, the federal government has enacted significant changes to the nation's health care system through President Trump's House Resolution 1 (H.R. 1) and other federal actions that will make it harder for eligible Americans to obtain and maintain health coverage;

WHEREAS, H.R. 1 reduces federal support for health care funding and imposes new eligibility, enrollment, and administrative requirements on state Medicaid programs that will create additional barriers for Oregonians to get health care when they need it even when they qualify;

WHEREAS, Congressional Leadership has failed to extend federal health insurance subsidies relied upon by many Oregonians causing direct price increases for consumers and volatility in the marketplace next year, while tariffs and federal policy uncertainty have already and continue to contribute to instability and higher costs across health insurance markets;

WHEREAS, H.R. 1 health care cuts will add volatility and uncertainty to provider practices across the state;

WHEREAS, the combined effects of these federal actions are expected to significantly increase costs to Oregon's health care system and extract an estimated $9.4 billion total funds by 2031 from Oregon's health care providers, systems, and programs that keep Oregonians insured;

WHEREAS, the state of Oregon has made expanding access to affordable, high-quality care a public policy priority and today, more than 97 percent of Oregonians have health insurance coverage;

WHEREAS, the state has taken action to reduce insurer price increases and preserve consumer choice through the Oregon Reinsurance Program and other regulatory actions to reduce rates in the individual market by an average of 6% to 8% each year;

WHEREAS, the Oregon Reinsurance Program dampened rate increases by an average of 10.7% for the 2027 plan year;

WHEREAS, state initiatives to expand health care access have been proven to strengthen hospital system stability and significantly reduce consumer medical debt;

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WHEREAS, primary care is critical to the long-term health of every family, helps avoid unnecessary higher cost interventions for patients and families, and ensures efficient use of taxpayer dollars by reducing avoidable hospitalizations, improving chronic disease management, and promoting early detection and prevention that keep communities healthier over time;

WHEREAS, Oregon must continue to pursue opportunities to lower health care costs, strengthen primary care, ensure reliable reimbursement for providers, reduce unnecessary administrative burden, and maximize the purchasing power of state health care programs;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TINA KOTEK, Governor of the State of Oregon, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of Oregon, do hereby issue this order to become effective immediately:

IT IS ORDERED AND DIRECTED:

1. **Identifying options to further lower costs and stabilize the individual market and enhance savings in the small group market.** The Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) shall request the Division of Financial Regulation (DFR) immediately procure a third-party analysis of Oregon's reinsurance program to ensure the program is working to its maximum effectiveness to lower consumer costs on the individual market. DFR shall conduct additional analysis into how reinsurance and other tools may stabilize or support additional markets and lead to employer savings.
    a. DFR will procure a market-wide analysis of the state's reinsurance program to identify how an expanded program, risk pooling, and other strategies may support the individual, small, and large group markets to improve affordability for individual enrollees, employers, and employees.
    b. DFR will procure the necessary tools to assess the adequacy of plan networks, including the prevalence of ghost networks.
    c. DFR will use emergency authorities available to them to expedite procurement, and the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) shall support DFR to enable this work.
    d. DFR will issue preliminary recommendations for executive action, budgetary, and legislative actions by March 2027.

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2. **Ensuring primary care and prevention are an actualized strategy to improve health and reduce avoidable costs.** Effective immediately, DFR and OHA shall enforce corrective actions and further transparency for all payers required to comply with the 12% primary care spend target under ORS 414.572 and ORS 743.010.
    a. Within 45 days, DFR and OHA shall communicate to Coordinated Care Organizations, Fee-for-Service vendor(s), and insurers how the agencies will pursue enforcement of this law.
    b. OHA shall pursue legislative changes to ensure the definition of primary care in future years is congruent with the goal of driving health care utilization toward preventive, primary care services.

3. **Ensuring reliable reimbursement for providers.** OHA and DFR shall review timely pay provisions, issue clarifications for how the agencies will enforce existing requirements, and identify what additional actions may be taken to ensure that clean claims across regulated insurance markets are paid in a timely manner to support predictability and consistency for Oregon providers with a focus on primary care.
    a. OHA and DFR will take necessary action to clarify enforcement of and adopt provisions related to this purpose within 60 days.

4. **Maximizing patient-provider time and reducing administrative burden for primary care clinics.** Under the coordination and direction of the Governor's Office, OHA shall produce recommendations to strengthen and simplify the Patient-Centered Primary Care Home Program (PCPCH).
    a. OHA will convene providers and payers to identify the highest function of the program, eliminate unnecessary requirements not in service to this function, and seek areas of alignment to reduce primary care provider burden and improve integrated care.
    b. OHA will make recommendations on how the PCPCH program can best align with the Quality Incentive Program and state value-based payment strategies to support primary care stability. Recommendations shall include strategies to align program requirements to the extent practicable.
    c. OHA will report on administrative actions that can be taken without legislation and make recommendations for legislative changes to accomplish these goals.
    d. DFR shall assist as necessary to ensure alignment across regulated markets.

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5. **Optimizing state purchasing of high-cost drugs to lower healthcare costs for all Oregonians.** OHA, the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA), the Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA), and the Oregon Department of Corrections (ODOC) shall evaluate the opportunity to maximize state purchasing of pharmaceutical drugs for agency administration, including but not limited to partial and full formulary alignment and participation in Oregon's multi-state purchasing arrangement.
    a. The agencies shall evaluate the opportunity for direct cost savings, administrative cost savings, and potential savings if a uniform prescription drug list is adopted, and present initial findings to the Governor's Office and the Legislature by March 2027.

6. **Simplifying the Medicaid pharmacy benefit for providers and reducing program costs.** OHA shall consult with a not-for-profit entity with experience administering state prescription drug formularies to develop a legislative proposal to adopt an aligned prescription drug formulary to maximize state rebates, reduce administrative burden for providers, and reduce overall costs. OHA shall confer with consumer advocates to ensure necessary exemptions are reflected in the legislative framework for consideration in the 2027 legislative session.

7. **Tracking coverage loss of Oregonians eligible for health care due to federal policies.** OHA shall report quarterly to the Governor and the Legislature the number of Oregonians losing coverage or being denied coverage at application due to new federal procedural requirements. Within 30 days, OHA shall identify which Medicaid data will be reported, including but not limited to qualitative provider-level data, to understand how new procedural requirements are preventing eligible Oregonians from accessing insurance coverage. The Oregon Department of Human Services shall assist OHA in producing this report.

The Order shall remain in effect until the actions set forth above are implemented or the Governor directs otherwise.

Done at Salem, Oregon, this 13th day of October, 2026.

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PAGE FIVE

Tina Kotek
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Tobias Read
SECRETARY OF STATE

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Office of the Governor
State of Oregon

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 26-28

DECLARATION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY IN BEND-LA PINE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND HIGH DESERT EDUCATION SERVICE DISTRICT DUE TO SILVER RAIL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SHOOTING

WHEREAS, under ORS 401.165 the Governor by proclamation may declare a state of emergency after determining that an emergency has occurred or is imminent.

WHEREAS, on October 15, 2026, a human-caused disaster at Silver Rail Elementary School in Bend resulted in multiple fatalities and serious injuries, as well as trauma and suffering for all impacted.

WHEREAS, the tragedy has placed extraordinary demands on the Bend-La Pine School District and the High Desert Education Service District, including trauma recovery, continuity of instruction, student and staff safety, facility considerations, and providing sustained supports for students and staff.

WHEREAS, during a state of emergency, the Governor has authority to suspend provisions of any order or rule of any state agency, if the Governor determines and declares that strict compliance with the provisions of the order or rule would in any way prevent, hinder or delay mitigation of the effects of the emergency.

NOW THEREFORE, I, TINA KOTEK, Governor of the State of Oregon, by virtue of the authority vested in me under ORS 401.165, do hereby proclaim that a state of emergency exists in the Bend-La Pine School District and the High Desert Education Service District, effectively immediately.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS DIRECTED AND ORDERED:

1. The Oregon Department of Emergency Management (OEM) shall coordinate necessary access to state resources necessary to assess, alleviate, respond to, mitigate, and/or recover from conditions caused by this emergency in the Bend-La Pine School District and the High Desert Education Service District.

2. The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) shall provide all necessary assistance to the Bend-La Pine School District and the High Desert Education Service District, including providing necessary waivers, including Division 22 Education Standards, instructional time requirements, and average daily membership reporting, as necessary, to support administrative flexibility, and support the immediate and long-term educational recovery needs.

3. This determination of emergency is not to be construed as a comprehensive declaration or proclamation of emergency for other purposes. It is limited to the use of state resources and personnel required by the emergency, to request assistance through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact if needed, and to allow state agencies to suspend provision of any order or rule of the agency if compliance with the provisions of the order or rule would in any way prevent, hinder or delay mitigating the effects of the emergency.

4. This declaration is limited to the areas served by the Bend-La Pine School District and the High Desert Education Service District.

5. Duration: This order shall remain in effect until 11:59 p.m., December 31, 2027, unless extended or terminated sooner by the Governor.

Done at Salem, Oregon, this 26th day of October, 2026.

Tina Kotek
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Tobias Read
SECRETARY OF STATE

Public Notice

DEQ Requests Comments on Proposed Certification of Completion for Environmental Cleanup of Closed St. Johns Landfill in Portland

Date posted: 11/02/26

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality invites the public to submit written comments on a proposed Certification of Completion for environmental cleanup of the former St. Johns Landfill in Portland.

How to provide public comment

Facility name: St. Johns Landfill

Project location: 11683 N. Landfill Road, Portland, Oregon, 97203

Comments due by: 12/2/26 at 5 p.m.

Submit written comments:

By mail: David Lamadrid, Oregon DEQ, 700 NE Multnomah St., Suite 600, Portland, Oregon, 97232

By email: david.lamadrid@deq.oregon.gov

Proposal highlights

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality is proposing to certify that all actions required under a cleanup agreement, called a Consent Order, between DEQ and Metro, the regional government in greater Portland, have been satisfactorily completed for the St. Johns Landfill. DEQ is proposing to issue a Certification of Completion that documents DEQ's finding that Metro satisfactorily implemented the scope of work required under a May 2019 Consent Order and in accordance with DEQ's 2014 selected cleanup plan for the landfill.

Background

St. Johns Landfill is a closed 238-acre solid waste landfill located in Portland in an area called the St. Johns/Rivergate Industrial District. The St. Johns Landfill was operated by the City of Portland for more than 50 years from the 1930s to 1980. Metro assumed ownership of the property in 1990, and the landfill ceased receiving waste in 1991.

A final cover system, gas control system, stormwater control system and other closure improvements were constructed by Metro during the 1990s. Historically, landfill leachate was observed as visible surface seeps, and a likely lesser quantity in shallow groundwater, that discharged to surrounding surface waters of the Columbia Slough and North Slough. The landfill cover system addressed most of the seeps by significantly limiting rainfall infiltration through the landfill.

Under a previous consent agreement with the DEQ Environmental Cleanup Program, Metro completed a remedial investigation in 2012 and feasibility study 2013. In 2014, DEQ signed a final cleanup plan called a Record of Decision identifying the remedial action to address limited areas of sediment contamination through in-situ treatment (treating contamination in place) to reduce risks to benthic organisms (which live in/near the bottom of a body of water). Contaminants of concern include antimony, lead, zinc, pyrene and a pesticide breakdown product called dichlorodiphenyldichloroethylene (DDE).

The remedial action selected by DEQ required treatment of approximately one-quarter acre of sediment with activated carbon in an area called the West Mud Flat, and verification of treatment effectiveness through

sampling before and after treatment. Metro also proposed, and DEQ agreed to, the treatment of additional areas of sediment adjacent to the landfill to improve habitat quality in the vicinity of the property including:

- The remaining portions of the West Mud Flat outside of the quarter acre area that was treated with activated carbon.
- The uppermost 220 feet of Blind Slough.
- An approximately 40-foot area in diameter upstream from West Mud Flat.

Metro also agreed under the 2019 Consent Order to conduct habitat restoration projects in the vicinity of the closed landfill.

In 2021, DEQ reviewed and approved a Remedial Action Completion Report that documents remedial actions conducted pursuant to the July 2014 Record of Decision and May 2019 Consent Order.

For more information

Visit the Oregon Records Management Solution web page for the St. Johns Landfill, or the Your DEQ Online web page for the St. Johns Landfill.

If you do not have web access and want to review the project file, contact David Lamadrid at 503-501-0669 or david.lamadrid@deq.oregon.gov to view the documents in person at a DEQ office.

Cleanup Program File No. 0164.

Visit Metro's web page dedicated to the St. Johns Landfill to learn more about the history and restoration of the landfill.

The next step

DEQ will consider all public comments received by the date and time stated above before making a final decision regarding the Certification of Completion. Decision documents will be posted on the Oregon Records Management Solution web page linked above.

Non-discrimination statement

DEQ does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age, sex, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status in the administration of its programs and activities.

For translation and other formats, visit DEQ's Civil Rights and Environmental Justice page.

Public Notice

DEQ Requests Comments on Proposed Cleanup Plan for Trainsong Park in Eugene

Date posted: Nov. 1, 2026

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality invites the public to submit written comments on the City of Eugene's proposed cleanup plan for Trainsong Park in Eugene.

How to provide public comment

Site name: Trainsong Park

Project location: 2775 Edison St. in Eugene

Comments due by: Dec. 11 at 5 p.m.

Submit written comments:

By mail: Sarah Eagle, Oregon DEQ, 165 E. Seventh Ave., Suite 100, Eugene, OR 97401

By email: sarah.eagle@deq.oregon.gov

Proposal highlights

DEQ has reviewed the City of Eugene's preferred cleanup plan described in the 2026 draft Trainsong Park Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives and is seeking public comment. The city's preferred cleanup plan, Alternative 4 in the ABCA, is for excavation and consolidation of dioxin-contaminated soils, and then placement of a protective cap on the soil containment area and areas of the site where residual dioxin contaminated soils remain at depth. This plan does not include offsite disposal. DEQ has reviewed this draft plan and has determined the approach will result in site conditions that are protective of human health and the environment as required by Oregon cleanup laws.

Background

Trainsong Park is an approximately 5-acre neighborhood park at 2775 Edison St. in Eugene. The City of Eugene has owned the property since at least 1983 and it has been used as a park since 1986. In 2021, a consultant working to investigate contamination associated with a different environmental cleanup site in west Eugene conducted shallow soil sampling at the site to establish background concentrations of dioxins for the Eugene area. The 2021 sampling found elevated concentrations of dioxins, which prompted additional sampling. Follow up investigations in 2022, 2023, and 2026 further defined the extent of dioxin contamination in soil at the park and formed the basis for the cleanup alternatives described in the ABCA. Funding for the proposed work is provided from a U.S Environmental Protection Agency Cleanup Grant awarded to City of Eugene in June 2024 and from city funds.

For more information

Visit DEQ's Environmental Cleanup Site Information database at ordeq.org/ECSI6504.

If you do not have web access and want to review the project file, contact Sarah Eagle at 971-357-5275 to view the documents in person at a DEQ office.

Environmental Cleanup Site Information ID: 6504

The next step

DEQ will consider all public comments received by the date and time stated above before making a final decision regarding the proposed cleanup plan. DEQ will also provide all comments received to the City of Eugene and their contractor for consideration and incorporation into the final ABCA.

Non-discrimination statement

DEQ does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age, sex, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status in the administration of its programs and activities.

For translation and other formats, visit DEQ's Civil Rights and Environmental Justice page.

Public Notice

DEQ Requests Comments on Proposed Cleanup Remedies for SPEC Industries Property in Corvallis

Date posted: 11/1/2026

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality has extended the public comment period for the proposed cleanup remedies at SPEC Industries. DEQ will accept written comments from Oct. 19, 2026, through Nov. 23, 2026.

How to provide public comment

Facility name: SPEC Industries

Project location: 410 SW Wake Robin Ave., in Corvallis

Comments Started: Oct 19, 2026

Comments due by: Nov. 23 at 5 p.m.

Submit written comments:

By mail: Rachel Murphy, Oregon DEQ, 165 East Seventh Ave Suite 100, Eugene, OR 97401

By email: rachel.murphy@deq.oregon.gov

Proposal highlights

DEQ is evaluating a proposed cleanup remedies for the former SPEC Industries property to address petroleum hydrocarbon contamination identified during environmental investigations at the site. The proposed remedies includes the installation of a vapor mitigation system to prevent occupants of future buildings being exposed to potential soil vapor contamination. Soil contamination encountered during redevelopment will be managed in accordance with a DEQ- approved contaminated media management plan, or CMMP, which may include appropriate on site-reuse or off-site disposal of excavated soil.

The remedy will also include an Easement and Equitable Servitude recorded on the property to maintain the long-term protectiveness of the cleanup remedy. The EES will restrict groundwater use, establish requirements for the operation and maintenance of the vapor mitigation system, and, if contaminated soil remains onsite beneath a cap or other protective barrier, establish requirements for maintaining that component of the remedy. DEQ is seeking comments on the proposed cleanup remedy before making a final decision.

Background

The former SPEC Industries property has historically been used for commercial, agriculture, and industrial purposes. Environmental investigations were conducted to further evaluate the nature and extent of the contamination and potential risk to current and future property use. Investigations conducted at the property identified soil, groundwater, and soil vapor petroleum hydrocarbon contamination.

The property is proposed for redevelopment into multi-family residential housing. Based on the results of the environmental investigations and the property use, a cleanup remedy was developed to address potential exposure to contamination. The proposed remedy includes vapor mitigation, management of contaminated soil during redevelopment, and an EES to address groundwater use, soil management, and other long-term requirements necessary to maintain the protectiveness of the remedy.

A formal feasibility study was not conducted for this site. Rather than conducting a formal evaluation of multiple remedial alternatives, the property owner is proceeding directly with vapor mitigation to address potential vapor

intrusion risks, a CMMP to address contaminated soil during redevelopment, and an EES to address groundwater use and other long-term requirements associated with residual contamination.

For more information

Visit DEQ's Environmental Cleanup Site Information database at ordeq.org/6777.

If you do not have web access and want to review the project file, contact Rachel Murphy 503-954-8350 or rachel.murphy@deq.oregon.gov to view the documents in person at a DEQ office.

Environmental Cleanup Site Information ID: ECSI 6777

The next step

All comments on the proposed cleanup remedy must be received by Nov. 23 at 5 p.m. DEQ will review and consider all comments received during the public comment period before making a final decision on the cleanup remedies.

Non-discrimination statement

DEQ does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age, sex, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status in the administration of its programs and activities.

For translation and other formats, visit DEQ's Civil Rights and Environmental Justice page.