

Ben Westlund
State Treasurer
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Treasurer appoints state's bonding chief to new financing panel that will help improve Oregon

Laura Lockwood McCall is director of the State Treasury's Debt Management Division

SALEM – Saying it is vitally important to improve Oregon's transportation, utility, and water and wastewater systems, State Treasurer Ben Westlund has tapped the state's top bonding official to serve on the board of directors for the newly formed Infrastructure Finance Authority.

The Treasurer, who makes one appointment to the board, selected Laura Lockwood-McCall, the manager of the State Treasury's Debt Management Division and a respected industry veteran with more than 20 years of municipal financing experience in four states. She has been director of the Treasury's debt management office since 2004.

The authority, which was created by the 2009 Legislature, will develop goals and policies to help solve Oregon's infrastructure needs, and also will serve as a clearinghouse to help cities, counties and other public entities to finance important public works projects.

"Whether you're driving, buying groceries, earning a degree to get a job, or just turning on the tap, your quality of life is colored by our investments in roads, bridges, schools and water pipes," Treasurer Westlund said. "Our infrastructure needs work, and we need our best minds to help us figure out how to best pay for it."

The Infrastructure Finance Authority was created as part of the restructuring this year of the Oregon Economic and Community Development Department, now known as the Oregon Business Development Department. Among its tasks, the IFA will continue the efforts of the former Community Development Division of that agency. Other appointments to the board will be made by the governor and legislative leaders.

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