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Oregon's State Chief Information Officer Terrence Woods to Lead Middle-mile Provider Link Oregon's Board as Chair for Fiscal Year 2023

PORTLAND, ORE. July 22, 2022 — On June 28, 2022, Oregon's State Chief Information Officer (CIO) Terrence Woods

assumed the role of Chair of the Board of Directors for Link Oregon, the middle-mile broadband fiber provider for Oregon's non-profit and public sectors. Woods, who leads the Enterprise Information Services unit for the State of Oregon, will serve as chair for fiscal year 2023, which began on July 1, following his service as vice chair for fiscal year 2022.



Woods resumes the role, which he previously held for FY21, from Andrea Ballinger, vice president of IT and chief information officer for Oregon State University, who was the Board's chair for FY22 and will now serve as its vice-chair. That is, Woods and Ballinger will once again exchange the chair and vice-chair roles; Ballinger will succeed Woods as chair in FY24.

Earlier in the day on June 28, Woods and Ballinger also served on a panel during Link Oregon's third Annual Member Meeting, which drew more than 100 participants from around the state and across the country. The meeting—which also featured representatives from the Oregon State Library, the City of Portland, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the National Digital Inclusion Alliance, the Cascade Technology Alliance and Northwest Regional Education Service District and others—addressed the state's vision for the future of equitable, sustainable broadband access in Oregon. A summary of that event can be found <u>here</u>.

Woods provided early support for the formation of Link Oregon, the operating name for the Oregon Fiber Partnership (OFP), a consortium of five entities: Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU), Oregon State University, Portland State University, the University of Oregon, and the State of Oregon's Enterprise Information Services (EIS) unit. Established to consolidate and enhance efforts to develop a high-speed, middle-mile network, Link Oregon supports State offices, the universities' research and education needs, K-12 schools, libraries, public healthcare facilities, Oregon's nine recognized Tribes, and other public and non-profit organizations and initiatives across the state.

In addition to Woods and Ballinger, the Link Oregon Board of Directors currently includes Bridget Barnes (Board Treasurer), Vice President of IT and CIO, OHSU; Ryan Bass, Interim CIO, Portland State University; Kurtis Danka, CIO, Oregon Department of Administrative Services; Scott Emry, Assistant State CIO, EIS, State of Oregon; Stuart Long, CIO, Cascade Technology Alliance & Northwest Regional Education Service District; Abhijit Pandit, CIO, University of Oregon; and Amira Streeter, Climate, Energy, & Transportation Policy Advisor to Gov. Brown.

About Link Oregon

Link Oregon, a federally tax-exempt 501(c)(3) Oregon non-profit organization, is a consortium of the State of Oregon through its Enterprise Information Services and the state's four largest research universities—Oregon State University, OHSU, Portland State University, and the University of Oregon. Link Oregon provides high-speed, resilient, middle-mile fiber broadband connectivity to Oregon's public and non-profit sectors. It also facilitates other collaborative information technology projects among its membership. For more information about Link Oregon, visit https://www.linkoregon.org/