

Community & Economic Development

March 12, 2013

Senator Dingfelder, Chair Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources 900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301

RE: SB 488 - Clean Fuels Program

Dear Chair Dingfelder and Members of the Committee:

I am writing today to share the city of Beaverton's support for Senate Bill 488 for the Clean Fuels Program.

Beaverton is a strong leader with its energy-related programs and has been recognized nationally for its implementation effectiveness. We understand and support the importance of shifting Oregon to the use of Clean Fuels.

Beaverton has taken action through the installation of electric vehicle infrastructure, use of electric vehicles and hybrids, and implementing green fleet strategies. We believe that by gradually adding homegrown clean fuels like sustainable biofuels, electricity, natural gas, and propane into our transportation mix, we will support our local economy, create new jobs, cut carbon pollution, and lessen our dependence on Big Oil—without increasing costs to taxpayers and other consumers.

Beaverton supports lifting the sunset and moving the state toward a greater blend of lower carbon fuels, especially those that are locally produced (to lower the carbon impact of shipping fuels). In addition to creating other options besides ethanol, we believe this will create a better opportunity for investment in green energy.

Beaverton is paying attention to the US energy crisis. A low-carbon fuel standard is essential to enable Oregon to reduce its greenhouse-gas emissions by 10 percent by 2020 and aligns with Beaverton's own greenhouse-gas emission reduction targets.

From the economic development prospective, this program will give companies confidence to invest in our state, by creating markets for cleaner fuels, spurring job growth over the long term.

It's time for the Oregon Legislature to move forward to extend the Clean Fuels Program and remove the sunset.

It makes sense for Beaverton and Oregon's economy and environment, and we encourage you to pass this bill.

Sincerely

Don Mazziotti Community & Economic Development Director

Cindy Dolezel Sustainability Manager