



CITY OF
PORTLAND, OREGON

Ted Wheeler, Mayor
Amanda Fritz, Commissioner
Nick Fish, Commissioner
Dan Saltzman, Commissioner
Chloe Eudaly, Commissioner

February 6, 2018

Senator Michael Dembrow, Chair
Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Representative Ken Helm, Chair
House Committee on Energy and Environment

RE: SB 1507 & HB 4001

Dear Chair Dembrow, Chair Helm, and Members of the Committees,

The City of Portland urges your support for SB 1507 and HB 4001. Climate change is one of the most far-reaching environmental, economic, and social problems of the 21st century. Yet within this problem is an opportunity to create a 21st century economy for Oregon.

SB 1507 and HB 4001 reduce carbon pollution and mitigate the impact of climate change by creating a statewide market-based solution. Capping and establishing a price for carbon pollution captures the true cost of this pollution, protects clean air, and creates more clean energy jobs. These bills also ensure the benefits of a carbon market accrue justly and equitably to impacted communities, particularly if proceeds generated from transportation sources are invested in travel options that reduce transportation-related climate pollution and expand access to opportunity.

Portland has been recognized internationally for reducing carbon emissions while growing jobs. In 1993, the City of Portland was the first U.S. city to create a local action plan for reducing carbon emissions. Since then, Portland increased population by 33 percent and grew jobs by 24 percent while reducing carbon emissions by 41 percent per capita and 21 percent overall. Portland and Multnomah County continue to work together to reduce carbon emissions and have set a goal to achieve a 40 percent reduction by 2030 and an 80 percent reduction by 2050.

We respectfully urge your support for SB 1507 and HB 4001. Now is the time for Oregon to enact a comprehensive and economy-wide policy for reducing carbon pollution and investing in a low-carbon economy that will benefit all Oregonians. Thank you for your consideration.

Ted Wheeler
Mayor

Amanda Fritz
Commissioner

Nick Fish
Commissioner

Dan Saltzman
Commissioner

Chloe Eudaly
Commissioner