



February 3, 2021

Representative Pam Marsh, Chair
House Committee on Energy and Environment
Oregon State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

RE: HB 2476 - Support

Chair Marsh and committee members:

Climate Solutions is a regional non-profit working to accelerate clean energy solutions to the climate crisis. Founded in 1968, Oregon Environmental Council (OEC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, membership-based organization advancing innovative, collaborative and equitable solutions to Oregon's environmental challenges for today and future generations.

The transportation sector comprises the largest portion of greenhouse gas emissions in Oregon – roughly 40% - and those emissions are growing. Recognizing this challenge, in 2019, the Legislature passed an important bill, SB 1044, that established ambitious statewide goals for vehicle electrification and zero emission vehicles (by 2025, at least 250,000 registered motor vehicles, and by 2035, at least 90% of all new motor vehicle sales).

Widespread, reliable deployment of EV charging stations is essential to efficiently serve the growing fleet of electric vehicles (EVs) on Oregon roads and enable Oregon to achieve its ambitious zero emission vehicle goals from SB 1044. Electric vehicle adoption has continued to grow in Oregon and the nation despite the coronavirus pandemic but it needs to accelerate significantly. Grid infrastructure must be built today to support and integrate electric vehicle chargers at residential, commercial, and public spaces in partnership with communities, businesses, governments, transit agencies, and equipment providers.

HB 2476 will ensure the Public Utility Commission has clear authority to allow regulated electric companies to invest in the electrical infrastructure to facilitate widescale deployment of EV charging. We ask you to please support HB 2476 as an important step to building and improving EV infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Victoria Paykar
OR Transportation Policy Manager
Climate Solutions

Sara Wright
Program Director, Transportation
Oregon Environmental Council