



THE BUREAU OF
**PLANNING &
SUSTAINABILITY**

April 5, 2023

Senator Chris Gorsek and Representative Susan McLain, Co-Chairs
Joint Committee on Transportation
900 Court Street, NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs Gorsek and McLain and Members of the Committee:

The City of Portland appreciates the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2613.

Portland is internationally recognized as a forward-thinking leader in promoting sustainable transportation options, which includes promoting a variety of electric vehicle types and non-automobile modes. Portland City Council adopted the Climate Emergency Declaration in June 2020, committing the City to reduce carbon emissions by at least 50% (below 1990 levels) by 2030 and achieve net zero carbon emissions before 2050. Like the City, the State of Oregon has set carbon emission reduction goals of at least 45% (below 1990 levels) by 2035 and at least 80% (below 1990 levels) by 2050. The City of Portland understands that transportation electrification is crucial to achieving citywide and statewide emission reduction goals, and the Oregon Clean Vehicle Rebate Program (OCVRP) enables more Oregonians from all walks of life to participate in that effort.

The transportation sector is responsible for 43% of Multnomah County's carbon emissions, and transitioning from fossil fuel to electric powered vehicles is a key strategy to meet the City's carbon reduction, air quality, and equity goals. The OCVRP is a valuable element of Oregon's transportation decarbonization work and supports both the State's and the City's climate goals. Given that the over 20% of total funds disbursed in 2022 were part of the income-qualified Charge Ahead Rebate, the OCVRP is also an effective strategy for equitable access to clean vehicles.

Furthermore, in order to achieve our climate, equity and safety goals, it will be necessary to not only decarbonize everything that runs on fossil fuels, but also reduce our dependence on single-occupancy vehicles, shifting trips to other modes. The rise in both personally owned and shared electric micromobility (i.e. e-bikes and e-scooters) is a powerful tool in making this change. The City of Portland looks forward to future work to build on the success of the OCVRP to support adoption of a broader range of electric transportation options, including the statewide e-bike rebate program proposed through HB 2571.

The City of Portland supports HB 2613 and the continuing efforts of the state to support a swift, equitable, and smooth transition to a decarbonized transportation system.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Mingus Mapps in black ink.

Mingus Mapps, Commissioner-in-Charge
Portland Bureau of Transportation
City of Portland

Handwritten signature of Carmen Rubio in black ink.

Carmen Rubio, Commissioner-in-Charge
Bureau of Planning and Sustainability
City of Portland