



THE BUREAU OF  
**PLANNING &  
SUSTAINABILITY**

March 12, 2025

House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Chair Lively, Vice-Chairs Gamba and Levy, and members of the Committee,

The City of Portland supports HB 3477, which updates Oregon's greenhouse gas reduction goals to better align with current climate science.

The City of Portland updated its climate goals in 2020 in the Climate Emergency Declaration (Resolution No. 37494.) Portland has two carbon emission reduction goals: 1) a 50% reduction in emissions below a 1990 baseline by 2030 and 2) net zero emissions by 2050. Cities around the world, especially those that are members of the C40 and Climate Neutral Cities Alliance, have adopted 2050 net zero targets in accordance with climate science and international best practices. We appreciate this effort from the State Legislature to bring Oregon's greenhouse gas reduction goals into the same alignment.

Portland depends on state action to achieve our goals, especially in terms of electric grid decarbonization and Oregon building and energy codes. With both jurisdictions having near-net zero targets, Portland will be more aligned with Oregon on the benefits and outcomes of the State's signature climate initiatives, like the Oregon Clean Fuels program and the Climate Protection Program. Closer alignment with the state helps Portland achieve local carbon emission reduction goals.

Revising Oregon's Greenhouse Gas goals through HB 3477 will bring Oregon into better alignment with the Paris Climate Agreement's goal to hold emissions to 1.5 degrees Celsius. Given that the United States has issued an executive order to begin the process of withdrawing from the international climate accords, it's more important than ever that local governments and states join the rest of the world in taking on these ambitious and critical climate targets.

We're already seeing the effects of climate change on Oregon communities, infrastructure, businesses, and the natural environment. The urgency of the climate crisis requires bold and immediate action to



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defend what we love about Oregon. As such, Portland calls on the legislation to adopt HB 3477 to codify an ambitious commitment to climate action.

Sincerely,



Eric Engstrom  
Interim Director  
City of Portland, Bureau of Planning & Sustainability

