



CITY OF  
**PORTLAND, OREGON**

Charlie Hales, Mayor  
Amanda Fritz, Commissioner  
Nick Fish, Commissioner  
Dan Saltzman, Commissioner  
Steve Novick, Commissioner

February 2, 2016

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

Dear Chair Edwards and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for taking action to address climate change through SB 1574, the Healthy Climate Act. The City of Portland strongly supports reducing carbon emissions.

In 1993, Portland became the first city in the United States to create a local action plan for cutting carbon. Through this plan, Portland and Multnomah County are on track to achieve a 40 percent reduction in carbon emissions by 2030 and an 80 percent reduction by 2050, compared to 1990 levels. Portland City Council recently updated its Climate Action Plan to incorporate new research on consumption choices, adopt ambitious new policies, and reflect the City's commitment to advancing equity.

In 2007, the Oregon State Legislature acted to set carbon reduction goals of lowering carbon emissions to 75 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. To meet this reduction and place Oregon on a path to effectively addressing climate change, comprehensive and economy-wide climate policies must be enacted. Capping and establishing a price for carbon pollution captures the true cost of this pollution, protects clean air and healthy communities across the state, and creates more clean energy jobs. This market-based program will generate proceeds for investing in local jobs, rural communities and clean air. SB 1574 also ensures that the strategies selected are cost-effective, that disadvantaged communities benefit from these changes, and that the new program has the flexibility to link Oregon's efforts to already functioning market-based systems in other jurisdictions.

The City of Portland supports statewide legislation to reduce carbon pollution and mitigate the impacts of climate change. Thank you for your leadership on SB 1574.

Charlie Hales  
Mayor

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Commissioner

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