

To: Oregon State Legislators
From: Mark Gamba, Mayor of Milwaukie, Oregon
Re: Support of HB 4036 – The Oregon Clean Electricity and Coal Transition Plan
Date: February 4, 2016

Climate Change is the single most pressing issue of our time. It is imperative that we take immediate steps to drastically reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and build our system of renewable sources of electricity.

Our cities throughout the state are already feeling the early effects of catastrophic climate change.

Milwaukie itself is now on the hook to replace a critical bridge that became unusable after the extreme rain events of December, to the tune of \$1.3 million. This is not money we have, nor is it something that would have happened had our country taken appropriate steps when we all first learned about climate change. This is just one finite example of the costs of continuing to dither on this issue.

To that end, I strongly support HB 4036 as a beginning. In my opinion, it is not nearly strong enough nor fast enough but at least it is moving us in the right direction. Even with this bill, we will not be on track to hit our anemic 2020 target for reduction of greenhouse gases. We need to pass comprehensive carbon pricing measures like SB 1574 if we hope to hit our greenhouse gas reduction targets for 2025 and beyond.

The community solar portion of HB 4036 is particularly relevant to Milwaukie at this time as we will be formulating a solar goal and program over the next few months and would like to be able to offer interested families and businesses the option of participating in a community solar project should their building prove unsuitable for solar installation.

Rest assured that I will throw my full support behind the ballot measure should you fail to pass HB 4036.

At this writing this is only my opinion. Due to my confidence in my council's wisdom I expect to pass a resolution of the entire council supporting this important first step at our meeting on February 16th.

Thank you for all that you do and for your attention to this issue.

Sincerely,

Mark Gamba
Mayor of Milwaukie Oregon