



May 24, 2017

Senate Committee on Business and Transportation  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

**RE: House Bill 2132:** Relating to local government programs to finance improvements to real property.

Dear Chair Beyer, Vice-Chair Thomsen, and members of the Senate Committee on Business and Transportation;

I am writing to share the City of Beaverton's support for House Bill 2132. The city endorses this bill, which would expand local government financing programs to include sustainability related improvements for multi-family residential dwellings, commercial, or industrial buildings. Beaverton is in the process of developing its first community-wide climate action plan which will outline many of the community's mitigation goals and priorities over the next few years. Assisting private businesses with sustainable practices is a part of these priorities. This could include:

- **Energy Efficiency**
  - Providing resources and acquire new partners to join the city in support of the Better Buildings Challenge, a national initiative to make American buildings 20 percent more energy efficient by 2020.
  - Expand the 2017 residential energy efficiency program to include support and incentives for multi-family residential dwellings, commercial, or industrial buildings.
- **Renewable energy**
  - The city would like to expand the Solar Beaverton program, which currently offers a group discount on solar to residents living in single family homes.
- **Smart Electric Vehicle Charging Stations**
  - Creating a city electric vehicle infrastructure strategy to support and incentivize the expansion of electric vehicles for all.
- **Water efficiency**
  - Beaverton currently offers a rebate program for residents to replace inefficient toilets and washing machines with high efficiency models for water conservation. This program could be expanded to include incentives for multi-family residential dwellings, commercial, or industrial buildings.

The city also has CDBG home rehabilitation grants and home buyer programs for residential dwellings and commercial financing programs like the storefront grant and tenant improvement grant that could be combined with state grants to encourage sustainability related improvements. Please support House Bill 2132, as it provides the opportunity for cities to help private businesses minimize the cost of operations through energy efficiency, renewable energy, energy storage, and water efficiency projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cheryl Twete".

Cheryl Twete  
Community Development Director