

Feb. 15, 2017

Honorable Paul Holvey House Committee on Business and Labor 900 Court St. NE Salem, Or 97301

RE: House Bill 2164 Electronic Building Code Information Systems

Dear Chair Holvey, Vice Chair Barreto, Vice Chair Bynum, and Members of the House Committee on Business and Labor:

I am writing to share the City of Beaverton's concerns about House Bill 2164 as introduced. The City fully supports the intent of this bill to provide accessible building code information and services to the public, but requests that amendments be made to the bill.

Specifically, we would like the committee to consider excluding the requirement to use state-approved systems. Many jurisdictions like Beaverton have invested thousands if not millions of dollars on their current systems or are well on their way to developing those systems. Jurisdictions currently considering developing a new system have no certainty if it will meet what the state sets as standards years from now, making it difficult to know what direction to take.

The state criteria for determining what systems it will approve does not occur until 2019, and if existing systems and those well in development are deemed unacceptable to state standards, tax payer money will have been wasted.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment, and I urge the committee to amend HB 2164.

Sincerely,

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Cheryl Twéte Community Development Director