



CITY OF PORTLAND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Room 1000, Portland, Oregon 97204 ■ Nick Fish, Commissioner ■ Michael Jordan, Director

February 6, 2019

Senator Taylor, Co-Chair & Representative Reardon, Co-Chair
Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources
900 Court Street NE, HR 174
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: HB 5002

Dear Co-Chairs Taylor and Reardon and Members of the Joint Subcommittee,

The City of Portland supports adequate funding for the Oregon Department of Agriculture's (ODA) Noxious Weed Control and Insect Pest Prevention and Management Programs. The current, proposed budget would reduce the effectiveness of state efforts protecting Oregon's economy and natural resources and impact the successful partnerships the City and ODA have fostered to address the risks posed by invasive species.

The efforts of Portland's Bureau of Environmental Services, in coordination with those of the ODA Noxious Weed Control Program, have resulted in the eradication or control of species which are known to pose a significant risk to human health, infrastructure, and the environment. These efforts also assist in keeping invasive plant species, that arrive to the city via commerce and trade, from dispersing to the rest of the state. ODA's Insect Pest Prevention and Management Program has worked with Portland and neighboring municipalities to protect resources and assets, such as Forest Park through Asian gypsy moth eradication efforts. Currently, Japanese Beetle eradication efforts are helping ensure the City of Portland remains the "City of Roses" and that an increase in resident-applied pesticide use doesn't negatively affect water quality.

The City of Portland greatly appreciates the accomplishments of ODA's invasive species programs and urges the Legislature to fund Policy Option Packages 320 and 360. If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact Eric Noll at eric.noll@portlandoregon.gov or at 503-823-6726.

Sincerely,

Michael Jordan
Director, Bureau of Environmental Services
City of Portland