



CITY OF PORTLAND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 613, Portland, Oregon 97204 ■ Mingus Mapps, Commissioner ■ Michael Jordan, Director

February 25, 2021

Senator Kayse Jama, Chair
Senate Housing and Development Committee
900 Court St. NE, HR C
Salem, OR 97301

RE: SB 622

Dear Chair Jama and Members of the Committee,

The City of Portland supports SB 622 which provides funding opportunities for levee projects by capitalizing the Levee Grant Fund with \$10 million in lottery bonds. The Bureau of Environmental Services manages Portland's wastewater and stormwater infrastructure to protect public health and the environment. The levees along the Columbia River are important infrastructure that serve the entire region.

Our state continues to develop and thrive, but meanwhile, our infrastructure is aging. SB 622 will provide funding for planning and construction of levee improvement projects, which is an urgent need in the Portland Metropolitan Region and other leveed areas of the state. While the City is particularly interested in the levees along the Columbia River within our service area, SB 622 will provide the Infrastructure Finance Authority with lottery funding to administer more grants. This additional funding source will be especially important for smaller levee districts all over Oregon.

Investing in the safety of Oregonians is investing in our future. The City of Portland urges your support of SB 622. Thank you for the opportunity to provide input. 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