

The City of Ashland adopted a comprehensive Climate and Energy Action Plan in 2017, which requires our community to take significant action to improve building energy use. The State should consider allowing local jurisdictions the option to opt-in to more advanced building energy codes, such as the reach code outlined in HB2398.

HB2398 creates the opportunity for municipalities who wish to move faster in reducing GHG emissions in the building sector to adopt a uniform higher standard through the Oregon Reach Code. Building to the Reach Code level will not significantly increase the cost of construction, but it will significantly reduce the energy burden of the people living in the homes and buildings.

Please consider HB2398 as a practical next step in meeting State and local climate and energy goals.