



February 13, 2023

sent via: OLIS electronic submittal

Oregon State Legislature
Joint Committee On Ways & Means
Subcommittee On Natural Resources
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

**RE: Testimony on HB 5027 | Department of Land Conservation and Development budget
| Fund Climate Friendly & Equitable Communities program (POP 203)**

Dear Co-Chair Dembrow, Co-Chair Pham, and members of the Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Natural Resources,

The Climate Friendly & Equitable Community (CFEC) program adopted by the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) places more affordable and equitable housing choices that are served by abundant transportation options at the center of how Oregon's eight major urban areas are planned, built, and funded. Oregonians are ready for Climate-Friendly & Equitable Communities, now.

The CFEC program is not currently funded in the Governor's budget, but was included as POP 203 in the policy option packages submitted by DLCD in fall 2022. While the state's current budget constraints might mean the CFEC program is funded at a lower level than was proposed, it is critical to provide some funding for cities to continue implementing the CFEC program, which many of them are doing right now.

There is [strong, diverse, and deep statewide support](#) for the State taking meaningful and urgent action to address climate, equity and housing issues in Oregon's communities by implementing the CFEC program. **To do that, it is vital to fund DLCD's CFEC program in the State budget this year. This will help ensure Oregon's cities have the resources they need to implement this important work.**

All Oregonians deserve access to walkable, bikeable neighborhoods with low-cost and safe transit and diverse and affordable housing choices. Current transportation and land use plans and investments do not serve the needs of marginalized populations, and lead to unaffordable housing, lack of housing choices, and prioritization of cars over people. They also do not get us to our greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals. To change this, Oregon's cities need to move forward and implement the CFEC program - and they need support to do so.

Throughout the CFEC rulemaking process, the Oregon Climate Action Coalition and other state-wide groups advocated for funding and technical assistance for cities, and we will continue to do so. It's time to urgently tackle climate, equity and housing issues in Oregon's communities. Given the broad, deep state-wide support and urgent need for CFEC, we ask that you work with us to get cities the funding they need to successfully implement CFEC. We greatly appreciate your leadership on Oregon's climate, equity and housing issues, and look forward to working with you in the session ahead. Please let us know if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Mary Kyle McCurdy
Deputy Director
1000 Friends of Oregon
CFEC RAC Member

Jacqui Treiger
Campaign Manager: Climate & Transportation
Oregon Environmental Council

Elisa Cheng
Board President
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Julia DeGraw
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