



LLOYD ECO DISTRICT

March 23, 2023

To: House Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment

Re: Support for HB 2990 Community Resilience Hubs

Dear Chair Marsh, Co-Chairs, and Members of the House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment,

My name is Joshua Baker with Lloyd EcoDistrict, a community-based non-profit in Portland. I am writing to you on behalf of Lloyd EcoDistrict and urging you to support HB 2990 to create a grant program through the Office of Resilience and Emergency Management that will go directly to communities to build and implement Community Resilience Hubs and networks.

Lloyd EcoDistrict is a community-based nonprofit organization with a vision to ensure Portland's Lloyd neighborhood is one of the most sustainable neighborhoods in North America, and a leader in equity, resilience, and climate protection at the local level. We became a certified EcoDistrict/Just Growth Community in 2022—a culmination of three years of visioning, planning, and convening hundreds of neighborhood stakeholders to craft a collective vision for Lloyd. Lloyd EcoDistrict is the first and only certified EcoDistrict/Just Growth in Portland and across the entire state of Oregon, and only the fourth on the West Coast.

We support Community Resilience Hubs because we heard from neighborhood residents over and over during community and stakeholder certification outreach events that residents don't feel prepared for the increasing number of climate hazards and emergencies. Furthermore, in partnership with the international consulting firm, RWDI, we recently completed a Lloyd Climate Resilience Assessment. The report considers the people and infrastructure of the business district during a projected timeline over the next thirty and fifty years and identifies climate hazards based on a business-as-usual emissions scenario. It clearly shows that our neighborhood will be subject to global and regional climate change impacts that will have local effects on the people, buildings, infrastructure, and natural assets of the district. While the assessment is Lloyd-specific, most of the findings and recommendations apply to communities and the built environment across the Portland metro area and Oregon.

The heatwaves, drought, wildfire smoke events, and extreme winter storms are only going to get worse and more frequent in the coming years and now is the time to start prepare. HB 2990 and the Community Resilience Hubs it would help create will provide places for our community members and Oregonians to gather and care for each other in good times and bad, we strengthen our bonds and foster close-knit, resilient communities.

We urge you to vote Yes on HB 2990 to invest in building stronger communities, and create the resources and connections to make it easier for Oregonians the next time disaster strikes.

Sincerely,

Joshua Baker
Lloyd EcoDistrict
Portland, Oregon