



Oregon Just Transition Alliance

April 7th, 2023

To: To the Joint Committee on Ways and Means:

RE: Funding Community Centered Climate Protections and Resilience

Co-Chair Steiner, Co-Chair Sanchez, and Members of the Joint Ways & Means Committee:

My name is Ana Molina I live in SE Portland, and I am the Advocacy and Systems Director for the Oregon Just Transition Alliance, a movement of frontline communities facing environmental racism, climate change, and economic exploitation. We urge you to fund programs that will help mitigate the negative impacts and outcomes on black, Indigenous, and people of color who are disproportionately impacted by the effects of climate change.

Over the last three years, Oregonians endured a worldwide pandemic, historic wildfires, and unprecedented heat waves that took the lives of hundreds of people across the state. In working with frontline communities in these unprecedented years. Homes and buildings are our first line of defense from climate harm.

We have an opportunity to make communities in every corner of the state more resilient by investing and prioritizing a robust, strategic climate budget that makes modest investments today so we can “*weather*” future disasters. Key investments outlined in the People’s Budget, designed to increase

community and climate resilience, need to be adequately funded under the Co-Chairs Budget Framework.

We must build and strengthen community efforts to prepare for and recover from climate disasters through Community Resilience Hubs (House Bill [2990 A](#)).

We must secure a clean-energy future through the Resilient, Efficient Buildings Package (Senate Bills [868](#), [869](#), [870](#), and [871](#)).

We need state funding for programs that build physical, social, and ecological well-being, especially in the communities that are most highly and frequently impacted. Making Investments in our future today will create more resilient and financially stable communities before we are faced with the next economic crisis. Many Oregonians are still on the pathway to recovery after multiple crises, and we cannot leave them behind.

We are stronger together. Resilient communities can make the difference between surviving and thriving.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of a strong, strategic, and resilience-focused 2023-25 biennium budget.

Sincerely,

Ana Molina
Advocacy and Systems Director
Oregon Just Transition Alliance