



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

August 9, 2018

Ms. Tammy Baney, Chair  
Oregon Transportation Commission  
355 Capitol Street NE, MS #11  
Salem, OR 97301-3871

Dear Ms. Baney:

We write to commend the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) for its work on the Statewide Transportation Strategy (STS). Our agencies worked together with ODOT to develop the technical assumptions that formed the foundation of the STS, and we are pleased to support the proposal for the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) to adopt an amendment to the Oregon Transportation Plan that incorporates the STS as statewide policy. We look forward to collaborating with you and ODOT to realize this important vision for improving the sustainability of our communities.

According to the Oregon Global Warming Commission's 2017 Biennial Report to the Legislature, Oregon will not meet the Legislature's 2020 target for greenhouse gas emissions reduction (ten percent below 1990 levels). We also are not on track for the Legislature's 2035 and 2050 goals. With greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector increasing (rather than decreasing), and with transportation responsible for 39 percent of greenhouse gas emissions in the state, it's clear we need renewed focus on reducing emissions in this sector.

The STS outlines a long-term vision for reducing transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions and identifies several specific strategies to achieve that vision. We support this vision and are committed to working with you to implement and build upon the strategies identified in the report. While these actions are geared toward the transportation sector, it will take collaboration, action, and leadership in all of the areas in which our agencies work – land use, energy, and environmental quality – to achieve the state's transportation emissions reduction goals. We also want to highlight that these strategies will do far more than reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Properly designed and implemented, they will also improve the quality of life in our rural and urban communities, improve public health, and help Oregon compete in the national and global economy.

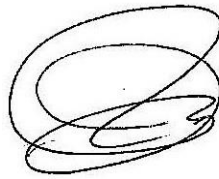
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Oregon has a long tradition of leadership in sustainable transportation, land use, environmental protection, and clean energy. We are pleased to partner with you to build upon and leverage our state's experience in these areas to meet the challenges of transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions.

Sincerely,



Richard Whitman, Director  
Department of Environmental  
Quality



Jim Rue, Director  
Department of Land  
Conservation & Development



Janine Benner, Director  
Oregon Department of  
Energy

