

We really need to plan now to address the changes coming to our climate. Yes, we must do all in our power to demonstrate leadership in reducing greenhouse gases (as Oregon has led on many other important issues), but we must also prepare for the inevitable. HR 2488 addresses both of these concerns by requiring the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) to adopt a new state-wide climate justice planning goal by the end of the next biennium. This will incentivize planning for climate change by local government. The DLCD must develop an equity mapping tool to shine light on disparate impacts experienced by different communities and devise ways to remedy them. Oregon's land use planning system has been a model for responsible and deliberate land use planning since the 1970's, but it has not been updated in 50 years. It inadequately engages Oregon's underserved communities and fails to explicitly address climate change. HB 2488 will remedy these omissions.

This is urgent--change is upon us and we cannot afford to ignore the implications.