



Eugene Intergovernmental Relations

February 7, 2022

Senator Kate Lieber, Chair
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: City of Eugene Supports SB 1518-Reach Code

The City of Eugene supports SB 1518, allowing local jurisdictions to adopt the Oregon Reach Code as a base energy efficiency code by a vote of the jurisdictional governing body.

The City of Eugene passed the Climate Recovery Ordinance in 2014, setting aggressive greenhouse gas emissions and fossil fuel use reduction goals. Those goals include a 7.6 percent annual reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, or about a 65 percent reduction in community-wide emissions by 2030. Eugene's community-wide emissions total just over 1 million MT CO₂e each year. Of those emissions, about 32 percent come from our buildings.

In July 2020, Eugene approved its updated Community Climate Action Plan (Plan) which provides a roadmap for Eugene's climate action over the next 5-10 years. The planning process included extensive community outreach including meeting with more than 60 technical experts, convening an equity panel to highlight key issues for marginalized communities, meetings with students, and more. The Plan outlines multiple approaches that the City and community partners are exploring to reduce emissions, including reductions to emissions from our buildings through energy efficiency improvements.

Energy efficiency improvements are an important component of Eugene's emissions reduction strategy. Systematic improvements to the building code, like those outlined in SB 1518, are particularly important as they allow communities to meaningfully cost effectively accelerate climate action at scale. SB1518 aligns with Eugene's climate goals, adjusting the Reach Code to allow for higher energy efficiency standards and calling for analysis to make sure these adjustments are leading to meaningful reductions. Last, SB 1581 allows for local jurisdictions, like Eugene, to lead the way and help move Oregon towards its statewide climate goals.

Thank you for your consideration and please support SB 1518.

Sincerely,
submitted electronically

Ethan Nelson
Intergovernmental Relations Manager