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February 17, 2021

Co-Chairs Sen. Taylor and Rep. Reardon
Committee Members
Joint Committee on Ways & Means
Subcommittee on Natural Resources
State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Re: HB 5530 (Dept of Land Conservation & Development)

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 5530. 1000 Friends of Oregon is a nonprofit, membership organization that works with Oregonians to support livable urban and rural communities; protect family farms, forests and natural areas; and provide transportation and housing choice.

HB 5530 provides biennial funding for the Department of Land Conservation and Development. 1000 Friends of Oregon supports the Governor's Recommended Budget and *all* the Policy Option Packages (POPs). We focus here on two of the POPs, # 110 (Housing Planning) and # 112 (Climate Mitigation), because they continue work with which we have been closely involved.

POP # 110 – Housing Planning

In 2019, the Legislature passed two ground-breaking pieces of legislation to increase diverse and more affordable housing opportunities for all Oregon families in every neighborhood of the state's 56 medium and large cities: HB 2001 (middle housing) and HB 2003 (regional housing analysis). The Land Conservation and Development Commission subsequently adopted rules implementing these bills, crafted through a diverse, inclusive, and thorough advisory committee process aided by a knowledgeable and impressive staff. The rules include a model code that any city may simply adopt, and compliance standards for cities wishing craft their own code. Full implementation of these rules will bring Oregon much closer to fair, affordable, and equitable housing for all.

POP #110 will allow DLCD's housing staff to provide technical assistance and direct implementation grants, not only to the medium and larger cities but also to smaller cities who would like to adopt some or all of the HB 2001 and HB 2003 rules and model code. We have heard from cities of all sizes that they are eager to undertake this work, but need both the assistance of DLCD's housing staff as well as local funding to do so.

POP # 112 – Climate Mitigation

Transportation is the single largest source of Oregon' greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, accounting for almost 40%. And most of those are the result of driving cars and light trucks in the state's largest

urban areas. Integrating our land use and transport planning to reduce the need to drive as often or as far by investing in walking, bicycling, and transit while increasing housing in mixed-use neighborhoods, meets multiple bottom lines. It reduces GHG emissions, saves families money by reducing the need to drive or even own a second car, reduces health-impacting air pollution, and makes physical activity more possible.

LCDC has now undertaken a rule-making effort, through a diverse and inclusive advisory committee, to craft rules to ensure that the eight major urban areas of the state robustly undertake this integrated planning to reduce transportation GHG emissions. POP # 112 supports this Climate Friendly and Equitable Communities rulemaking. This implements DLCD's work under Executive Order 20-04, specifically the multi-agency Every Mile Counts program. Most of the requested funding will go to cities and counties in these urban areas to implement the new rules, scheduled to be adopted in late 2021.

We urge you to support the DLCD budget and all the requested POPs. Thank you for consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Kyle McCurdy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Mary" and "Kyle" stacked above "McCurdy".

Mary Kyle McCurdy
Deputy Director