



The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a 100-year-old grassroots nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. We envision informed Oregonians participating in a fully accessible, responsive, and transparent government to achieve the common good. LWVOR Legislative Action is based on advocacy positions formed through studies and member consensus. The League never supports or opposes any candidate or political party.

May 14, 2020

To: Chair Robin McArthur and
Members of the Land Conservation and Development Commission

Email: esther.johnson@state.or.us

Re: **Commission Agenda Item 5 – Reducing Greenhouse Gas Pollution, Executive Order 20-04 and SB 1059 (2010) – Comments**

The League of Women Voters has long been a supporter of our statewide land use planning program with local implementation. The staff report for this agenda item provides a good rendition of the steps taken these past 10 years. And the passage of the comprehensive transportation package HB 2017 (2017) did provide some funding to increase transit use, one of the important strategies needed to meet this new Executive Order. But **it has been 10 years since SB 1059 passed the legislature**. Below in italics is the testimony League provided back in 2010:

The League of Women Voters has long been a supporter of our statewide land use planning program with local implementation. No greater example of this symbiotic relationship exists than the proposals listed in the report by the Oregon Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Greenhouse Gas Emission Task Force where state agencies are required to provide the overall framework for land use and transportation planning while our MPOs will begin a conversation with their citizens on how each area might reduce greenhouse gases in our transportation sector while improving the livability of those communities.

A clear link between our land use designations and our transportation system has existed for a long time in Oregon. With this legislation, we have an opportunity not only to improve on that link, but this legislation might well place us in a position to receive federal dollars to lead in this area. Our MPOs need transit dollars to improve alternate transportation choices. They need planning dollars to help assure we provide not only roads for freight, but sidewalks and bicycle transportation infrastructure for our citizens.

This proposed legislation moves us a small step forward in eventual reduction of greenhouse gas pollution that threatens the health of our citizens and provides an opportunity to continue to support the most livable communities in the U. S.

*We ask that you **SUPPPORT SB 1059 with amendments** that reflect the recommendations of the Task Force you created as a part of HB 2186 (2009). Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.*

We recognize that the state revenue situation has changed since the Governor signed her Executive Order. But **the climate emergency is still with us. Oregonians expect action**. We may well face a serious drought again this year and our fire season started May 1st. We can only hope it is more like 2019 than 2018 and other past serious seasons.

Because General Funds may be in limited supply, we ask that you work with the Oregon Department of Transportation to seek Other Funds to complete the work started 10 years ago. We, of course, believe there will need to be a robust public engagement because you will be asking people to make significant changes in order to reduce greenhouse gases. But your leadership will help make this program a success in our most populous portions of Oregon.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this important action. **We encourage you to direct staff to restart the rulemaking that was stopped before the 2019 legislative session. We cannot wait to address this climate emergency.**



Rebecca Gladstone
LWVOR President



Peggy Lynch
LWVOR Natural Resources Coordinator

SB 1059 (2010):

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2010S1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/SB1059/Enrolled>

cc: Chair Bob Van Brocklin and Members of the Oregon Transportation Commission
(OTCAdmin@odot.state.or.us)