



Marion County
OREGON

Board of Commissioners

May 10, 2022

(503) 588-5212
(503) 588-5237-FAX

Dear DLCD Climate Friendly and Equitable Communities Rulemaking Team,

**BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS**

The Marion County Board of Commissioners submits these comments to DLCD's Climate-Friendly and Equitable Communities rulemaking. The Board fully supports all those comments submitted by the Association of Oregon Counties and the League of Oregon Cities dated March 30, 2022. Highlighted are two specific issues raised in the March 30, 2022 comments in particular:

Danielle Bethell, Chair
Colm Willis
Kevin Cameron

First, several of the proposed rules impose additional, substantial obligations on local governments without providing the necessary funding to accomplish the obligations. These additional obligations amount to an unfunded mandate which local governments are not equipped to achieve. For example: The new vehicle miles traveled rules in OAR 660-012-0160 will require numerous model runs in order to even attempt to comply with the rule, but there are no resources provided to local governments to complete the required level of analysis (even assuming that the results called for in OAR 660-012-0180 are achievable).

**CHIEF
ADMINISTRATIVE
OFFICER**

Second, many, if not most, transportation projects are financed with federal funds. Those federal funds come with their own set of federal requirements and constraints on the use of the funds. The proposed rules could put local governments in a position of choosing which set of rules to follow: The federal requirements associated with federal funding or the proposed rules.

Jan Fritz

Additionally, if the rulemaking in its current draft is adopted, there would be a significant burden placed on the Marion County Public Works Department. Adequate staffing for a comprehensive implementation will be hard to retain. The specific tasks required by the rule need expertise that is in short supply. The time frames laid out in the rule are tight, making it difficult for jurisdictions to meet and greatly limits public participation. The ongoing reporting and inventory requirements will continue to be staff time and cost intensive.

Please seriously consider these comments in evaluating DLCD's proposed Climate-Friendly and Equitable Communities rules. Thank you for your continued work to support our communities.

Sincerely,

Marion County Board of Commissioners

Dante Bethell *Colm Willis* *Kevin Cameron*

Danielle Bethell, Chair Colm Willis Kevin Cameron