October 12, 2017

Oregon Smoke Management Review Committee
2600 State Street
Salem, OR 97310

To the Oregon Smoke Management Review Committee:

Please consider carefully the many positive effects of allowing more use of safe, prescribed fire while still working to protect the air quality and health of our communities. The changes, shown in detail in the letter to the Committee that is attached include:

- Incorporate language that reflects differences between dry and wet forests and their respective fire regimes;
- Align Oregon’s smoke policy with EPA’s empirically-based 24-hour air quality standard;
- Provide maximum flexibility and opportunity to implement prescribed fire in prioritized high-risk/high-value treatment areas; and
- Develop and implement a public health strategy to protect people from short-duration prescribed fire smoke.

The Bend City Council voted unanimously to urge the Oregon Smoke Management Review Committee to agree to these important changes to Oregon Smoke Management Plan. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Casey Roats
Mayor