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Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission

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June 12, 2015

Portland City Council
Portland City Hall
1211 SW 4th Ave
Portland, OR 97204

Dear Mayor Hales and City Council Members:

The PSC unanimously supports the adoption of the proposed joint City of Portland and Multnomah County 2015 Climate Action Plan and recommends that City Council pass the associated resolutions being considered on June 24, 2015.

The PSC was particularly pleased with the meaningful integration of equity into all aspects of the climate planning process and final products. Achieving our carbon goals will not be possible without advancing equitable outcomes through our climate work.

The PSC also applauds the robust focus on preparing for the economic, social and environmental impacts of a changing climate, including heat waves and flooding. The 2015 Climate Action Plan effectively integrates the key findings from the adopted Climate Change Preparation Strategy, thereby forging strong linkages between needed adaptation efforts and actions to reduce carbon emissions.

The development of the inventory of global carbon emissions from the goods and services that Multnomah County residents consume is one of the first of its kind. The analysis provided in the proposed plan offers meaningful insights into the underlying causes of global carbon emissions and therefore the local opportunities to make reductions.

The PSC is pleased to see Portland retain its national and international leadership role in addressing climate change. The PSC would like particular and quick attention be put into developing a fossil fuel export policy as a priority once the Plan is adopted. The proposed Plan provides a good roadmap for creating a prosperous, connected, healthy, resilient and equitable low-carbon community.

Thank you for your consideration of our recommendation.

Sincerely,

Andre' Baugh
Chair
Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission



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