

Comments	Organization (optional)
<p>Mayor Wheeler and City Council Members,Thank you for taking public testimony on the draft climate emergency declaration. I have reviewed it and have a few pieces of feedback to share:(1) The City of Portland’s climate response would benefit from more input and accountability than exists today. As reviewer and recommending body for the Climate Action Plan, the Planning and Sustainability Commission theoretically offers this. But the PSC has not provided substantive accountability for the sustainability side of the city’s operations since the passage of the 2015 Climate Action Plan, and the climate crisis can’t wait.The City should convene and empower a new Climate Commission to fill this role. This could be the “new governance structure” referenced in the draft declaration “ but it should have more authority and include a broader coalition of members. In addition to (and ideally overlapping with) members of frontline communities and youth leaders, the commission should include technical and policy experts familiar with climate science, energy policy, and levers of change. Frontline communities and youth members must be at the decision-making table to ensure the city adopts just climate policies. But they need not bear the full responsibility of climate leadership. This is a huge undertaking that demands as much leadership as we can muster “ inclusive of but not limited to young people and frontline communities.(2) The plan should be specific and action-oriented, with clear timelines. The current draft should be updated to include specific action items with deadlines. At minimum, it should direct all bureaus to report back within 90 days on opportunities for radical greenhouse gas and co-pollutant emissions reductions and greenhouse gas drawdown opportunities, including metrics that prioritize the decrease of fossil fuel use and climate-adaptive land use planning. This could happen in parallel with the creation of the aforementioned governance structure, which would help guide the translation of these ideas into concrete actions. Without such detail, the resolution runs the risk of being perceived as hand waving “ at a time when concrete action is needed.(3) Shorten the feedback loop by establishing interim targets. The earliest “target” date reference in the draft resolution is 2030. This is way too far in the future to motivate the actions we need to be taking this year and next. We must establish hard annual targets so we know if we’re actually on track to meet the 2030 goals “ or need to work harder “ before it becomes too late to try and play catch up.(4) Don’t start back at square one. Reading the draft action plan makes it seem like we’re starting from scratch on a process to infuse equity into our climate plan. But City and County leaders already have a history of partnering with frontline communities in this area. Over the course of 2 years, Portland, Multnomah County, and members of the Equity Working Group integrated equity into the 2015 Climate Action Plan, as outlined in the “2016 Climate through Equity”report. We should build upon this important process, particularly the 9 equity considerations to guide decision-making described on p. 12 of the report (https://beta.portland.gov/sites/default/files/2019-07/cap-equity-case-study-web29jul.pdf).(5) The climate resolution could be half as long and twice as potent. Consider drawing from this excellent template: https://www.theclimatemobilization.org/climate-emergency-resolution. The following clauses, cherry-picked from it, could be used to shorten and focus the current draft:“WHEREAS, justice requires that frontline and marginalized communities, which have historically borne the brunt of the extractive fossil-fuel economy, participate actively in the planning and implementation of this mobilization effort and that they benefit first from the transition to a climate-safe economy;NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, [CITY/COUNTY] declares that a climate and ecological emergency threatens our city, region, state, nation, civilization, humanity and the natural world;BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the [CITY/COUNTY] Council directs all [CITY/COUNTY] Departments, proprietaries, and commissions to report back within 60 days of the date <of the all-staff meeting> referenced above on maximum emergency reductions in greenhouse gas emissions from their operations feasible by the end of 2030;BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the [CITY/COUNTY] Council directs [RELEVANT DEPT/AGENCY] to report back within 90 days on the feasibility for the rapid phase out of fossil fuel production, power generation, and use within [city/county] limits, including immediate changes to building codes, local ordinances, and permitting processes to prevent the construction of new local fossil fuel infrastructure;BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the [CITY/COUNTY] commits to keeping the concerns of frontline and marginalized central to all Climate Emergency Mobilization program planning processes and to inviting and encouraging such communities to actively participate in the development and implementation of this Climate Mobilization Action Plan and all climate mobilization efforts;BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the [CITY/COUNTY] recognizes that the full participation, inclusion, support, and leadership of community organizations, faith communities, youth, labor organizations, academic institutions, indigenous groups, and racial, gender, family, immigrant and disability justice and organizations and other allies are integral to the climate emergency response and mobilization efforts; Thank you for your consideration.Eli Spevak</p>	
<p>Date: March 22, 2020From: Audubon Society of PortlandTo: Mayor Ted WheelerRe: Climate Emergency Declaration Dear Mayor Wheeler,Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Climate Emergency Declaration. Please accept the following comments on behalf of Audubon Society of Portland and our 17,000 members in the Portland Metro Region. Climate adaptation and mitigation is one of Portland Audubon’s top priorities and we have worked with the City for decades to advance climate strategies. Unfortunately we have found the process to develop the Climate Emergency Declaration to be largely incoherent and the resolution leaves us with far more questions than answers about the City’s resolve to push ahead and take its commitment to climate leadership to a new level. We have been told in the past (and even by staff during this process) that the City has consciously chosen not to declare a climate emergency because it viewed such a step as a superficial gesture more appropriate for municipalities that are just now initiating climate action and engagement programs rather than for a city which has been a national leader on climate change planning for decades and which has a robust climate action plan already in place. We concur with that assessment. We believe that the time, energy and resources devoted to developing this resolution could have been better spent advancing and updating the City’s existing climate action plan, including engaging diverse stakeholders, assessing strengths, deficits and progress made to date on the existing plan, selecting priority strategies to advance in the short term and capturing new ideas and actions for longer-term development. Instead what we appear to have before us in the Climate Emergency Resolution, after more than half a year of work, is little more than a vaguely described process to develop a process to advance climate objectives.... the proverbial “plan for a plan”or more aptly in this case “a plan for a plan for revision of a plan.”To the degree that this resolution serves as a catalyst to spur the city to bold climate action, it will be useful. However, we are concerned that it in fact, represents an unfortunate trend of the city substituting big statements for bold action. 1) Bold and decisive action that challenges the status quo is needed.We agree with the Mayor’s statement in his introductory letter that asserts that we must take bold and decisive action that challenges the status quo. Words on the page however, must be matched by action on the ground. Unfortunately what we are seeing right now is a city that has become increasingly timid and lethargic in its approach to climate change. There are major plans currently going through development and adoption processes in which the City has failed to assert leadership on climate issues. Recent examples include the South Reach River Plan, The Regional Transportation Plan, the I-5 Rose Quarter Expansion, Residential Infill Project and Levee Ready Columbia. The City has delayed for years putting forward a comprehensive green infrastructure plan that could advance multiple goals including climate justice and climate resilience and recently dismantled its Watershed Services Program. It took more than a year of lobbying and multiple packed hearings just to get the City to lift a sunset clause on municipal code protecting big trees. We urge City Council to apply the sentiments expressed in the resolution and the Mayor’s letter to plans and programs as they come before the Council and ensure that the City is in fact integrating bold and decisive climate leadership. 2) Landscape resilience and natural resource based strategies need to be elevated as climate priorities.The city has a long history of emphasizing climate mitigation strategies while de-emphasizing climate adaptation and landscape resilience focused strategies in its climate planning. This resolution perpetuates that trend. While adaptation and landscape resilience are acknowledged in the “whereas”section (Specifically sections P and Q), these priorities are completely absent in among the twenty “be it resolved”objectives. The City should include at least one resolution that directly addresses climate adaptation and landscape resilience. We would recommend the following:BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City will review all plans and major projects currently under consideration to ensure that green infrastructure based adaptation strategies are maximized to sequester carbon, reduce urban heat island impacts, increase landscape resilience, reduce air pollution and promote environmental justice. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City will work with the community to develop neighborhood scale green infrastructure plans to sequester carbon, reduce urban heat island impacts, increase landscape resilience, reduce air pollution and promote environmental justice. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City will fund and advance improvements and updates to the Title 11 tree code consistent with the resolution passed in January 2020 including but not limited to consideration of application of the Title 11 to commercial and industrial zoned lands, reduction in the diameter of trees eligible for inch-for-inch mitigation, application of tree protections on lots smaller than 5,000 square feet, application of tree mitigation funds and improved enforcement for tree code violations. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City instructs all City agencies with authority/ responsibility over the public right of way, including PBOT, BES, BPS. BDS and PP&R, to develop a unified strategy to increase green opportunities in the ROW.The impacts of climate change are already directly impacting our community. Portland has long been recognized as a national leader in green infrastructure strategies, but it has now been 15 years since Portland adopted its cutting edge watershed management plan which called for green infrastructure to be integrated into every city project. Climate change makes this mandate all the more imperative. 3) Climate action planning needs to live up to the verbiage in the resolution about collaboration and inclusion.Audubon supports a collaborative and inclusive process for advancing climate</p>	Audubon

20 March 2020Mayor Ted Wheeler1221 SW Fourth AvenuePortland, Oregon 97204RE: Climate Emergency ResolutionHonorable Mayor Wheeler,We appreciate this opportunity to offer feedback on the City of Portland’s Climate Emergency Resolution and want to thank the City for their leadership in addressing climate change. Since 1986, the Columbia Corridor Association has represented the largest economic corridor in Oregon, comprised of 3,000 businesses in manufacturing, transportation and exports, employing 70,000 people with more family wage jobs than anywhere else in the state. It has been our mission to improve both the environment and economy of our industrial sanctuary. We feel we are in a unique position to partner with the City on policy stemming from this resolution. While the current resolution places our most vulnerable communities at the forefront, it is likely to be more successful if the business community is part of the solution. After all, Columbia Corridor businesses provide a higher percentage of family wage jobs to communities of color than the City of Portland or the State of Oregon. And we had \$15/hour starting wages long before it became a talking point. As a sector that has already achieved these goals and has reduction of energy use as a top priority, we can be a good partner.In addition to substantive stakeholder engagement, we ask for policy that is not ideologically based, but data driven. Our goal should be carbon reduction results. A resolution and policy that reduces greenhouse gas emissions, both short-term and long-term, makes business sense. Additionally, the resolution should encourage policies that keep affordability of energy front and center for communities of color and the companies that employ them. We look forward to working with the City staff to identify opportunities for increased energy efficiency and steer away from regressive policies that are easy but provide few emission reductions and greatly increase energy costs for those who can least afford it. We welcome the continued dialogue and partnership in determining how our region leads the way in climate policy and continues to grow the vibrant economy we all depend upon.Sincerely,Corky CollierExecutive Director	Columbia Corridor Association
Sunday, March 22nd, 2020To: Ted Wheeler, Mayor of PortlandBureau of Planning and Sustainability, City of PortlandFrom: Coalition of Communities of Color, Verde, Sunrise PDX, Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility, Climate Jobs PDX (a project of Portland Jobs with Justice), 350PDX, Columbia Riverkeeper, Willamette Riverkeeper, and Center for Sustainable EconomyRe: Comments on Draft Climate Emergency Resolution for the City of PortlandDear Mayor Wheeler and Bureau of Planning and Sustainability,Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the City of Portland’s draft Climate Emergency Declaration. We, the undersigned, urge you to make the following changes to this resolution to make it a powerful and effective tool for the City and demonstrate Portland’s leadership by setting a strong example for other communities. Fuller detail for each of these changes is elaborated upon below.Resourcing Community Climate Action PlanningCommit to resourcing frontline community members so that they can participate fully in climate action planningCommit to building bridges to ensure successful outreach with and participation by key stakeholders, including a new staffer and/or expert consultant to focus on this workCommit to finding and deploying resources to achieve climate justice goalsAccountability and TransparencyCommit to a thorough and inclusive public recruitment process for the new governance structure for advising climate action planningIndicate specific desired outcomes and process for the new governance structureCommit to public reporting on creating the new governance structure and its progressCommit to regularly coordinating with frontline organizations and leadersDemonstrate commitment to accountability, inclusivity, and transparency in the next steps of passing this Climate Emergency DeclarationSpecific Issues and PrioritiesNoting what specific details are appropriate in the resolution thus far, andHighlighting specific issues that should be named in the resolutionIntroductionOur organizations and our collective memberships agree with the City that we are in the midst of a climate emergency. Our City has a pressing and urgent need for climate justice and thus we appreciate that the City of Portland is committed to calling it what it is. The City must not only declare a climate emergency, but commit to action that is appropriate for addressing the crisis at hand. That action must be transparent, rooted in justice, and accountable to the communities on the front lines of climate change. For the reasons discussed below, we believe the City’s Climate Emergency Declaration must go further in order to rise to meet this emergency at the scale and urgency that it demands.In particular, this means rapid curtailing of Portland’s contribution to greenhouse gas emissions and increasing resiliency measures. We must support those who have contributed the least to the causes of global climate change but who are most exposed to its health impacts, such as our communities’ young people, and those who live on the front lines of the climate crisis. These frontline communities include but are not limited to black, indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC), low-income households and people experiencing poverty, and unhoused persons and people experiencing housing instability. Workers, especially those in high-carbon industries, are also at risk as we enact a swift transition to a renewable energy economy. We must ensure a just transition for all of these communities that respects people’s dignity and leaves no one behind. The rapidly spreading COVID-19 pandemic highlights a wide range of areas where our social safety net is failing to provide for communities who need it most and demonstrating unacceptable weaknesses in our systems. Universal health care, housing stability, living wage jobs with benefits and protections for workers, and food sovereignty are all examples of critical infrastructure needed by all in order to weather public health crises. Health professionals worldwide have correctly pointed out that climate change is one of the largest and most complex public health crises the world has ever faced. We need swift action prioritizing the most vulnerable among us both to tackle the acute health crisis of COVID-19 and the ongoing health crisis of climate change.With these points in mind, we urge you to adopt the following changes to the City of Portland’s Climate Emergency Declaration.Resourcing Community Climate Action PlanningIn the time that has passed since early efforts to pass a Climate Emergency Declaration (the Declaration), there have been some efforts made by the City of Portland to engage with frontline communities in refining the draft resolution. We appreciate that the process was slowed and that effort was taken to receive more input before moving forward this Spring. However, many of our calls for investments in frontline communities to participate in shaping this resolution have not resulted in action from the City to provide resources to community members for full participation in this process.The draft Declaration is right to acknowledge:WHEREAS - B: that frontline communities must be the ones that benefit first from the transition to a renewable energy economy and be able to lead the planning and implementation efforts to address climate change;andWHEREAS - D: the value of the sovereign voice of Native Nations and the importance of working in partnership with tribal leaders to uphold treaty-reserved lifeways, traditional values, and cultural resources that are jeopardized by the increasing threat of the climate emergency.In order to act accordingly, the Declaration must include a prompt commitment to provide resources for frontline communities to participate in the new, ongoing governance structure outlined in BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED 4-6. These resources should include, at a minimum, commitments to:Stipends for frontline community members’ time spent,Free childcare and translation/interpretation services, andTravel compensation.These are necessary commitments to allow frontline communities to be able to lead the planning and	Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility

<p>March 20, 2020The Climate Emergency Resolution has many positive statements but needs more specifics and clarity to actually achieve them. As stated in the resolution, climate change is an existential threat, and therefore we must ensure that our words and plans actually translate into effective, positive action.? There needs to be specification of the methods that will be used to accomplish the climate goals listed in the resolution while accomplishing other City goals at the same time. Some questions to consider when outlining specific actions include, but are not limited to the following: How will we budget for these goals? What is the ?timeline ?for each action? How has the City looked at other situations in which this has been done, learned from them, and incorporated those lessons into this resolution? How has the City worked with other cities to reach their goals? In addition, how will we use this resolution to create solutions that deal with both the climate crisis ?as well as? other issues (ie, houselessness, environmental degradation, wealth inequality) at the same time? How will the public be updated on the progress and how will the city hold itself accountable for taking action on a timely basis? The City cannot have public pressure be its only plan for accountability, it needs to take more responsibility for its own plans and resolutions.? Item E? states ?â€œclimate justice acknowledges that...â€ The resolution should include a clear, accurate, and inclusive definition of climate justice.? Items 3, 4, 6? and others throughout the resolution focus on the engagement and leadership of communities. It is important that specific wording be added to the resolution that explains how this engagement will be realized, how much determination over the Cityâ€™s actions and decisions communities will actually have, and what budgeting will be put in place for additional staffing when necessary. The centering of community in City-related decisions has been difficult in the past and it crucial that there are specific plans to ensure the community is actually engaged.? Item 7? states â€œ?Portland will pursue partnerships withschools and youth-serving organizations to support a youth-led summit on climate in 2020.â€While it is important to maintain youth autonomy in this proposed summit, it would be valuable for youth to have some sense of why the City sees our work as important. The City should outline why it sees a youth summit as valuable, and the outcomes that they hope to see achieved.? Item 8? states ?â€œthat Portland will involve youth in the development of a proposed climate test â€” such as a carbon fee or an internal price on carbon â€” to ensure City bureaus are making informed climate-friendly decisions...â€ Firstly, an internal price on carbon is not what the youth who have striked envision for a climate test. A climate test should be a lens through which all decisions in the City are made. Each proposed policy or project should be evaluated to see the impacts it would have on Portlandâ€™s climate and equity goals. If it is not in line with those goals the policy/project should not go through. A carbon fee or price on carbon is important and should be added as a separate clause elsewhere in the resolution, but the climate test must be more extensive. The resolution should also include specific language about how youth will be engaged to further the development of a climate test. Secondly, the words ?â€œclimate-friendly decisionsâ€ should be replaced with â€œ?decisions based on the best available climate science?â€ Item 12? states ?â€œthat Portland will adopt new policies and development standards to further prevent expansion of new fossil fuel infrastructure, reduce fossil fuel consumption and reduce risk to the community and environment.â€ How can we ensure that this will be more effective than current policies such as the Fossil Fuel Zoning Amendments? The issue with Zenith Energy is one example that demonstrates how current policies struggle to halt fossil fuel projects.Furthermore, the word ?â€œconsumptionâ€ should be replaced with â€œ?fossil fuel? ?production and use?â€because focus on consumption puts the burden on individuals to reduce their own consumption, not on citywide action.? Item 16? states that the city will ?â€œaccelerate the transition to clean, renewable transportation fuels, including electricity and the infrastructure to support electric vehicles.â€There should be a clarification of what fuels the City is referring to, beyond electricity and infrastructure to support electric vehicles. Additionally, renewable fuels such as â€œrenewable natural gasâ€are also dangerous for the climate. It is important to not engage in the use of harmful products that have been greenwashed by companies, and that would likely extend our dependence on dirty fossil fuels.? Item 13? claims that the City of Portland will be ?â€œcommitted to a just and managed decline of fossil-fuel consumption and equitable implementation of solutions,â€ Current climate science is telling us that we need to reduce our emissions by at least 8% each year. There need to be specific actions and goals in the resolution that ensure yearly reductions and ways for the average citizen to be able to see that reduction and equitable implementation. For example, with the emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the average Portlander knows that it is NOT business as usual: there are no gatherings of 25 or more, schools are closed, many people are working from home, etc. This didnâ€™t take a year to figure out. Itâ€™s an emergency, and our actions show it. This Climate Emergency Declaration and its results should be quickly observable to the public.? Furthermore, ?Item 18? states ?â€œPortland adopts a new target of achieving at least a 50% reduction in carbon emissions below 1990 levels by 2030 and net-zero carbon emissions before 2050.â€ Given that the climate crisis is an emergency, this goal should be 50% reduction from current levels by 2030 and net zero by 2040. Because of the lack of strong action in the past, we no longer have the kind of time that the current target suggests.? The declaration as a whole needs to use stronger, more direct language, especially since</p>	<p>Portland Youth Climate Council</p>
<p>TO: City of Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability RE: Comments and Suggestions on PDX Climate Emergency DraftDATE: March 22, 2020 Introduction and General Comments.As climate justice advocates, we appreciate the urgency with which the City is moving forward with declaring a climate emergency. With the United Nations telling us that only 11 years remain to avoid irreversible damage due to climate change, it is time to act with urgency and adapt our strategies accordingly. Public engagement, however, is also a critical part of any policy striving toward environmental justice. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this draft and hope the City will be responsive to community feedback.These comments provide a critical assessment of the content of the draft emergency resolution, as well as suggestions for amendments and additions. We will proceed through the draft resolution section by section in Section II of this memo. Generally, the resolution does not go far enough in calling for additional authority and specific code changes. We are concerned about the lack of concrete commitments to action coming out of this resolution, particularly given the lack of subsequent action in the wake of the passage of the 2017 100% renewable energy resolution. By comparison, the Cityâ€™s declaration of a housing emergency granted new and specific powers to the City through ordinance (No. 187370), including the ability to expedite permit processes, waive City Code regulations, and order other measures â€œto protect the life, safety and health of persons, property or the environmentâ€ This draft resolution also does not utilize many levers that the city already has available to drive climate action further and faster and does not specify funding toward achieving the stated goals. It is crucial for the City to commit to more specific actions and special powers of emergency to address this crisis, and in order for this to be a meaningful step. We look to the City of Portland to continue to take action on climate and lead boldly on this global crisis. We appreciate the opportunity to offer these comments, and we look forward to further dialogue and collaboration in the months ahead. Suggested Amendments.WHEREAS section.B. Change â€œleastâ€to â€œfewestâ€B. Define â€œthe extractive economy.â€This is an opportunity to catalogue the top sources of GHG emissions in Oregon, such as industrial timber, the fossil fuel industry, unsustainable farming practices, inadequate access to free, and reliable public transit, residential fossil gas usage, etc. Ideally, this definition goes beyond the context of unsustainable natural resource use and includes the ways in which humans and other life forms are exploited for the benefit of a wealthy elite and the global capitalist system, which is the underlying cause of both climate crisis and the lack of meaningful action taken to prevent or adapt to it thus far. .G. Replace â€œhumanityâ€™sâ€with â€œthe extractive economyâ€™sâ€or â€œcapitalismâ€™sâ€or other term that places the fault on a specific system that certain humans rule over and benefit from instead of humanity as a whole. G. Because fossil fuels also are harmful at the site of combustion, this point should be re-written using accurate life-cycle language. Suggested amendment: â€œFossil fuels pose risks to safety, health, and livability, including mobility of people, other freight, and other commercial vehicles, throughout their entire life cycle which includes extraction, transportation, storage, refinement, and combustion.â€G. Clarify what frontline communities are and how they are impacted by a proximity to fossil fuel infrastructure. This should include communities of specific concern in Portland, like the unhoused, and communities living near the Critical Energy Infrastructure hub in North and Northwest Portland. This definition language does not exist in the â€œNo New Fossil Fuel Infrastructureâ€Resolution (37168), but there are other examples of this language that may be helpful in rounding out this section. H. Suggested amendment â€œ... requires a managed decline of the fossil fuel industry in line with the imperatives of climate justice and science, and a transition to a clean, renewable energy system that is ecologically sustainable and equitable for all people, especially frontline communities.â€I. The City should declare its share of the historical responsibility for this human rights crisis and establish a truth and reconciliation commission to correct its harmful generational effects. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED Section.1. Instead of simply declaring an emergency by resolution, City Council should amend the City Charter and Code to expand its emergency powers. Specifically, they should amend the Title 15 Emergency Code Section 15.04.030 definitions to include â€œclimate changeâ€and define additional powers in Section 15.08.020. For example, the City could define its powers to include restrictions on bulk fossil fuel shipments during a climate emergency. As written, Section 15.08.020 already allows the city the power to â€œRegulate by rationing, freezing, use of quotas, prohibitions on shipments, price fixing, allocation or other means, the use, sale or distribution of food, feed, fuel, clothing and other commodities, materials, goods and servicesâ€In an emergency. This would be a rather bold and unprecedented invocation of city power, but if we are serious that we are in an emergency as that term is generally used, this is the type of action that should follow. 8. Clarify that a climate test is about things that the city has control over in permitting, not just procurement. A climate test should apply to the largest emitting activities like â€œfreeway expansionsâ€â€œparking structuresâ€â€œlarge-scale fossil fuel infrastructureâ€and â€œfranchise agreements with high emitting utilitiesâ€Suggested re-write: â€œthat Portland will involve youth and the broader community in the development of a proposed climate test â€” such as a carbon fee or an internal price on carbon â€” to ensure City bureaus are making informed climate-friendly decisions, particularly for major capital investments, high-carbon-impact decisions (such as fuel and vehicle purchases and</p>	<p>Center for Sustainable Economy and Neighbors for Clean Air</p>

There are currently multiple definitions for the concept of "net-zero carbon", especially as it relates to the building industry. The City should clearly define the definition being used for this declaration so the building industry understands the targets and metrics it is being held to. The definition that best encompasses building industry carbon impacts is the International Living Futures Institute's (ILFI) Zero Carbon definition. It evaluates the carbon impact of a building by looking at both it's embodied emissions (carbon from the creation of the building) and operational emissions (carbon from the ongoing operation of the building). This is a more encompassing metric than LEED, for example, which looks at operational emissions and transportation but doesn't consider embodied. Since transportation emissions are being considered in a separate portion of the Declaration, the ILFI definition for Zero Carbon best addresses the impacts and path forward for decarbonizing the building sector. Thank you for the updates to this Declaration. It is a strong statement on Portland's commitment to solving this crisis.	PAE
Looks good. Missing: something about population. If we continue to try to make Portland a desirable place, people will move here, increasing local consumption, including housing and emissions. So investment in preventing unwanted pregnancies and girls' education are especially important. Social services and housing help for the homeless and near-homeless are important, as well as shifting property taxes off improvements and onto private land ownership (charge more for private use of nature and natural resources, less for building assets). Some of this is determined or affected at the state level, so lobbying needed there.	
We appreciate the interest in seeking leadership from and steering help toward frontline and currently and historically disadvantaged communities. A commitment to moderate income and wealth inequality is very important in this regard, since wealthier people essentially have permission to consume more. For example, taxes on fossil fuel consumption and private use of roads and road space should be coupled with payments to low-income, low-wealth people. To get frontline folks to lead, support has to be provided: funds for transportation to meetings, food, childcare, stipends. Emphasize public transport over electric vehicles that poor people can't afford. More community outreach to frontline communities is needed, since they find it especially hard to get to the halls of power to let their voices be heard. Short transportation to mass transit stops for elderly & disabled is needed. Students in frontline communities need outreach, mentoring, and support to succeed in the job world.	NAACP Portland Branch
Thank you for the opportunity to comment. As this site does not allow upload of materials, we will submit PDFs directly to the Mayor's office and BPS. Thank you again, Jennifer	on behalf of NW Natural
Please muster all the strength you have to approve the Declaration.Make sure to read this in order to drive the point for action now home: https://www.forbes.com/sites/mikescott/2020/03/12/when-covid-19-has-passed-we-will-still-need-to-fix-the-environment/#2582a5a74aec	n/a
Oregon has historically been an environmental protection state. Let Oregon be a leader again. Let us honor Tom McCall’s environmental legacy!	Self
Columbia Riverkeeper appreciates Mayor Wheeler’s commitment to addressing climate change. Declaring a Climate Emergency is a critical first step towards making local changes to help fix a complex global problem. However, we no longer have the luxury of time to celebrate declarations and goals—we need enforceable policies and regulations that will transition our economy off of fossil fuels and towards the many affordable renewable and energy-efficient alternatives available today. Industry will not make the necessary changes on its own; we need cities, counties, and states to enact enforceable policies that will reduce reliance on fossil fuels. Mayor Wheeler’s draft resolution is an important first step. However, we strongly urge the City to revise the draft language to include specific changes to City Code designed to achieve the goals set forth in the draft resolution. Just last week, Governor Brown issued Executive Order No. 20-04 entitled “Directing State Agencies to Take Actions to Reduce and Regulate Greenhouse Gas Emissions.”The Order directs sixteen state agencies to undertake specific regulatory actions to achieve a statewide goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 45 percent below 1990 emissions levels by 2035 and at least 80 percent below 1990 emissions levels by 2050. The City’s draft resolution, by contrast, includes the much more aggressive goal of achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 but far fewer concrete changes aimed at achieving that goal. Additionally, we urge the City to make two specific revisions to paragraph 19. First, we strongly urge the City to revise paragraph 19 to include NW Natural. Second, we urge the City to explicitly exclude hydropower from the 100% clean energy goal. I. Paragraph 19 Should Specifically Include NW Natural. We appreciate the City’s desire to provide Portland residents and businesses with 100% clean, renewable energy. However, that goal cannot be achieved without simultaneously reducing our city’s dependence on all fossil fuels, including “natural” gas. One way to achieve this reduction is to consider policies that restrict new gas hook-ups, particularly in new buildings. While “natural” gas is a “cleaner” option than coal or oil it is still a fossil fuel and burning it still results in significant greenhouse gas emissions. Furthermore, nearly two-thirds of the natural gas consumed in the United States is produced through fracking. (See “Is Your “Natural” Gas Actually Fracked” available at https://www.sightline.org/2017/10/30/is-your-natural-gas-actually-fracked/). Fracking releases significant volumes of methane into the atmosphere. (See “Fracking causing rise in methane emissions, study finds” available at https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/aug/14/fracking-causing-rise-in-methane-emissions-study-finds). Although methane dissipates from the atmosphere faster than carbon dioxide, it is roughly 84 times more efficient at trapping heat than CO2. (See “Methane, the other important greenhouse gas” available at https://www.edf.org/climate/methane-other-important-greenhouse-gas). In fact, scientists estimate that around 25 percent of the global warming we are experiencing today can be traced to methane. Id. However, because methane dissipates from the atmosphere relatively quickly, reducing methane emissions can have an almost immediate climate impact. Meaning, the fastest path towards reducing climate change in the near term is to significantly reduce consumer reliance on fracked gas. Prohibiting gas hookups in new buildings is one way to reduce consumer demand for fracked gas. Last year, twenty California cities took steps to eliminate gas from new buildings. (See “Why States Need to Ban New Gas Hookups in Buildings” available at https://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/read/5-charts-that-show-why-states-need-to-eliminate-fossil-fuels-from-buildings). Other cities are quickly following suit. Any policy—whether it's aimed at increasing renewable energy options or limiting new gas hookups—must consider the potential impacts on low-income ratepayers. For example, we urge the City of Portland to continue to support the creation of a low-income rate class. II. Paragraph 19 Should Explicitly Exclude Hydropower from the 100% Clean Energy Goal Furthermore, we urge the City to revise paragraph 19 to explicitly exclude hydropower from the 100% clean energy goal. While Columbia Riverkeeper is completely supportive of a move to 100% renewable energy, we want to ensure that “clean” energy doesn’t come at the expense of wild salmon. In our region of the country, “100% clean” generally includes a significant percentage of hydroelectric power. Unfortunately, hydroelectric dams, particularly those on the lower Snake River in Washington, are pushing wild salmon and orca whales to the brink of extinction. The dams—as well as the stagnant, too-warm reservoirs behind them—create a significant impediment to fish migration. However, it is possible to remove the lower Snake River dams and still meet our region’s energy demand through a mix of other clean energy resources, including solar, wind, energy efficiency, demand-response, and storage. (See NW Energy Coalition “Lower Snake River Dams Power Replacement Study” available at https://nwenergy.org/featured/lrstudy/). Thank you again for your continued leadership in addressing climate change. We appreciate your efforts on behalf of the City and are grateful for the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft resolution.	Columbia Riverkeeper

Portland General Electric (PGE) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments to the City of Portland on their February 12, 2020 draft Climate Emergency Declaration. PGE shares our customers’ and our communities’ vision for a clean, affordable, resilient and reliable energy future that provides meaningful participation and opportunity for everyone. We applaud the City’s leadership in addressing the climate emergency and its commitment to obtaining meaningful feedback from all stakeholders including community advocates, businesses and residents.PGE supports the City in realizing its climate and clean energy goals. PGE is investing billions in clean and renewable energy, energy efficiency, emerging technologies like battery storage, and building the grid of tomorrow to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions by more than 80% and to support economy-wide decarbonization - especially through transportation electrification. We also offer a suite of innovative products, programs and partnership opportunities to enable customers who want to move further and faster, such as our nationally recognized voluntary renewable energy program “ Green Source, our Green Future Impact program that is supporting what will be Oregon’s largest solar facility, and our net-metering program in which more than 2,000 Portlanders currently participate. We are also in active development of new electric vehicle charging stations, residential charging pilots, and microgrid pilots. As Portland’s largest electricity provider, we also commit to working in partnership with the City, stakeholders and customers to develop new products that support Portland’s electric customers being served by 100% clean and renewable electricity by 2030, while protecting the value of Oregon’s integrated, fully-regulated electric system.We are excited to keep working with Portland to tackle the climate emergency and build a clean energy future that provides everyone with healthier, safer, more resilient and prosperous neighborhoods. PGE provides the following comments and recommendations to the February 12, 2020 draft Climate Emergency Declaration to help realize this vision.1. General - Key Definition: The draft declaration uses the term “carbon” as a proxy and shorthand for “greenhouse gas.” In the state and federal regulatory context, “carbon” often refers exclusively to carbon dioxide and not the suite of greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change.General Recommendation: PGE recommends using the term “greenhouse gas” or define “carbon” as including all greenhouse gases in the declaration to ensure the full suite of greenhouse gases are included, such as methane, nitrous oxide and hydrofluorocarbons. A common approach is to refer to the suite of greenhouse gases as CO2e.2. Resolution 4 - Governance: Resolution 4 in the draft declaration states: “that the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability is directed to collaboratively work with other City bureaus, Multnomah County and community-led organizations to establish a new, ongoing governance structure that prioritizes leadership by frontline communities and youth (especially from frontline communities)”; Comment to Resolution 4: Businesses partnering with the City and County to help meet decarbonization and clean energy goals “ like PGE “ would like the opportunity to participate in the development of new governance structures and in the ongoing operation to provide input and contribute expertise on reaching the goals of the declaration. Widescale deployment of renewables, distributed energy resources and other emerging technologies to reach clean energy goals will require a broad group of stakeholders”customers, community, developers, utilities, regulators, and municipalities “ with differing needs for, access to, and uses of information “ to have access to timely, complete and accurate technical information. It is unclear to PGE how decisions are made about who can participate in the City’s current stakeholder processes and how outcomes and recommendations from these processes are decided. This includes how technical knowledge is attained, validated, used and disseminated. Planning, regulation and deployment decisions are greatly influenced by the timeliness, completeness and accuracy of technical information. In addition to community members, impacted businesses who do the on-the-ground work and utilities who are managing massive system transformations, should have the ability to participate in governance structures to help translate technical knowledge and otherwise provide input in a manner that acknowledges the need to promote inclusive and equitable solutions to achieving the goals of the declaration.3. Resolution 6 - Building Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Resolution 6 in the draft declaration references ongoing work related to “Net Zero Energy Buildings” that will be used to inform the 2020 Climate Action Plan update.Comment for Resolution 6: Energy efficiency and distributed energy resources are key to a decarbonized future; however, if the goal is greenhouse gas emission reductions from buildings, PGE recommends targets around Net Zero Carbon for buildings, and not Net Zero Energy. This is consistent with the C40 and the World Green Building Council Net Zero Carbon Buildings Declaration on which Portland is a signatory. PGE believes Net Zero Carbon is the appropriate metric for buildings in a decarbonized future as it will allow the City to go beyond building shell improvements and energy efficiency to leveraging the electric grid and community level energy management systems “ like our Smart Grid Test Beds “ to achieve quicker and deeper emission reductions. Further, deep decarbonization studies consistently show that reaching a decarbonized economy may require increasing the use of clean electricity in buildings through beneficial electrification. PGE’s carbon intensity is already well below the national average, and our electric grid will become increasingly clean as we drive toward meeting our share of Oregon’s greenhouse gas reduction goal. Investments	Portland General Electric
It's clear the planet is burning up and we're losing our atmosphere. There is no scientific doubt about that, and has NOT been since the 1960's despite Exxon's change of heart in the late 1970's to begin denying it after accepting it. It is unacceptable to pass along this existential crisis to our children and grandchildren and all that follow. Let's think 7 generations ahead! All of my suggestions align with those of 350PDX and Havurah Shalom. Thank you for listening.	Havurah Shalom

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input for Climate Emergency Resolution. I greatly appreciate it, and your efforts as a City and as a team working to address the Climate Emergency. In making the case for Climate Justice & centering front line communities, please add specific example in Portland of racial discrimination against African Americans that have implications to this day. How this will impact a just transition that must address this disparity in the efforts to address the climate emergency. * A policy that does not meet the requirement of ameliorating the dire conditions of Black peoples lives is a failed policy. (Rinaldo Walcott quoted by Naomi Klein)Establishing new governance structure: Will these be elected positions, or appointed positions. The criteria for selection will be important to ensure the standards as well as the process is inclusive & reflective of all the key stakeholders.Funding: Added "in the form of community grants as well as funded positions that can be dedicated to working on this issue at the community level"Missing Item: TreesAdded:Incentives to plant & retain trees especially in areas that are blighted, underinvested & neighborhoods with a lack of trees disproportionate to the rest of the City. Trees have been found to be related to lower stress & better health outcomes for residents (https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/why-doctors-are-increasingly-prescribing-nature) well as to increase the value of real estate property as well as to absorb carbon. Climate Test: In addition to evaluating procurement, building & extraction decisions, bottom line priorities would include such a test on city & county related projects and permits should be assessed on whether they would exacerbate or accelerate the climate crisis. Permits that donâ€™t pass the climate test should not be granted. HousingEfforts to increase housing supply needs to focus on housing that is affordable and actively available" for the lowest income residents (Added "also affects low wage workers, PT workers, elderly, students, youth transitioning from foster care)Phasing out Fossil Fuel Infrastructure and Leading the way for a Just TransitionDefine actions that Portland will take beyond a generalized commitment to a just transition. For example, job training programs for workers to transition into "green" jobs esp. for youth, unemployed, BIPOC & elders and People with Disabilities (Added 1990 ADA law identified discrimination against people with disabilities that can also be included here)This Draft Climate Emergency Declaration is "meant to articulate how the City of Portland will approach the climate emergency, and the community-centered process we will undertake to develop the next set of actions we will take" did not reflect obtaining community input that is accessible to front line and underserved communities with enough time and format to give meaningful feedback. This process must not be a shotgun approach, or disregard previous work that has been done to obtain community input.Strongly recommend that this Climate Resolution is written in Plain Language (see Plainlanguage.gov) that allows readers from many different backgrounds and levels to easily understand and grasp. Strike repeated use of "Whereas", and ""Be it further resolved" allows for many run-on sentences which will be difficult for citizen's whose first language is not English and those with difficulty reading and without training in legal terms. The term "Native Nations" is not something I recognize. Community members from Native American tribes prefer the term, "Native Americans" or Native American Indians". Canada uses "First Nations" as the preferred term. Page 3 of the resolution has some difficult and ambiguous language describing Native Americans. "Native Nations prioritize the balance between a sustainable environment and the well-being of the people, as they have done for this land since time immemorial (?) and will do so in perpetuity to preserve their culture and protect traditional lifeways" (huh?). Language is presumptive and flowery, and does not acknowledge the long history of activism to protect land, water & air for hundreds of years in the face of colonization & genocide that was actually built into City & State codes which permitted violence against indigenous & Native American tribes. Section D reads: The City recognizes the value of the sovereign voice of Native Nations, and the importance of working in partnership with tribal leaders to uphold treaty-reserved lifeways, traditional values, and cultural resources that are jeopardized by the increasing threat of the climate emergency.try:The City recognizes the importance of the sovereignty of Native American tribes. This resolution recognizes the history of broken treaties and agreements which has made partnership with government agencies to uphold the sovereignty of land rights & uses by Native Americans, the preservation of their culture & tradition values & way of life an impossibility. In the face of the Climate emergency, Native American tribes have been on the front lines to protect the climate by organizing resistance efforts against fossil fuel extraction on Native lands and pipeline projects that adversely affect the quality of water, wildlife and quality of life for Native American tribes, and the citizens of the surrounding lands, including non-Native Americans.Not sure who "Climate Justice" is referring to in Resolution E. e.g. "Climate Justice " acknowledges that urban indigenous, immigrant and refugee families in Portland are connected with communities in their homelands..... (confusing usage)On Resolution G. specify "Humanity's" as "The State of Oregon, City of Portland recognizes that the reliance on fossil fuels negatively impacts the health and safety of local communities...On Resolution H. speaks to just transition. Polluter pays policies that penalizes high polluters in Oregon that undermines the public resources of land, water, air, wildlife. Tax credits for people who exclusively use public transportation, drive electric and fuel efficient vehicles, and also make home improvements for energy efficient and less carbon polluting projects. Permits should all be assessed to include a criteria on the adverse	
We members of the One Small Thing Portland Indivisible group, Climate Energy and Environment (CEE) team support the Portland Climate Emergency Declaration Resolution. Climate change is an emergency and we must all work together to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build a community that can be resilient through the transition and supportive as we experience adverse impacts from climate change. We particularly appreciate statements that not only require involvement but encourage leadership from front line communities and youth. In this way we are more likely to find unique solutions while avoiding at least some of the mistakes that have led to inequities in the past. We look forward to a stronger role by the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability and appreciate the direction for them to act collaboratively with other city bureaus, Multnomah County and community led organizations. We suggest expanding this to specify other contiguous counties and Metro agencies including Tri-Met.We have a concern that the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability will need additional resources to accomplish these ambitious goals. Although we could support some additional taxes at the city level we would not want to see an increase that would further encourage out migration from the City. Perhaps the Bureau could develop a volunteer component to help achieve goals.We support the concept of an Anti-Displacement Action Plan to look forward to additions details. Diverse communities with core community and business centers are important to build resiliency and decrease required travel / transportation emissions.The revised target to achieve a 50% reduction below 1990 levels by 2030 and net zero by 2050 is in line with the IPCC guidelines. We suggest including information on what the 1990 levels were and which emissions sources were included in the measurements.The ability to leverage the support of the City to encourage investor-owned utilities is especially noteworthy in that we have no power as individuals (other than to pay higher â€™green energyâ€™ rates) to influence the source of our electricity. We fully support all utilities delivering 100% clean, renewable energy by 2030.We look forward to the plan and progress to be reported to the City Council by the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability.	One Small Thing PDX, Climate Energy and Environment Task Force
Please consider and include the following: A clear definition of climate justice at the outset to properly frame what has created this crisis and to lay out a vision for creating justice-based solutions. Plain, concrete language with specific actions the city will take, clear timelines, and frequent reporting to the public on the progress that is made. Funding dedicated for implementing the actions described in the resolution at a level necessary to meet the cityâ€™s targets. City funds should be invested in ways that benefit Portland residents, especially people of color and those with low-incomes, and not diverted for carbon offsets or other schemes Interim emissions targets that start long before 2030. We recommend annual emissions reductions of 7.6% to align with what the UN says is needed to stay below 1.5 degrees of warming.	Families for a Livable Climate

<p>Add another WHEREAS between J and K to specify a growing number of neighbors and Portlanders.WHEREAS, our valued houseless Portlanders and unhoused neighbors are the first and worst hurt by climate chaos and by being and remaining unhoused due to the intersectionality of systemic, historic, intentional, preventable and correctable violence due to classism, racism, heterosexism and homophobia/transphobia, ableism, ageism, interpersonal/domestic violence and sexual assault, human trafficking, healthcare for profits not people, xenophobia and religious bigotry, discrimination against migrant and outdoor day workers and domestic and construction or service workers, housing denied as a basic human right, US-funded breaking up of immigrant/refugee/asylee families while denied legal and human rights, and police brutality/terrorism, and have the fewest and least accessible and reliable resources, are the first to loose these, are the most vulnerable to scapegoating for pandemics, are the most vulnerable to violent crimes and last and least to be helped in a timely and meaningful way, and have the most lived experience relevant to informing disaster preparedness and resilience policies and practices, and for teaching and inspiring the current temporarily housed who could become houseless/unhoused with climate-caused pandemics and economic failures and physical disasters and who have wisdom, knowledge, and skills for strengthening our community resilience through mutual caring/respect and mutual aid that existing agencies and programs fail to do;Add another WHEREAS between K and L to specify climate injustice worsening risks to people with disabilities.WHEREAS, our Portland neighbors who have disabilities and differing abilities and superabilities that make them more sensitive to and affected by changes in climate and weather, increased chemical and radiation and electrical/magnetic pollution, particulate pollution, WIFI pollution, noise and light pollution, emotional distress from others in the environment, ecocide and failing health of micro ecosystems and member species and individual organisms, metal poisoning, pesticide/herbicide poisoning, GMOs and carcinogens and autoimmune assaults, and social/emotional energies and fears and thoughts/images are more able to sense and alert us to dangers, while also the most apt to be overwhelmed and disabled or silenced or killed by these, and don't want to be dehumanized as “canaries in the mine”while also wanting to be respectfully heeded and supported; Add to the declaration:To declaration 1, add after “...restore a safe climate”the words “establish and continually improve climate justice and social justice; and”To declaration 2, add between “nonprofits”and “academia”the words “faith communities”Add a declaration between the existing 2.and 3. “BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Portland shall establish a transparent and fully resourced Citizen's Assembly including paid representatives of local and regional Indigenous communities along energy and transportation and food routes and aquifers and drainage systems, unhoused and housing insecure representatives, people with diverse sensitivities and disabilities, grassroots community environmental groups, climate and biology scientists/experts, anarchistic mutual aid and public health communities, Black/Brown/People of Color/Immigrant-Refugee communities, the ageing and youth, and other frontline communities to oversee the process towards a just transition to a carbon-free regenerative just economy that includes local organic self-sufficiency for all communities, and that this Citizen's Assembly shall have fully public and livestream and free archived videos with a process for timely inclusion of public input and subpoena power to access public and private records for policy and practice review and recommendation; and”Change declaration 6. from “equitably meeting the 2030 carbon reduction goals; and”to “equitably meeting the goal to have zero-carbon and 100% renewable and regenerative economy and net carbon-zero by 2030 with systems in place to have a carbon-free economy and carbon-sequestering and drawdown of greenhouse gases continually lowering greenhouse gases each year while expanding quantity, volume, quality, and health/effectiveness of tree canopy and wetlands and strengthening the ability of trees and ecosystems to adapt while they are losing carbon-sequestering abilities due to feedback loops already in place, and”Add a declaration between the current 6 and 7. “BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Portland will invest in and advocate for and contract to have free public transit and transportation accessible to all neighborhoods, abilities, and needed hours; local organic food security for each family and neighborhood growing food and larger neighborhood permaculture food forests; local purple water rain water and gray water collection and distribution; local regenerative solar and wind energy independent of the grid and glass vibration electricity generation; human-powered transportation for diverse abilities; composting and water-free toilets; and locally-powered and democratically owned/managed communication; and”Add to declaration 10 after “...decreasing housing and economic vulnerability and incrasing community resiliency; and”add “with representatives with lived experience being unhoused or houseless with full access to information and at each meeting with ways to give equal input, while getting a daily stipend, free public transport, and free care for dependent children, elders, and people with disabilities, and with full ADA supports as needed; and”Add another declaration between 10 and 11. “BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Portland shall provide and support others in the community providing free safe, healthy well-insulated tiny houses and infrastructure for shared food storage and cooking/preparation, hand-washing facilities, compost toilets and solar low-water showers and water/energy efficient laundry, covered locked bike and trailer facilities, organic food gardens and pollinator and</p>	
<p>I strongly support Portland declaring a Climate Emergency and working with Portland Climate Action Plan goals to move as swiftly as possible to decarbonization and mitigate our climate crisis.</p>	
<p>SEIU Local 49 supports the City’s draft Climate and Emergency Declaration. SEIU Local 49 is a 15,000 member union of janitors, security officers, health care workers, and industrial laundry workers in Oregon and SW Washington. SEIU 49 represents over 3,000 janitors in the Metro Region, including the majority of downtown janitors in the commercial real estate market. Including the Relay Resources employees who clean City of Portland facilities.As we look to change how our city is leading the fight against climate change we know that people of color and low income communities are the most negatively impacted. As we build for a new economic future to combat our climate crisis we need to center people of color and low income communities in all solutions. SEIU janitors black, brown immigrant and native born, are building power for their families, our community and our future. Our members have fought and won big success including \$15.25 hourly pay, fully-paid healthcare benefits, a guaranteed pension for retirement, paid time off, workplace solutions for stopping gender-based violence. SEIU 49 members are ready and are best positioned to reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions in large buildings.Buildings are the single largest contributor to carbon emissions in Multnomah County, representing 40 percent of total emissions. The City’s draft declaration commits to “prioritize and advance policies and investments to reduce carbon emission from the building and transportation sectors.”The declaration refers to the City and County’s 2030 carbon reduction goals, including to “Reduce the total energy use of all buildings built before 2010 by 25 percent.”The declaration calls to expedite new actions to fight climate change, starting with those that can be implemented in the next two years. Our members are ready to step up to help lead the work of decarbonization by becoming trained and certified through successfully launching a 2020 pilot of the Green Janitor Education Program (GJEP) in Portland and making it a long-term opportunity for commercial building janitors. The GJEP has already produced substantial results in California cities. Portland, Seattle and Denver are preparing to implement the program this year.The GJEP teaches janitors the fundamentals of green building practices. With a 30-hour, U.S. Green Building Council-approved curriculum covering green cleaning, energy and water conservation, health and safety and waste diversion, janitors learn why these practices are important in addition to how to implement these practices at work and at home. Since its inception in 2014, the GJEP has trained more than 1,000 janitors in hundreds of buildings across California, covering a total of over 20 million square feet.According to a study conducted by the SEED Consulting Group published in 2017, implementation of the GJEP leads to an overall decrease in electricity and water usage. Study data shows that between 2013 and 2016, 76% of GJEP buildings saw a decrease in overall electricity and water usage, while 2016 energy usage was 5.6% lower in GJEP buildings than in non-GJEP buildings, on average. Of the green programs that lead to these savings, GJEP is the easiest and least expensive for buildings to implement. The savings come from janitors having a strong understanding of why there is a need to go green, how to do it, and increased compliance of established sustainability goals.The SEED study also documented a ripple effect that came as a result of janitors becoming advocates and practitioners of green practices in their homes.The draft declaration says that frontline communities must “benefit first”and “lead the planning and implementation of efforts to address climate change;”that “any policy efforts to decarbonize the building sector will follow the lead of frontline communities.”Janitors organized with SEIU Local 49 are ready to lead, to plan and implement, and to partner with the City and with other frontline communities, in the urgent effort to transition to a just, carbon-neutral society.</p>	<p>SEIU 49</p>

<p>First, thank you to the Mayor, City bureaus and community organizations who collaborated to create this draft. This is challenging work and youâ€™ve provided us with a good baseline. Thanks also for this opportunity to provide comment.I applaud the focus on frontline communities, including low income and disabled communities. Frontline communities must be leaders in the development of policies and programs to address climate change. Nonetheless, Iâ€™d like to see a the resolution state the governance will be through a broad coalition of frontline communities, community organizations, environmental organizations and union labor so that power is shared broadly.With respect to resolution number 8 we should develop an alternative economic metric, such as the Genuine Progress Indicator (GPI), for the Cityâ€™s economic activity. We should use that metric for all city procurement decisions. Further, all city procurement decisions should be made through a sustainability lens rather than a purely financial (e.g. NPV) lens.Resolution number 12 should include an objective to dismantle all fossil fuel export facilities in the City by 2030. It should also include a goal to substantially decrease fossil fuel infrastructure within the City.I find it odd that the free youth transit pass is specifically called out in resolution 16 since the rest of the document is very broad. Iâ€™d prefer a larger goal here for a free, region-wide transit system (including outlying communities) that starts with free passes for youth and low income populations. We should also require that TriMet quickly switch to an electric and hybrid fleet as much as possible.Resolution 19 should include calling on the utilities (and the PUC) to build a smart grid that further enables distributed power generation on single-dwelling and neighborhood bases. The city should also create incentives for community-owned power generation, such as community solar.The resolution is short on ecosystem restoration and green space. We should add an item that calls for increasing tree canopy in areas with little tree cover, creating green spaces and encouraging local community-based food production.The resolution should directly address worker displacement and a just transition. I suggest a statement that the City will work towards creating new job opportunities through its economic development activities and through public projects. This should include worker retraining programs with priority to frontline communities and displaced workers.The resolution should include a Portland municipal bank (a public bank) as a funding mechanism for the Cityâ€™s Climate Plan. A municipal bank will allow the City to direct public money to public uses, to create additional funds through leverage and reduce financing fees.</p>	EcoFaith Recovery
<p>I salute the accelerated effort and creation of the Climate Emergency Declaration. I also support the proposed human scale approach, particularly inclusive of youth leadership, because drastic change in behavior will only be fruitful through a million single steps. Therefore, the formulation of the Climate Emergency Declaration should reflect the urgency by emphasizing awareness of individual action impact and devoting significant attention to the problem of causality as this is key in daily community interactions and educational pattern. Let me quote Timothy Morten here: Every time I start my carâ€¦ I donâ€™t mean to harm Earth, let alone cause the Sixth Mass Extinction Eventâ€¦ Furthermore, I am not harming Earth! My key turning is statistically meaningless. â€¦ But go up a level and something strange happens. When I scale up these actions to include billions of key turnings, â€¦ harm to Earth is precisely what is happening. I am responsible as a member of this speciesâ€¦ Having this in mind, I have a few suggestions to include:â€¦ As a long-term impact, land use zonings and related issues need be taken into consideration. Based on long-term climate forecasting, Oregon will develop into an important agricultural area in the future â€” possibly providing two harvest seasons per year. I suggest acting now by securing the zoning of the existing rich land in Portlandâ€™s region eminently suitable for ecological balanced farming. Saving the land for and inviting farming and farm related businesses instead of industrial development that would prevent future agricultural production seems inevitable for a balanced climate emergency plan.â€¦ As an architect and educator, I suggest initiating competitions for alternative building and living solutions on urban and architectural scales, which could then help formulate concrete building codes and policies. This encompasses social and cultural mixing as well as building techniques. Portland has a unique urban flora character with the potential to provide localized balanced microclimates. Whereas, I fully support higher density urban development, I also believe that the over-built areas have to be balanced compact building solutions with unsealed ground areas in order to address local problems of overheating, water retention, and fresh air production and circulation, etc.Incentives for a change are on the way, such as the RIP. However, further incentives for a cultural change away from single-family homes should be incorporated in the climate emergency declaration. I am fully aware of the complexity of the problem reaching beyond cultural measures into economic and social issues but highlighting existing alternatives and broadcasting new approaches should become a vital part of the Climate Emergency Plan - with the goal to change the perception of alternative housing solutions and to implement policies â€” addressing questions from long-lasting, compact, and energy efficient building solutions (e.g. limiting the area-volume-ratio, requesting sustainable building materials and technologies), to reduction of over-built ground areas on sites, to incentives for primary high quality building investments economically and ecologically profitable in the long run, to providing healthy living conditions and work environments, to requesting urban areas for socializing. As an architect previously practicing in Germany for over 13 years while drastic energy saving solutions were implemented in German building codes and policies, I can refer to a turbulent path successfully overcoming public anxiety and rejection by focusing the action on sanctions and aid in a mutually defined goal. â€¦ Public awareness, education, and engagement are key for resilient urban developments. From my point of view, concrete actions have to be formulated intelligibly to accompany a Climate Emergency Declaration. Portland has a multitude of programs, institutions, coalition, and non-profits dedicating their efforts to increase social equity and climate action initiatives. From witnessing various public discussions in Portland, it seems that management, coordination and cooperation between these groups is badly needed - not only to develop much-needed synergies but also to streamline economic resources. I suggest to formulate main subjects under which to focus diverse group efforts - from alternative economic dependability solutions addressing resilient patterns for equitable social structures, to resilient food culture addressing processing and packaging, to resilient house/ garden construction and care, to environmentally low-impact recreational activities bringing issues from transportation all the way to the high energy impact of certain online activities to awareness.Thank you for your work and the opportunity to contribute thoughts.Sincerely,Anna Weichsel</p>	

<p>Sunday, March 15, 2020Dear Mayor Wheeler,RE: DRAFT PORTLAND CLIMATE EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONThank you for proposing a draft Climate Emergency Resolution for the City of Portland. Thank you for your forthright statement of the climate emergency, and for recognizing the need for rapid mobilization to mitigate the worst impacts. Thank you for acknowledging that efforts to date to address this crisis by the City of Portland, and Multnomah County, have not been effective, and thank you for recognizing the needs, and interests of those communities least responsible for the crisis, who are disproportionately affected by its impacts. That being said, the draft Resolution is utterly insufficient, if the standard by which it is measured is whether any meaningful action is likely to result from its adoption. The resolution is long on rhetoric, and almost entirely lacking on specifics, because the City is trying to do something that is not within its power to do.As these comments are being written, the nation is girding to face the full brunt of the Coronavirus pandemic. The parallels between the pandemic and climate crisis are obvious, including the fact that a functional solution, if one is possible at this late date, cannot possibly come at the municipal level. The only means by which the City of Portland could have been protected from catastrophic collapse of health care systems, and massive harm to the fabric of our lives, would have been a national program of mass testing, coupled with an immediate, Wuhan-level containment strategy at initial outbreak centers. A quick, effective response like that was never possible under the Trump administration, but it is also proving beyond the reach of Democrat state leadership in Washington, Oregon, and California as well.It has been impossible, in the US, to take the gigantic leap from ordinary life to at-home quarantine, for perfectly healthy feeling individuals, to shutting down everything except health care and emergency services, and imposing draconian limits on travel, even though those are the only measures that might stem the pandemic. We wonâ€™t, or canâ€™t do these things to avert an immediate crisis, because it isnâ€™t visible enough, and because our trust in experts, faith in the utility of government, and sense of national community have all been deliberately undermined (indeed these trends have been the result of a long-term effort to prevent effective action to avert climate catastrophe). Similarly, the City of Portland cannot, on its own, begin cutting carbon emissions by roughly 8% a year, between now and 2030, which is what is necessary to avert catastrophe, any more than it could have throw up barriers on the Columbia River bridges to protect against Coronavirus. However, the City of Portland might be able to make tough but doable choices to transform our quality of life for the better, substantially improve the livability, affordability, and survivability of the City, ensure that vulnerable communities are treated fairly, and justly, and, in the process, take huge strides toward emissions reductions. The City might choose to ban motor vehicles from the downtown core, as many of cities, like Seville, have done. The City might rezone the Northern Industrial Area, evicting fossil fuel businesses, like Zenith Energy, and turn the area into open space, urban farms, and low income housing. The City might step back from any further expansion of highways, and instead turn entire roads over to bicycles pedestrians, and electric buses. The City, and County, might adopt passivhaus building codes, and other super-high energy efficiency standards with minimal cost, and maximize energy savings. The challenges are ones of imagination, and inertia. In our letter of June 17, 2019, Extinction Rebellion called on the City to make a declaration of a Climate Emergency, and to:â€ Tell the truth about the climate and ecological crisis, â€ Set a target of reducing carbon emission to net zero by 2025,â€ Create a Citizens Assembly to figure out what should be done, and,â€ Ensure a just transition, which prioritizes the most vulnerable peoples, and Indigenous sovereignty. In its draft Climate Emergency Climate Resolution, the City has made progress toward the first and last of these demands, at least rhetorically. With the Coronavirus experience staring us in the face, we underline the urgency of expanding on these tentative steps, especially by incorporating a Citizen Assembly, based on the experience of the UK. The City of Portland cannot take bold steps if its vision is limited to â€ ongoing climate-related initiatives and community-led efforts,â€ because those very efforts have been shaped, and constrained, by what the City considers feasible. It is a Catch 22. Using a political process that chooses average citizens. like a large jury, to assess the crisis, consider a range of potential solutions, and draw up a plan of action, with resources and experts to advise, a Citizens Assembly will will provide political cover and public pressure for political leaders to set aside the usual politicking and do the right thing. There is simply not time to expand on this short statement. We all need to turn from considering this dire threat, to managing the immediate crisis of the Coronavirus pandemic. It may be months before any of us return our attention to the climate crisis. We can only hope that lessons from the latter will help alter the trajectory of the former, for the better. Sincerely,Ken WardMargaret ButlerJan ZuckermanMike Horner</p>	
<p>These are my opinions, not necessarily those of my organizations. I am an MD with a MPH:1. IN the Whereas section: missing: simultaneous climate crisis and the social justice crises of homelessness, unaffordable housing, high student and young adult indebtedness create a unique opportunity to understand how these challenges developed and their solutions are interconnected.2. In the Declaration section:i. Problem with governance structure that prioritizes leadership ONLY by frontline and youth. Recommend inclusion and equal voice in collaborative leadership process to develop and fund a comprehensive local GND. I compare the wisdom I had a a youth from where I gave grown into after 63 years and a decade and a half of focused study on the deep root causes and solutions of our twin climate and social justice crises. Many of us in this boat and some should be invited and included into leadership process.ii. Other missing points: a) opportunity to partnership with regional governments (county and Metro with more land) to maximize carbon sequestration potential, hiring local armies of tree and sapling planters working to restore as much acreage as possible to the original abundance of forestation our land is capable of. b)that care of todayâ€™s basic needs be developed within a climate action solution framework. That these not be seen as competing issues, but complementary crises.c) The requirement of establishing an independent responsible novel public financing institution modeled after the successful Reconstruction Finance Corporation that supported the original New Deal and returned a profit to the public! An institution chartered for the sole purpose of successfully transitioning us through a variety of local green new deal projects. E.g. building affordable sustainable clean housing that will bring in reasonable, but not excessive revenue, directing the profits to carbon sequestration job opportunities.</p>	<p>350 PDX Green New Deal Team and Havurah Climate Action Team</p>
<p>The draft does not mention existing commitments to enact policies by 2030 or earlier ensuring that all new buildings will be constructed to operate at net zero carbon. This commitment is in Portlandâ€™s Climate Action Plan as well as the World Green Building Councilâ€™s Zero Carbon Buildings Declaration, signed by Mayor Wheeler and 27 other mayors of global cities. The current availability and cost of zero emission technology, such as heat pumps for HVAC and water heating, offer an accessible alternative to traditional fossil fuel systems, such as natural gas, and enable transitioning to a zero carbon building requirement for new construction within the two year time frame of item 5. For example, the City of San Jose began implementing the first phase of zero carbon measures for new construction earlier this year.</p>	

I would like you to add that the city council will review and endorse state and national legislation that will help us reach our targeted goals of reduction of fossil fuel use and carbon emissions.	
This is fantastic! I hope that the declaration is amended to include a call for carbon pricing at the state and national level as well.	
I don't think we should declare a climate emergency declaration until there is clear evidence that we are already implementing other measures to make progress. This is not the time for virtue signalling. Climate change doesn't care that Mayor Wheeler is up for re-election and has done virtually nothing to address climate change. Before taking this step, use every action to end planning for the freeway widening in the I-5 Rose Quarter, which will undermine our city's climate progress for DECADES. Make it much more difficult to drive single occupancy vehicles in downtown Portland, and uplift the walking, biking and transit to get people out of their cars. These vague declarations absent short-term action showing that progress is happening are meaningless, and probably worse. They trick people into thinking that we have leaders who are serious about climate action when all they care about is posturing for an electoral campaign. I would urge Mayor Wheeler to rescind this draft climate emergency declaration, take the politically difficult steps required to show action, and then come back with an emergency declaration that acts like this is an emergency. No targets for 2030 let alone 2050 unless there are also SMART targets for 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024.	
Whereas section, suggestions:A. include seniors in the list of vulnerable populationsF. define "youth", maybe replace with "younger generations"L. seems to me to be covered in other linesM,N, O. suggest putting these at the very front as this is the impetus for the declarationP. Could be much stronger, suggest including the phrase "urban tree canopy" as essential to moderating heat island impacts. The statement as written sounds like a vote for keeping parks and open space for human health, not a real vote for the important role a significant and intentional dense tree canopy can play in mitigating urban climate impacts.R. Suggest adding something about the role of beauty and aesthetics in enhancing our lived experience interacting with the cityscape (as pedestrians, neighborhood dwellers, etc), i.e. the role of gardens, public art, quality architecture, well-designed walkways and bikeways in enhancing a sense of well being.Declaration sectionSuggest adding a mention of PCEF and city's role coordinating with PCEF.4, 5. "new, ongoing governance structure" sounds like a red flag that will get some reaction. Governing all that this climate declaration entails? Or serving as an advisory board? Will it include specific technical expertise, scientifically and culturally, as in PCEF? Also, does "community-led organizations" include neighborhood associations or not (a somewhat sore point with OCCL and the NAs)?7,8. Does "youth "include college students or middle school students or only high school students?9. Suggest identifying the role of bonus incentives in development permits and the need for the Development Commission to be on board with this declaration; otherwise they will continue to accept project designs that are not required to demonstrate energy efficiency and carbon emission reductions; i.e. call for new development standards as part of the new expectations.10, 11. Combine these as both are related to the Anti-Displacement Action plan.15. Disagree that this should all be on frontline communities; they are not the builders and developers. It should be on those required to meet city building codes and on the city to develop tougher carbon codes.21. Add something on DIESEL impacts and the need to reduce BLACK CARBON and soot particulates and to raise air quality standards as part of carbon pollution reduction. It is hard to argue for carbon reductions without addressing our existing unacceptably high pollution and its health impacts on frontline communities and all of us. 22. Add something about WHO will be holding the city accountable to meet these goals and objectives. Is it BPS? Is it the mayor's office?THANKS for the OPPORTUNITY to THINK about this with you.	(formerly) Let's Talk Climate, also UVM professor emerita, Environmental Studies
It is heartening to read this Climate Emergency Declaration and recognize the resolve, determination and energy behind it. I think an addition of a specific call for national carbon pricing would strengthen it even more. Thank you.	
Verde is grateful for the opportunity to provide comments on Portland’s proposed Emergency Climate Declaration, and grateful to the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability staff who worked hard to help make this document possible, as well as the staff who have helped to collaboratively develop previous climate legislation, including the Climate Action Plan and the 100% Renewables Resolution (Resolution 37289).Verde serves communities by building environmental wealth through social enterprise, outreach, and advocacy. We have engaged proactively with the City around climate work through the 100% Renewables Resolution -- in particular the 2% and 10% community-based renewable energy goals -- and past climate-action-planning work. We are involved currently as a community partner in Zero Cities, American Cities Climate Challenge, and the City Energy Project, and we were also one of the organizations who helped to develop and now implement the Portland Clean Energy Benefits Fund. We will evaluate the Emergency Climate Declaration through a lens of good environmental justice policy. To be successful and equitable, it must: ensure inclusive, accountable, and meaningful decision-making, prioritize environmental justice communities in receiving benefits, and prevent new burdens that oppress or marginalize communities who experience historic and current harms. This, in particular, means acknowledging that the communities who have experienced generational trauma through racism and colonialism are also communities who contribute least to the current climate crisis while feeling its impacts most detrimentally. In general, the opening WHEREAS clauses of the Declaration carry this message and Verde is heartened to see this intentionality. We would remind the City however, that this cannot be merely talk and that in stating these values, the City is making a commitment to uphold them; we will hold our civic institutions accountable to centering environmental justice communities in a reparative way. To this end, Verde would suggest several additions to the preamble. First, it is not enough to admit the burdens of the climate crisis; the City must name white supremacy as the cause. Second, while the WHEREAS statements renounce the extractive nature and impacts of the fossil fuel economy, conversations should be had with tribal nations about whether to include the extractive impacts of our large-scale hydropower system. Significant cultural and financial resources have been lost with little to no reparation in order to afford the Northwest with some of the cheapest and most accessible electricity in the nation. Finally, the statement that environmental justice communities must be “the ones that benefit first from the transition to a renewable energy economy and be able to lead the planning and implementation efforts to address climate change,” must go further to commit that climate policy must be reparative in trust, power, and resources. Community cannot be merely included, we must remake systems to account for historical burdens with contemporary and future benefits. In that vein, the acceleration of emissions reductions must be paired with the acceleration of investment in communities to achieve community-based and community-benefiting, energy conservation and generation. The first BE IT RESOLVED would better read: That the City Council declares that a human-made climate emergency, that is the direct result of a history of white supremacy and colonialism, threatens our city, our region, our state, our nation, humanity, and the natural world, and that such an emergency calls for an immediate mobilization effort initiating greater action, resources, and collaboration that prioritizes frontline communities to create reparations for historical oppression and harm, and restore a safe climate;And similarly, the third BE IT RESOLVED should read: That Portland will seek to support and advance climate justice and climate action initiatives that are led by the community, especially frontline communities and youth from frontline communities and accelerate investments in projects that benefit these communities in ways that are restorative, reparative, and build present and future power and wealth; and With regard to ensuring inclusive, accountable, and meaningful decision-making, Verde applauds the creation of a new, collaborative governance structure that is led by environmental justice communities. BE IT RESOLVED statements 4-6 are a step in the right direction -- at least nominally -- provided that the body has real decision-making power, and it includes only frontline community members or representatives and relegates industry, business, utilities, and traditional, white-led environmental and energy advocates to satellite tables or consultant roles. Governance may be further strengthened by including community members (who are resourced and valued for their time and expertise) in addition to “community-based organizations” to avoid creating power dynamics that separate organizational staff from community more broadly. And most importantly, community and community-based organizations must be fully resourced and valued for their time, expertise, and labor. It is not truly community-led work if community is not capacitated to lead. It is concerning that the City is moving forward with this resolution without any attached budget items or direct funding. Fully supporting community might surface the kinds of action items that are missing from this draft. For example, here are two key elements that could be added to help address existing, but as yet unacknowledged burdens for environmental justice communities: access to technology, especially as it relates to and affects access to green/clean technology and community-led disaster and climate resiliency planning. Verde is deeply engaged in work on both these fronts respectively through the Suma program (to help reduce technology barriers by empowering affordable housing providers to be data brokers for infrastructure such as community solar or electric vehicle sharing) and Living Cully and Latino Network’s work to develop culturally specific NET training	Verde

<p>This is a rough draft, indeed. Where is the accountability mechanism? Right now, this declaration has no teeth at all. I want to know where the buck stops for the city of Portland when it comes to lowering our greenhouse gas emissions in accord with what the 2018 IPCC report has told us we must do.SO MANY WORDS. Honestly, it gave me a headache. An emergency declaration should be written in clear, concrete language explaining in clear terms the actions the city is going to take, the order in which it is going to take them, and why.Â Where is the funding coming from? This will cost money, and without money to achieve the things we need to do, nothing will get done.Where are the deadlines? There should be clear timelines and frequent reporting so that the public at large can hold the city accountable for the speed of its progress or lack thereof.Our government needs to take action on the climate crisis as seriously and urgently as they are on COVID19 pandemic. Climate change is going to kill and negatively impact far, far more people than this particular virus, unfortunately. This declaration is more of a mumble than the clarifying, clarion shout it needs to be at this surreal and difficult moment in all of our lives.</p>	Families for a Livable Climate
<p>I am a Portland resident writing to urge you to strengthen the climate emergency declaration goals. Specifically, commit to a transition to 100% clean energy sooner than 2050. Also, commit a much larger portion of the budget to climate mitigation issues. In addition, the declaration should mandate a Land Use Compatibility Statement (LUCS) before the Department of Environmental Quality issues any air quality permits on fossil fuel infrastructures.Lastly, we must rezone the Fossil Fuel HUB for public safety.</p>	
<p>Our organization will be submitting extensive recommendations in collaboration with our partners, but I wanted to independently note the importance of committing to specific and concrete actions when formally recognizing a state of emergency. Without doing so, the City risks simply making bold promises with no plans to back them up. We need this declaration to look more like the declaration of a state of emergency on housing, through which the City committed to concrete actions to protect community members while slowing the crisis. NCA urges the city to consider this carefully while editing this draft and release a final version that commits to working toward several concrete steps to reduce the burdens of climate change on our communities, including but not limited to: 1. setting targets and timetables to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from all sectors citywide by at least 7.6% annually;2. using its existing authority to regulate indirect sources of black carbon to lower emissions, namely sites that attract diesel engines like construction sites, railyards and distribution centers.3. conducting a community process to plan a managed decline of fossil fuel infrastructure in line with the imperatives of climate science, human health and safety, seismic resilience, and environmental justice. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this draft resolution.</p>	Neighbors for Clean Air
<p>I support an emergency declaration but it's toothless if we don't go further, like nixing the preposterously expensive, traffic-clogging, fat-inducing, pollution-creating expansion of I-5. Let's go bold. Let's get an all electric fleet of buses by working with TriMet, let's create pedestrian zones, let's ban cars from areas, remove parking, etc. Seriously we have 10 years to make big, big, big changes and rudderless declarations don't do enough.</p>	
<p>The Draft Cliimate Emergency Declaration is a good start, but the deadline of 2050 is simply too late. Since it is an emergency, real action is required now, rather than a paper pledge towards incremental implementation over 30 years. Please shorten the timeline and use all means possible to cut emissions while letting youth and frontline communities oversee the process.Thank you.</p>	
<p>Please do not bother making this declaration if you're not going to be specific. With the COVID-19 crisis on us, this is a perfect moment to understand what an "emergency" response does or does not look like. Do not cheapen the word if this is just political theater. If this is a serious effort, then tell us what powers you intend to use, on with timeline, and to what ends. Halting any cooperation with freeway expansion efforts. If trucks need to get through on I-5, then close ramps, ban cars, and/or implement tolling. Where cars are delaying buses are making people too afraid to walk or bike, restrict them with lane allocations and slow them with hard infrastructure.Where zoning is forcing longer commutes, repeal it.Where people cannot afford to live near work, condemn single-family homes and build dense public housing. Please do not just do the climate crisis lip service and expect applause (or reelection).</p>	
<p>Thank you for leadership in dealing with the climate emergency. Strongly support carbon pricing, especially carbon fee and dividend, but acknowledge that this doesn't work well at the city scale, so city must work toward getting it enacted at state and federal levels. Additionally, the emissions reductions proposed will require converting current uses of natural gas to electric (and passive solar, etc.). This should be both acknowledged and supported financially.</p>	
<p>I applaud the declaration, and the fact that you are soliciting citizen input. In addition to what is already written, I would like to see a stronger statement acknowledging that the city is one small but important actor relative to the state, the nation and the world. In that context, I would like to see language that the city will publicly support and endorse efforts being made at the state, national and international level that aggressively aim to reduce carbon emissions while protecting those who are most vulnerable.</p>	
<p>Hello,I appreciate that Portland is declaring a Climate Emergency and commend the work done so far. My comment is to urge the Climate Emergency Declaration to go farther in supporting frontline communities, to include clear language about the steps Portland city government will take to meet the carbon reduction goals, to eliminate carbon trading schemes from the response to the emergency, and to more include stronger interim targets before 2030 that align with the UN's 7.6% per year reductions that will keep us below 1.5 degrees of warming. It is my hope that this declaration has the strength and city leadership has the will to build a livable climate future for my son and all the young people of Portland and the world. Thank you! --Karen</p>	
<p>I believe the language should include funding dedicated for implementing the actions described in the resolution at a level necessary to meet the cityâ€™s targets. City funds should be invested in ways that benefit Portland residents first, Oregon residents second if Portland specific efforts are not possible, and carbon offsets programs within the PNW used if Oregon-based efforts are impossible. The language should include interim emissions milestones for each year leading up to 2030 and targets for how the city will get there based on effort (i.e. transportation, building efficiency, etc.) Each one of these efforts should be assigned to a champion leader and a champion team/department that is responsible for leading the efforts. If everyone owns it, no one owns it.</p>	

350PDX Summary of Comments on Climate Emergency DeclarationGeneral CommentsThe city’s declaration states a commitment to a community-centered process to develop climate actions; we have concerns about the level of community involvement in the creation of this draft policy. Policy development o should be accessible and inclusive, and the declaration should be written in plain language (see plainlanguage.gov) so that it is accessible to readers from many different backgroundsWe’d like to see stronger, more concrete language in this resolution with specific actions the city will take, and by when.This declaration needs a comprehensive and community-generated definition of climate justice at the outset to properly frame what has created this crisis and to lay out a vision for creating justice-based solutions. 350PDX Recommendations:1. Accountability & Transparency:We’d like to see timelines stated for more of the resolutions in this declaration. Instead of one progress update at the end of the year, short-term reports on progress made should be communicated to the public regularly (e.g. every 30 days) after the declaration is passed. Reports and progress towards goals should be made publicly accessible with transparency around deadlines and responsible persons. 2. Establishing new governance structure: We are in support of a community-led oversight body as described in items 4, 5, and 6. However, this directive is similar to one in the City’s 2017 100% Renewable Resolution to “form a Climate Action sub-committee of the Planning and Sustainability Commission that will include but is not limited to Oregon tribes, communities of color, low-income residents, youth representatives”. It is unclear if that sub-committee was ever created. Please include who will be in charge of overseeing the creation of this new governance structure, how the members will be chosen, when will it be established, what funding/resources will be provided to participants, and how this information will be made available to the public. 3. Funding: To address the climate emergency, the City of Portland must dedicate funding for implementation, including funds to adequately staff the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability and to support the climate justice work of frontline-led organizations. The Declaration recognizes who will suffer most from the impacts of climate change but does not address who is most responsible: fossil fuel companies, big business, and the wealthy (the Climate Action Plan documented that Portland’s residents with higher incomes contribute the most to the climate crisis). These companies and individuals should therefore contribute the most funding for climate justice solutions and be held accountable for polluting practices that contribute disproportionately to the climate crisis. Funding should not be used for carbon offsets or purchases of Renewable Energy Credits. Instead, this funding should be invested in climate solutions in the city of Portland that benefit low-income residents and people of color and frontline-led organizations leading climate justice-based solutions in Portland. Funding is needed specifically for two critical BPS staff positions that are currently lacking: one that is dedicated to policy implementation and one that is dedicated to community outreach and engagement. It is further recommended that hiring for these positions show strong preference (include in the qualifications, knowledge & experiences) for candidates who have worked with community-based organizations, particularly those led by and serving BIPOC communities. 4. Emissions Targets: A 2030 emissions target is too far off in the future. At a minimum, there should be targets every five years starting with 2025 (see for example Minneapolis’s Climate Emergency Declaration which sets 5-year goals). Recommend annual emissions reductions of 7.6% annually to align with what the UN states is necessary to stay below 1.5 degrees of warming. Lowering greenhouse gas emissions can also reduce other pollutants that impact the health and safety of Portland’s residents. Emissions reductions that improve health and safety of community members and workers (e.g. diesel emissions) should be prioritized.Measure changes in emissions looking forward, not backward. We should not continue measuring our progress against 1990 emissions levels, as this locks us into using less accurate data for utility sector emissions and skews our emissions data so that they appear lower than they are. 5. Electric Utilities: Amend the 100% Renewable Energy Resolution to reflect target date of 100% of electricity from renewable energy sources by 2030. Clarify how utilities will prioritize “efforts to protect low-income customers.”The investor-owned utilities are not on track to meet 100% renewable energy goals; in fact, Pacific Power has said it’s unnecessary. In light of this, direct the City to produce a report studying alternative options for sourcing 100% renewable energy outside of the investor-owned utilities. 6.Transportation: Investments should be focused on greatly expanding public transportation, creating new jobs in this sector, and making transit fareless and accessible to all residents.As a first step, work with Metro to pass YouthPass, to ensure all youth 18 and under receive access to free public transit, regardless of the community they live in.Recognize that methane from both fracked gas and non-fossil fuel sources is not a clean, renewable transportation fuel and not a climate solution. Biomethane causes the same climate polluting emissions as fossil fuel derived methane when burned and enables continued reliance on fracked gas. Amend the City’s 100% Renewable Energy Resolution to remove biogas as a renewable energy source.7. TreesTree are not addressed in the Declaration. Portland should prioritize and advance policies and investments to increase the urban tree canopy and achieve tree equity throughout the city, recognizing the power of trees to sequester carbon and cool urban heat islands that disproportionately endanger frontline communities and communities of color, and provide other health benefits. This includes funding for jobs to	350PDX
The Honorable Ted WheelerMayor, City of Portland 1221 SW 4th Ave, Room 340Portland, OR 97204Mayor Wheeler:Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on Portland’s Climate Emergency Declaration. As you are aware, PacifiCorp, through our local operating unit Pacific Power, serves approximately 80,000 electricity customers in Northeast and downtown Portland. Across Oregon we serve more than 630,000 customers in many diverse and rural communities. We understand the unique role we play in Portland’s climate change policies and economy, and appreciate the opportunity to further our current strong partnerships to help reach the community’s energy and sustainability goals.Pacific Power applauds the city’s commitment on climate and is taking concrete steps that will help facilitate the transition to a clean energy future here and across the West. Over the next five years, Pacific Power will add 6,500 megawatts of new renewable energy resources to our grid, including approximately 3,000 megawatts of solar.1 For perspective, that’s equivalent to about half a million rooftops’ worth of new solar. These renewable energy investments will make Pacific Power a national leader in wind, solar and energy storage by 2025.Climate policy is being established across the states we serve, and Pacific Power has supported Oregon’s greenhouse gas reduction efforts at the state level, including creation of the Renewable Portfolio Standard, and the “Coal to Clean” legislation that requires coal to be out of Oregon’s energy mix by the end of 2029. With Governor Kate Brown’s recent action, Executive Order 20-04, which directs Oregon to take steps to reduce and further regulate greenhouse gases, Pacific Power is well-positioned to meet the emissions reduction targets set by the state. Additionally, the company has helped lead the energy market transformation in the West through formation of the Energy Imbalance Market, which has both reduced costs for customers and further facilitated the region’s transition to cleaner energy resources.While we are proud of the role Pacific Power is playing to facilitate a cost-effective transition to a clean energy future, we know Portland wants to go further and faster. We believe we can help the city reach these goals through our nationally-recognized customer and community renewable energy programs that continue to grow and evolve.1 Total capacity includes 799 megawatts acquired through customer partnerships supported by purchase of 100% of renewable attributes generated by those resources, resources to be used for renewable portfolio standard compliance, and resources where a portion of the renewable attributes are sold to customers, third-parties, or are excluded from energy purchased.Currently, about 26 percent of Portland customers participate in our voluntary renewable option, Blue Sky. Since 2006, through our Blue Sky program we have supported 112 community renewable energy projects in Oregon, 17 in Portland.In 2019, more than 131,812 Blue Sky participants collectively supported 863,828,694 kilowatt-hours of renewable energy, reducing their combined carbon footprints by 390,416 tons of carbon dioxide.Furthermore, we have embarked on new programs to help customers reduce transportation emissions through a grant program to fund electric vehicle projects. In 2019 and 2020, we have awarded nearly \$1.5 million in grant funding to 49 electric vehicle projects in Oregon. That includes eight projects in Portland, including electric vehicle charging for low income housing residents. We know our customers support reducing carbon emissions and a modernization of the grid, but we also know they need us to remain affordable.Larger customers like the Portland Trail Blazers and Oregon Convention Center have used our Blue Sky Select program to meet their own renewable energy goals. We believe the Blue Sky Select model can be customized to help local governments like Portland meet their goals as well. While noting these achievements, it is important that the City’s renewable energy goals and climate policies recognize and value these leading voluntary contributions by our customers, and ensure that their contributions and investments are not overlooked or double-counted.We commend the City of Portland for their emphasis on equity for residents, especially those in frontline communities. We believe strongly that our service benefits all customers and we work hard every day to innovate while keeping our costs affordable. Our comments to the Resolution below focus on achieving that balance of climate progress and affordability for all Portlanders:Comment on Resolution #8: An internalized price on carbon may be a useful tool for planning and decision making for the City. However, if such a carbon fee or tax placed were to be placed on Portland citizens directly, that policy would be regressive and contribute to other affordability challenges in the City. A carbon tax could also lead to distortive outcomes if applied exclusively to services and businesses in Portland. Finally, such a fee or tax would be additive to the costs that will already be experienced by customers in the transition to a lower carbon, more renewable energy based electricity system. For those reasons, Pacific Power recommends changing the draft to: “Portland will involve youth in the development of a proposed climate test “ such as an internal carbon fee or an internal price on carbon”.Comment on Resolution #6: The term “Net-Zero Energy” may be misleading and provides an unclear application towards the reduction of fossil-fuel based energy. Pacific Power believes that “Net Zero Carbon,” as a measure of the environmental impact of the City’s built environment, is a clearer and more direct approach for emissions reduction. In particular, the addition of electric vehicle charging to commercial and residential buildings could increase overall electricity delivery and consumption on-site, but also achieve a cleaner transportation system as a result. The Resolution should recognize that increases in energy use can lead to decreases in emissions, which	PacifiCorp

The climate emergency declaration fails to address our city's most valuable asset and greatest contributor to fossil fuel emissions: the street network. People in a growing city have an immediate need for personal mobility, but for the past decade our bike plan has been left unfunded while the Bureau of Transportation has routinely compromised the design and maintenance of the bikeway network in favor of automobility and personal car storage. This failure to implement and maintain a connected and convenient low-stress bikeway network has led most new residents to choose cars for most trips while stifling the infill and density needed to meet our long-term planning goals.An urgent response to this emergency situation should include: * Immediate low-cost changes to reallocate redundant car lanes to complete a basic low-stress bikeway network which makes biking 1-3 mile trips an obvious and safe choice for people of all ages and abilities. * Subsidies for personal and shared bikes, trikes, e-bikes, scooters, and other light mobility solutions to enable car-free trips for all people and small cargo or child passengers citywide.	
This appears to do nothing. Declaring an emergency should mean actual action. Get some cars & trucks off the roads, potentially the highest-polluting ones. Make more space for buses to travel unimpeded by traffic. Urgency is a real thing	Eliot NA
Scott MacWilliamsMarch 14, 2020Dear Mayor Wheeler and City Council Members, Although Iâ€™m not a resident of Portland, I am a volunteer activist with Extinction Rebellion in Portland. I wholeheartedly support declaring a climate emergency and acting quickly & decisively to avert the worst catastrophic effects of climate change. XRPDX offers the following comments: The city is correct to directly engage frontline communities and youth in attempting to analyze and respond to the climate crisis. We applaud the ways in which the City's resolution recognizes the need to hear and follow the leadership of frontline communities and youth as we grapple with the climate crisis. In addition, other grassroots environmental and climate justice organizations as well as climate experts should be at the table and be part of the Decarbonization Pathways process. While the Cityâ€™s declaration recognizes an emergency and calls for immediate mobilization to deal with it, there is no timeline or detailed plan for that immediate mobilization. Extinction Rebellionâ€™s first two demands are 1) to tell the truth about the climate crisis we are in and propose measures that are aligned with the scientific reality and 2) get to net zero carbon emissions by 2025. The City of Portlandâ€™s emergency resolution does not meet either of these demands. The goal set in the emergency resolution for net-zero emissions is 2050. This is way too late. Climate scientists say we need to reach such a goal in the next decade and because we do not yet know the full impact of feedback loops, 2025 is in line with what the scientists are telling us needs to be done. We believe that the City is also moving toward Extinction Rebellionâ€™s 3rd demand, a Citizenâ€™s Assembly to propose action and oversee transition and 4th demand, to center the work on climate justice and assure that climate mitigation strategies create equity. However, again, the declaration is not specific enough. Points 3-7 in the declaration could be seen as building the kind of representative, justice-centered Citizenâ€™s Assembly XR envisions, but a timeline for the creation of the new governance structure and detail about how it would work are important. Our biggest criticism is that the declaration does not make it clear that we need to reduce carbon emissions by at least 10% each year, starting in 2020 if we are to have any impact on the crisis we face. To have any meaning beyond rhetoric, the declaration needs to have measurable goals set out for each of the next 10 years. We continue to call on the City to take bolder steps. An emergency means we canâ€™t continue with business as usual. For instance, in order to stop tar sands exports, the City could exercise its right to demand a Land Use Compatibility Statement before DEQ considers updated air quality permits for Zenith Energy or any fossil fuel infrastructure expansion. The City could use its powers creatively, such as by rezoning the Fossil Fuel HUB area for public safety. The City needs to use its power to pressure the state, businesses, Tri-Met, and other entities to take necessary and timely steps towards de-carbonization. When Tri-Met claims to be transitioning towards a net-zero carbon fleet while at the same time authorizing the purchase of up to 159 new diesel busses in the next five years (which will have lifespans of 12-20 years), the City needs to weigh in and say this is preposterous. A quick perusal of the current budget shows that less than 1/3 of 1% is spent on climate mitigation. We have not heard back from city staffers when we questioned this. We support development of a proposed climate test (declaration 8), but want to see that significant portions of the City budget are spent on the climate emergency. In summary, we believe the City is moving in the right direction, but not quickly enough to avert disaster. The steps listed in the draft emergency resolution are insufficient; there need to be far more creative solutions sooner to get us where we need to be to mitigate the worst effects of climate change. The longer we wait, the more drastic the steps we take will need to be. This could work against the climate justice concerns the City is raising. As bad as things are getting with the Covid-19 pandemic, climate collapse will make current events seem like a walk in the park. Imagine massive crop failures from drought, coastal cities around the world forced to relocate due to rising oceans, ever-increasing deadly storms & wildfiresâ€¸.We are, in fact, out of time to continue any form of â€˜business as usualâ€™. I strongly urge you to take action today that is far beyond the scope of anything that has been considered or offered to date. We need strong leadership, not fatal compromise. Your great-grandchildren will thank you. Sincerely,Scott A. MacWilliams	Extinction Rebellion PDX (XRPDX)
	St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church
I am in favor of the Carbon Dividend Act that leads to support for H.R. 763. It is very important, however, that the tax collected be quickly returned to the citizens because the resulting higher prices will have devastating effects on our vulnerable populations at the bottom of the economic ladder. D. Eddy	
Thank you so much for this movement towards just action on climate change! I am glad to see the inclusion of a price on carbon, and I urge the city to support a carbon fee and dividend at state and national levels, as in HR 763. Many actions are needed, and this would be one of the most effective.	
What are you thinking with this document? What a total bunch of crap.	
Hello, i would recommend we as Portland take an even tougher stance on climate. I would encourage using Plain, concrete language with specific actions the city will take, clear timelines, and frequent reporting to the public on the progress that is made.Funding dedicated for implementing the actions described in the resolution at a level necessary to meet strengthened targets. City funds should be invested in ways that benefit Portland residents, especially people of color and those with low-incomes, and not diverted for carbon offsets or other schemes...We need Interim emissions targets that start long before 2030. We recommend annual emissions reductions of 7.6% to align with what the UN says is needed to stay below 1.5 degrees of warming. Thanks!	
I strongly support the intentions of the Climate Emergency Declaration including the intent to involve youth, focus on local transportation and buildings, and the pressure on local energy suppliers to rapidly shift to renewable energy sources.It is important that local governments take a leadership role in the climate crisis, with a focus on social and environmental justice.Local levers are important, but our largest lever for addressing the climate crisis is via changes at the federal policy level - changes that will RAPIDLY reduce carbon emissions while in parallel encouraging longer term solutions such as natural land solutions, agricultural transitions and innovations across all business sectors.With this in mind, local governments can have strong influence on federal policy, and cities such as Portland are looked to as leaders, especially for our Oregon congressional delegation. I urge you to consider a statement of support for national carbon pricing, such as Citizens' Climate Lobby's Energy Innovation & Carbon Dividend Act (HR 763), now at 80 co-sponsors in the House of Representatives. This proposal would reduce U.S. carbon emissions by at least 40% in the first 12 years. At the same time, this proposal is supports a just transition by creating a carbon dividend that puts money directly into people's pockets every month to spend as they see fit, helping low and middle income Americans. For more information go to www.energyinnovationact.org"	

These are organizational comments approved by XR PDX's coordinating committee. You can respond to me if necessary at . Thanks much! Dear Mayor Wheeler and City Council Members,Extinction Rebellion supports declaring a climate emergency and acting quickly to avert the worst catastrophic effects of climate change. We offer the following comments:The city is correct to recognize and center frontline communities and youth in attempting to analyze and respond to the climate crisis. We applaud the ways in which the City's resolution recognizes the need to hear and follow the leadership of frontline communities and youth as we grapple with the climate crisis. In addition, other grassroots environmental and climate justice organizations as well as climate experts should be at the table and be part of the Decarbonization Pathways process. The declaration should also recognize workers and their organizations as importantparts of the frontiine communities. Many workers face direct impacts of climate change in their daily work. Labor groups also need to be part of the Decarbonization Pathways process.While the City's declaration recognizes an emergency and calls for immediate mobilization to deal with it, there is no timeline or detailed plan for that immediate mobilization. Extinction Rebellion's first two demands are 1] to tell the truth about the climate crisis we are in and propose measures that are aligned with the scientific reality and 2) get to net zero carbon emissions by 2025. The City of Portland's emergency resolution does not meet either of these demands. The goal set in the emergency resolution for net-zero emissions is 2050. This is way too late. Climate scientists say we need to reach such a goal in the next decade and because we do not yet know the full impact of feedback loops,2025 is in line with what the scientists are telling us needs td be done.We believe that the City is also moving toward Extinction Rebellion's 3rd demand, a Citizen's Assembly to propose action and oversee transition and 4th demand, to center the work on climate justice and assure that climate mitigation strategies create equity. However, again, the declaration is not specific enough. Points 3 -7 in the declaration could be seen as building the kind of representative, justice -centered Citizen's Assembly XR envisions, but a timeline for the creation of the new governance structure and detail about how it would work are important.Our biggest criticism is that the declaration does not make it clear that we need to reduce carbon emissions by at least 10% each year, starting in 2020 if we are to have any impact on the crisis we face. To have any meaning beyond rhetoric, the declaration needs to have measurable goals set out for each of the next 10 years.We continue to call on the City to take bolder steps. An emergency means we can't continue with business as usual. For instance, in order to stop tar sands exports, the City could exercise its right to demand a Land Use Compatibility Statement before DEQ considers updated air quality permits for Zenith Energy or any fossil fuel infrastructure expansion. The City could use its powers creatively, such as by rezoning the Fossil Fuel HUB area for public safety. The City needs to use its power to pressure the state, businesses, Tri-Met, and other entities to take necessary and timely steps towards de-carbonization. When Tri-Met claims to be transitioning towards a net-zero carbon fleet while at the same time authorizing the purchase of up to 159 new diesel busses in the next five years (which will have lifespans of 12- 20 years), the City needs to weigh in and say this is preposterous.A quick perusal of the current budget shows that less than 1/3 of l% is spent on climate mitigation. We have not heard back from city staffers when we questioned this. We support development of a proposed climate test (declaration B), but want to see that significant portions of the City budget are spent on the climate emergency.In summary, we believe the City is moving in the right direction, but not quickly enough to avert disaster. The steps listed in the draft emergency resolution are insufficient; there need to be far more creative solutions sooner to get us where we need to be to mitigate the worst effects of climate change. The longer we wait the more drastic the steps we take will need to be. This could work against the climate justice concerns the City is raising.	Extinction Rebellion PDX
1. Please continue to expand the network of MAX mass transit trains in the Portland Metro area to encourage Portland area residents to not use their cars and utilize public transportation. 2. Please partner with the city of Vancouver WA and other regional cities to expand the MAX mass transit and other means to reduce the traffic congestion, especially at rush hour, that leads to high local emissions. 3. Please include support in your Climate Emergency Declaration for national carbon pricing, such as Citizens' Climate Lobby's Energy Innovation & Carbon Dividend Act (HR 763), now at 80 co-sponsors in the House of Representatives. This proposal would reduce U.S. carbon emissions by at least 40% in the first 12 years. At the same time, this proposal is environmentally just by creating a carbon dividend puts money directly into people's pockets every month to spend as they see fit, helping low and middle income Americans.For more information go to www.energyinnovationact.org Thank you so much for allowing me to submit these comments and taking them under full consideration.	Climate Reality Portland Chapter & Citizens' Climate Lobby Portland Chapter
I support Portland’s proposed Emergency Climate Declaration. I support the new target of achieving at least a 50% reduction in carbon emissions below 1990 levels by 2030 and net zero carbon emissions before 2050. That said, I shall enumerate several specific comments:The declaration should include restating that the Climate Action Plan (CAP) of 2015 will be updated in 2020, then every 5 years. The revised plan needs to include quantified metrics for goals.The declaration should state that a Progress on the Climate Action goals of the City will be released by the end of April 2020 (as mentioned by Alisa Kane, Climate Action Manager) with quantified progress. There has been no Progress Report since 2017, on 2016 data, which is woefully inadequate.The declaration, and the subsequent CAP2020, should state that annual Progress Reports will be released to the public, with quantified measurements of progress.The declaration should reference the CAP2020 in addressing how the 100% renewable electrical energy goal will be achieved by 2030, and annual adjustments in mechanisms/ funding if progress toward that goal is insufficient.The 100% Renewable Energy goal does not include natural gas. The declaration should state that the CAP2020 will address how to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions from NW Natural, initially addressing detection and fixing any methane leaks, then reducing emissions overall from this source, to meet the 2050 goal of Net zero emissions.The declaration should commit to free transit in Portland to address transportation emissions, and the CAP2020 should address mechanisms and funding to achieve this goal.The declaration should include a goal to increase the City tree canopy, especially in frontline communities. The CAP update should include quantifiable goals and funding to achieve these goals.The City has existing goals of meeting 100% of community-wide energy needs with renewable energy by 2050 and 100% renewable electricity before 2035. The declaration should direct the CAP2020 to address technical and funding mechanisms to reach these goals, to be implemented by the Mayor and City Council, and as appropriate in coordination with the Multnomah County, TriMet, Metro, and the State of Oregon. On our current trajectory we will not meet these goals.	
The draft Climate Emergency Declaration is an admirable starting place for the city to reduce carbon emissions in a just manner. I support that the focus is on justice based solutions. In light of the gravity of our situation , I feel strongly that the final declaration must include:-specific language describing actions the city will take, timelines, frequent reporting on progress and allocated funds for associated expenses.-consider creating an expanded, fareless public transportation system.-increase urban trees with a focus on neighborhoods with poor tree canopies.-phase out the use of fracked gas-interim emissions targets in advance of 2030. Annual emmissions reduction by 7.6% In keeping with UN statement of what's necessary to keep degrees of warming under 1.5.This issue holds the highest priority for me. Thank you for starting on this important work. I urge you to put teeth in the declaration so our best intentions won't be squandered.	

<p>Suggestions/Comments for Climate Emergency Resolution:1. What is true purpose of resolution? If this is a vision for the process to address the climate crisis, it need not be a separate document from the Climate Action Plan update. Need to clarify who is in charge- decision makers- and how city bureaus plan to work together to meet/implement the goals? 2. The resolution is only effective if it is binding and has quarterly public forums to update the progress of concrete measurable yearly goals. Ordinances take time- need to add measurements, deadlines and reporting. 3. Goals for 2050 are weak. We need to have 10% annual emissions reductions to address the climate emergency. Anything less than that is irresponsible. 4. No mention anywhere about drawdown of fossil fuels from CEI Hub. City must take bold steps to rezone and decarbonize. 5. Climate test- this must clearly state that the city will consider all climate impacts when making decisions and creating/implementing policy- therefore must include all permitting for fossil fuels in CEI Hub. Example: Land Use Compatibility Statement and Title V Air Quality Permit. City must stop Zenith Energy from renewing outdated permit. 6. JOBS- workers need to be first in line to get training and be cared for by the city when they lose jobs in fossil fuels as we transition to clean energy. Need more emphasis on labor- community and work place protections.7. City should be working closely with other cities to think outside of the box, be creative and actively research innovations so that we can lead. Example: Car free downtown. Rezone Industrial Sanctuary for open space, housing. Drastically limit night lighting of buildings downtown. Moratorium on cutting of urban trees. No “natural gas hook ups for new development- must draw down, not build more fossil fuel infrastructure. 8. Process needs to be clarified in declaration for how to involve impacted communities- ongoing. In the first paragraph- add: All policies, regulations and programs will be developed, implemented and assessed with an equity lens.9. Need to add in WHERE AS section: Natural Gas/methane is not a bridge fuel and later in Be It RESOLVED- add a section that clearly states that Natural gas/methane is NOT a solution and no future for gas in our city.10. In the Be It RESOLVED section 2: Portland INSISTS (not asks) businesses... etc. We need everyone to be held accountable to tackle this existential threat! Add community led plan for transition of critical energy hub... some sort of people’s assembly is necessary. 11. Youth led summit: how exactly will city reach out to youth? What is the goal of this summit- youth don’t want to be “used”they want a meaningful seat at the table when it comes to advising the city on the climate crisis. Timeline for planning this summit? Planning needs to begin now. Students need to be contacted, paid stipends and get school credit for planning and attending the summit. 12. In section Be It FURTHER RESOLVED section 8: involve youth and frontline communities in the development of a proposed climate test.... to ensure City bureaus are making informed decisions based on most recent available climate science (not climate-friendly).Also add: “infrastructure”after major capital investments...13. In Be It FURTHER RESOLVED sections 12 and 13: change the word “consumption”to “production and use” This makes it clear that reducing fossil fuels does not solely fall on the shoulders of consumers.14. In Be IT FURTHER RESOLVED section 16: What does “renewable”mean??? It cannot mean “renewable natural gas”because science clearly shows that methane in any form is not a solution to the climate crisis nor a bridge fuel. We cannot allow for expansion of gas infrastructure in any form.15. No where in resolution do we address forest sequestration, function of wetland, soil and natural systems at all. Urban trees??? We have yet to address urgent need to protect trees in the city. The options are endless as to what city could do with regards to supporting small farms with regenerative agriculture for food purchased in public schools and all city events, healthy forest practices in wood purchased for building/development in city, restoring and protecting existing wetlands, restoration and protection of riparian zones on Willamette River...</p>	
<p>I greatly appreciate that the City of Portland is issuing a climate emergency declaration and is taking steps to address the climate crisis. As a part of this declaration, I believe it is important to include a statement that the City will support carbon pricing at the state and federal level. A price on carbon is essential to transitioning our city, state, and country off fossil fuels as the price of goods then accurately reflects the carbon intensity of those goods, which they do not now. Also, over 3,000 leading economists and 3 former US Secretaries of the Treasury support a price on carbon. Please consider this. It's a very important part of the equation.</p>	
<p>The City of Portland Draft Climate Emergency Declaration should contain a clear definition of climate justice at the outset to properly frame what has created this crisis and to lay out a vision for creating justice-based solutions.-Plain, concrete language with specific actions the city will take, clear timelines, and frequent reporting to the public on the progress that is made.-Funding dedicated for implementing the actions described in the resolution at a level necessary to meet the city’s targets. --City funds should be invested in ways that benefit Portland residents, especially people of color and those with low-incomes, and not diverted for carbon offsets or other schemes.-Expanding public transportation and making transit fareless and accessible to all residents should be a priority.-Commitments/incentives to increase the urban tree canopy, achieve tree equity in the city, and make improvements to the tree code.-We need a hard timeline to ween off/phase out use of dependence upon NW Natural’s fracked gas.- Establish Interim emissions targets that start long before 2030. Appropriate to target annual emissions reductions of 7.6% to align with what the UN says is needed to stay below 1.5 degrees of warming.</p>	<p>St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal</p>
<p>I am happy to see that the city recognizes the existential need to address climate change, and that there are serious plans to declare a Climate Emergency, and, hopefully, to engage in a meaningful update and implementation of the city’s Climate Action Plan.However, under these circumstances, it is very troubling that the invitation to comment on the draft Climate Emergency Declaration begins with a blatantly misleading statement “ asserting that the CED “recognizes the leadership of frontline communities who bear the worst burden of climate change”On the contrary, the draft Climate Emergency Declaration almost completely ignores the largest frontline community affected by climate change and climate change policies (or lack of climate change policies) “ workers! Aside from a vague reference to workers in the first “Whereas” clause, the current draft wholly ignores workers and the organizations that they have chosen to represent them (labor unions). While the groups addressed in clauses B-Q and 1-20 are overwhelmingly working people, the current draft does not even hint at the workplace safety and health issues that these and other workers face every hour of every day, and which will continue to worsen according to all climate predictions. These are the people who ensure that we have clean water to drink, safe roads and public transit, health care, emergency services, mail and package delivery, child care, education, groceries, and so much more.There is no excuse for not explicitly including workers with at least equivalently robust concern in both the Whereas and Resolved clauses of the CED. This must be rectified if the CED is going to honestly and meaningfully represent the climate emergency; this must be rectified if the CED is going to influence the update to the Climate Action Plan; and this must be rectified because the city must be as inclusive in practice as its rhetoric claims.At a minimum, the city’s Climate Emergency Declaration should be re-drafted to include explicit provisions for each of the three below (all of which are missing from the current draft): “ Labor at the table: Workers and their representative organizations must be at the table in shaping all standards, protections, strategies and ordinances related to such workers;” Just Transition for Workers: Just transition goals and policies must include real protections of workplace rights, job transition, and living wages and benefits for workers in energy-related industries and others who may lose their jobs due to city climate policy.” Protect Workers from Impacts of Climate Change: Climate goals (as in the Climate Emergency Declaration) and policies (as in the update to the Climate Action Plan) must explicitly assure meaningful and enforceable laws and regulations needed to establish and maintain climate safe work environments (eg: air quality; workplace heat limits; exposure to toxins; safety equipment; rest periods; sick days)</p>	
<p>In order to be credible, the Climate Emergency Declaration must demonstrate a level of action proportional to the magnitude of the challenge. The goals for carbon reduction by 2030 and 2050 are far too modest. The goal should be at least a 10% reduction in carbon emissions per year for the next 10 years. The city should develop a concrete action plan to reach these reduction goals with adequate resources and funding. Additionally, the city should hear updates more than once a year on its progress toward those goals as well as youth and frontline community feedback on the progress. The declaration also should ensure that the City of Portland uses every available avenue to address the emergency, including: (1) demanding a Land Use Compatibility Statement (LUCS) before the Department of Environmental Quality issues any air quality permits on fossil fuel infrastructure, (2) working with TriMet to accelerate the transition to an electric fleet, and (3) committing to implement a comprehensive climate test for city decisions.</p>	
<p>I would love to see included a call for carbon pricing at the state and national level. I think this will be an integral move for the future of our climate.Thank you for this important work!</p>	<p>Portland State University</p>

Carbon reduction is immensely important to the future of Portland and the world as we know it. Carbon tax should be included in this declaration as it yields results.	
“As a relatively new resident to Portland, my family and I applaud and support this declaration. I would like to see our efforts amplified by including an explicit call for carbon pricing at the state and national levels, along with advocating for a return of the collected revenues to households via monthly dividends. Thank you for taking the time to read and consider my comment.”	Many
Appreciate the efforts! This is the most concerning issue of our time. I think focusing on climate justice, transportation and energy efficiency of buildings will help reach a lot of goals in an equitable way. Would appreciate more concrete solutions, but this may come in the near future. In these solutions needs to be carbon pricing, best if done at a national level, but at least at a state level. If done at a state level, other states may follow suit. Pricing carbon and then giving the collected money back in the form of an equal dividend would help mitigate the costs for people during the transition. Thank you.	
Dear City Commissions,I would like you to consider my input as you are drafting the Emergency Declaration for our wonderful city.Interim emissions targets that start long before 2030. I recommend annual emisions reductions of 7.6%to align with what the UN says is needed to stay below 1.5degrees of warming.A timeline for phasing out NW Natural's fracked gas. Commitments to increase the urban tree canopy, acheive tree equity in the city and make improvements to the tree code.Respectfully,Marianne Mauldin	
Dear, commissioners,I would like to comment on The Draft Climate Emergency Declaration: A timeline for phasing out NW Naturals fracked gas. Plain concrete language with specific actions the city will take, clear timelines, and frequent reporting to the public on the progress that is made.	
This seems like an early draft of, what could be, a great Declaration. If you don't have enough folks available, i'd be happy to help with the next revision. It should be concise & specific, rendering it twice as strong and half as long. With Portland's climate leadership legacy, language & targets should be at least as potent as the international template found at https://www.theclimatemobilization.org/climate-emergency-resolution Regarding resolutions 4-6: No new governance structure is required. It is the Mayor and Bureau Directors' responsibility to lead, in coordination with Multnomah County. The Mayor should, however, establish an oversight body, comprised of front-line communities, youth, and subject area experts to advise and hold the City/County accountable for meeting interim targets and assure full implementation of the 9 Equity Considerations from the Climate Action through Equity report. https://beta.portland.gov/sites/default/files/2019-07/cap-equity-case-study-web29jul.pdf This oversight committee would essentially take the place of the Sustainability Commission, which hasn't met for 11 years. Call it "The Climate Commission?" (Would low-income members who meet an income test be paid for their time/transportation/childcare? Could these equity & inclusion practices be implemented for all commissions that advise bureaus on climate-related issues so PDX could boost BIPOC participation in governance?) It seems that the main point of this Declaration is to steer the CAP update and that's why it contains so many misc. directives and misses others (like the importance of tree canopy). Ex: Resolutions 9-16 & 19 are elements that someone wants to be sure are included in the Climate Action Plan update. 9-11 are meant to integrate CAP planning with Anti-Displacement planning. 7-8 engage youth beyond those involved in "The Climate Commission." #18 & 20 are the two resolutions that contain solid targets & City accountability. We need more of that. Thanks for your work. Keep on going; you're not there quite yet. Let me know if you need help. Noelle	Families for a Livable Climate
Submittal from Engineers for a Sustainable FutureVersion of the Declaration reviewed can be found here: https://beta.portland.gov/sites/default/files/2020-02/public-comment-draft-climate-emergency-resolution-finalv2.pdf SummaryBest balance of climate action and frontline vulnerabilities we have seen. Has excellent attention to carbon fuels and transportation, summarized here. Whereas ’sH. Equitable transition from fossil fuelsI. Just transition to a low-carbon futureJ. Risks involving air quality and public healthM. Emissions reductions stagnate for 26 yearsN. Transportation emissions increasing for the last 5 yearsDeclarations8. Climate Test for purchases of fuel and vehicles9. City Bureaus to set policies for carbon reduction11. Need low-carbon transportation options12. Prevent expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure, fossil fuel consumption13. Manage decline in fossil fuel consumption 14. Invest to reduce carbon emissions from transportation, with path to reach net zero carbon (emissions) by 205016. Develop programs to accelerate the transition to clean renewable transportation fuels18. Adopt a target for 50% reduction in carbon emissions in 1990 by 2030 to achieve net zero emissions by 2050Comments about wording.“Fossil”There is plenty of carbon in non-fossil fuels: biodiesel, renewable natural gas (RNG), biogas. To cut carbon emissions to 50% by 2030, exclude these fuels by substituting “carbon”for “fossil”in all places. Otherwise they escape the climate test.“Renewable”The US DOE defines “renewable”to include carbon fuels like biogas, RNG and biodiesel. Replace “renewable”with “zero carbon”otherwise they escape the climate test.These minor changes actually tie off serious loopholes that if left untended will open the door to more grief than Portland deserves.Submitted by: Tracy Farwell, ESF Transportation Action	Engineers for a Sustainable Future
Thank you for prioritizing climate.The Emergency Declaration should explicitly state support for federal carbon pricing that includes a dividend to protect low income families and a border adjustment to protect U.S. businesses.	Portland Public Schools
Thank you for your leadership in regards to climate adaptation and mitigation and the need to recognize the disproportional impacts of no action on our vulnerable populations. The Emergency Climate Declaration should explicitly acknowledge the national and global context of the climate change problem by adding to its WHEREAS statements that the City is part of a global community, collectively responsible for the emissions crisis. That, while the City's actions are valuable for demonstrating what is possible at the local level, the City can not act alone and expect global results, and therefore expects action at larger scales such as the state, federal, international, and corporate level. Along these lines, I'd like to see a BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED statement that says the City will actively lobby for and support state, federal and corporate action on climate change. This statement could say something to the effect of "The City of Portland calls for and will endorse state, federal, or corporate action that aggressively meets emissions targets while protecting the most vulnerable among us"	
Thank you for the chance to comment on the Draft Climate Emergency Declaration. Please consider the following comments:1.The resolution should better acknowledge that the city's contribution to climate change comes not just from greenhouse gases generated here but also from greenhouses gases generated throughout the world to satisfy market demand for the way we live here.2. Like so many "climate action" plans, this one fails to acknowledge the enormous potential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions worldwide by changing what we eat here. Reducing consumption of food from animals (primarily meat and dairy) will accomplish as much as the most ambitious driving-reduction and fuel-efficiency programs. A quick internet search for something like "greenhouse gas emissions animal agriculture" will bear this out. See, e.g., https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-019-02409-7 .3. Please make sure statements in the resolution are factually accurate and not just politically popular. For example, I know it's popular to discourage displacement, and there may be very good reasons for that, but is it really a significant driver of climate change? Presumably someone will live in the place from which another was displaced (perhaps many more if a single-family house is replaced with an apartment building or condos). If we want the world to pay attention to facts and science, our solutions need to do the same thing, regardless of what we might want to believe and/or what is politically fashionable.Thank you for considering my comments.	
While there is a lot to like in the draft resolution, there is a gaping hole: Agricultural practices.Formal "agriculture" is not a major part of the life of Portland, yet there is a lot of it happening in the city limits, parks, athletic fields and gardens being the most obvious.Agricultural practices, at all levels, are a significant contributor to climate change, from carbon release and emissions to damage to the chain of life by poisons, chemicals, and fertilizers.Yet only passing mention is addressed in the draft declaration.I ask that you directly call out and address agricultural practices in the city, including adopting practices by the Parks Department and Portland Public Schools to those that are sustainable, and ceasing the use of human-made substances for fertilization and pest control.I also ask that you include in education programs sustainable practices for gardening, landscape installation and maintenance, farming, etc., and, at all levels of education, the key role of soil macro- and microbiology in carbon mediation, capture, and retention.You might also think about banning the sale, use, and possession of glyphosate and related materials, and the sale, use, and possession of genetically modified seeds, plants, and agricultural materials. (I understand this is more implementation than declaration, but the foundation for such changes should be in the declaration.)Thank you.	none

<p>The goals of the proposed Portland City Climate Emergency Declaration are goals that our community needs to meet in the next few years. It is essential that these goals focus on climate justice and frontline communities. Thank you for recognizing that. These goals can only be reached if right from the beginning, in the body of the declaration there are specific dated actions and timelines and dedicated budgets. A Declaration without actions, timelines and budget is just words. Also I noticed that there is no mention of our local gas company, NWNNG. I know while that company has a lot of PR that talks about their role in providing clean energy, fracked gas is a non renewable fossil fuel and the City of Portland needs to ensure that there is no new infrastructure and a timeline for phasing out NWNNG's fracked gas. Portland needs to greatly reduced the fossil fuel used by our individual cars. Therefore this declaration needs a clear plan for expanded, free, accessible public transportation. I believe that the Portland City Council and the staff who have worked on this declaration are dedicated to the goals of climate justice and a healthy planet. I also know that those goals will not be reached without bold, detailed, sometimes painful action from all of us. Sincerely, Catherine Bax</p>	St Andrew's Catholic Church
<p>I know that Portland City Council believes that we are in the midst of a Climate Emergency, threatening our planet and all of human kind. To address this, there must be clear and measurable goals, with timelines and deliverables. 2050 is too late. These actions must be supported by adequate funding, specifically dedicated to achieving these goals. These goals and actions must be justice based and beneficial to vulnerable communities who are most impacted by climate change. Specifically, there must be annual emissions reductions of at least 7.6%, starting now, to meet the UN goal of <1.5 degrees of warming. The following are important areas to address specifically in the Climate Emergency Declaration:â€¢ Expanded public transportation that uses renewable energy not fossil fuels and is free and accessible to all residents. â€¢ Increase our urban canopy to sequester carbon, not only residential but commercial.â€¢ Address the issue of both safety and emissions of the Fossil Fuel Energy Hub, including demanding that the DEQ require a new Land Use Compatibility Statement before issuing any new Air Quality permits.â€¢ Develop a plan to phase out â€œnaturalâ€ gas, i.e. fracked gas that is at least as damaging as coal.â€¢ Work with the Public Utility Commission and the Citizenâ€™s Utility Board to assure that PGE and Pacific Power transition to renewables before 2035. Thank you for considering my comments. Ann</p>	Oregon Physicians For Social Responsibility
<p>Thank you for showing leadership on Climate Change! I applaud Portlandâ€™s efforts here, and think they should also include some acknowledgement of the global nature of the problem and the need for solutions that go beyond the Cityâ€™s limits. I acknowledge the difficulty in deciding which such efforts are sufficiently consistent with the principles outlined in the Declaration to warrant the Cityâ€™s endorsement. As a starting point, Iâ€™d suggest including the following components: WHEREAS, Earth's climate is impacted by emissions from countries, companies, communities and people around the globe, such that Portland's climate mitigation actions must be complemented by action at the state, national, and global scale; andâ€¢ and under the declaration, perhaps following item 3, 16, or 19: BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Portland will endorse climate change mitigation efforts at the state, national, and global scale, prioritizing those that are consistent with the principles outlined in this resolution while also acknowledging the urgent need for action; and</p>	
<p>Thank you for your leadership. Support of state and national and international solutions should be integral to your efforts. In particular, a carbon fee and dividend (HR 763) would be consistent with and complementary to your stated intent to cushion frontline communities.</p>	
<p>I applaud the City of Portland's leadership in responding to climate change. I support the goals stated in the Draft Climate Emergency Declaration to reach net-zero carbon emissions before 2050, and to consider and protect the most vulnerable populations from negative impacts of policies enacted to move the city to net-zero carbon emissions. If the City reaches this admirable goal by 2050, it will have done its part to limit climate change. However, climate change may still continue with its many negative effects. I strongly encourage you to add an item to the resolution stating the City will actively lobby the State and particularly the Federal governments to also enact policies that dramatically reduce carbon emissions. Reducing US emissions, the largest in the world, is critical to limiting climate change. Lobbying State and Federal governments is a way to leverage your commitments and actions to have a larger impact.</p>	
<p>I was pleased to see our Mayor make doing something about the climate crisis a priority for the city. Normally a crisis is a time for calling together all the people of a community to come together and unite in a common cause that will affect all of us to one degree or another. Yes, the poor, the homeless and people living in traditionally under-served neighborhoods should be involved in decisions about how we go about reducing emissions and mitigating climate effects. However it was intended, the language of this draft declaration makes it seem as if the city government's over-riding concern is to use the climate crisis as an opportunity to win favor with traditionally disadvantaged groups. Instead of calling on all Portlanders to rally to address a common threat, the declaration as now written states that only certain groups favored by the city government will be allowed to lead this effort. While perhaps unintentional, the message seems to be that homeowners, the middle class and members of the majority population need to step back, keep out of the way and simply pay for whatever steps the city and the traditionally disadvantaged and discriminated groups it wishes to empower decide. That seems undemocratic. The city should instead be using inclusive language to ensure that all residents are able to feel welcome in what will of necessity have to be a universal effort. If the intent of the declaration's language was to signal that groups traditionally discriminated against in Oregon will be full partners in this effort and not left behind, that every effort will be made to ensure they help set priorities and develop action plans, and that they will also be able to reap any economic benefits coming from the transition to clean fuels, etc. That is great and appropriate and should be included in the declaration. But the way it currently reads it will leave many people in the city's middle strata wondering if their goodwill towards this effort is being taken for granted. Finally, the declaration seems almost entirely focused on rapidly reducing the greenhouse emissions produced by the city and its residents. Fair enough and an important goal. But equally and perhaps even more important to people who have to live here is what the city will do to mitigate the inevitable impacts from the global warming we know is coming even if we are able to bring reductions in the city's emissions to zero. This declaration needs to speak to the elderly, low-income, those with health conditions and the homeless more forthrightly about how climate mitigation in the neighborhoods where they live will be prioritized by the city so they don't suffer or die in future heat waves, floods, etc. Known mitigation strategies for buffering urban heat island effects, especially preserving large trees and maximizing tree canopy, seem to get short shrift in this declaration. Making those more prominent will strengthen this declaration and broaden its appeal. Again, I want to thank the Mayor for listening to residents who want to see action on climate change without waiting for an antagonistic White House to wake up to this threat.</p>	
<p>we believe the Climate Emergency Declaration should include: A clear definition of climate justice at the outset to properly frame what has created this crisis and to lay out a vision for creating justice-based solutions. Plain, concrete language with specific actions the city will take, clear timelines, and frequent reporting to the public on the progress that is made. Funding dedicated for implementing the actions described in the resolution at a level necessary to meet the cityâ€™s targets. City funds should be invested in ways that benefit Portland residents, especially people of color and those with low-incomes, and not diverted for carbon offsets or other schemes. A focus on greatly expanding public transportation and making transit fareless and accessible to all residents. Commitments to increase the urban tree canopy, achieve tree equity in the city, and make improvements to the tree code. A timeline for phasing out NW Naturalâ€™s fracked gas. Interim emissions targets that start long before 2030. We recommend annual emissions reductions of 7.6% to align with what the UN says is needed to stay below 1.5 degrees of warming.</p>	350PDX
<p>I read the Public Comment DRAFT â€œ Portland Climate Emergency Declaration Resolution. It has a lot of good, albeit general, ideas. I would add to work with similar state and federal initiatives, as well as local (trimet, county, etc.) I look forward to seeing the ideas acted upon.</p>	
<p>Please adopt this emergency declaration. It is past time to take these measures. Thank you for looking forward and doing the right thing on behalf of our greater community.</p>	
<p>Please include support for a national price on carbon. We canâ€™t leave fossil fuel companies off the hook. They need to pay the true cost of these emissions.</p>	
<p>I applaud and support this declaration. I would like to see our efforts amplified by including a call for carbon pricing at the state and national level. Thank you</p>	

Hi thank you so much for taking on this critical issue to our City and Planet! Please, please, please include actions that endorse a national solution to this enormous challenge. We can't do this alone. HR 763 is a bi-partisan measure that takes a laser focused approach at reducing emissions and creating 2.1 million jobs at the same time. 101 cities and counties large and small cities (including San Francisco) have endorsed this proposal. See link for list: https://energyinnovationact.org/all-supporters/?opentype=local-governments Thank you very much for considering my input. Regards.	
I think Portland climate policy should include:Climate Emergency Declaration should include:- A clear definition of climate justice at the outset to properly frame what has created this crisis and to lay out a vision for creating justice-based solutions.Plain, concrete language with specific actions the city will take, clear timelines, and frequent reporting to the public on the progress that is made.Funding dedicated for implementing the actions described in the resolution at a level necessary to meet the city’s targets. City funds should be invested in ways that benefit Portland residents, especially people of color and those with low-incomes, and not diverted for carbon offsets or other schemes.- A focus on greatly expanding public transportation and making transit fareless and accessible to all residents.- Commitments to increase the urban tree canopy, achieve tree equity in the city, and make improvements to the tree code.- A timeline for phasing out NW Natural’s fracked gas.Interim emissions targets that start long before 2030. We recommend annual emissions reductions of 7.6% to align with what the UN says is needed to stay below 1.5 degrees of warming.	
The resolution should state that the City Of Portland will support carbon pricing at the state and federal level.	
It's so encouraging to see the Mayor taking the climate crisis seriously. Hooray! One caveat: Regarding the goals -"new target of achieving at least a 50% reduction in carbon emissions below 1990 levels by 2030 and net- zero carbon emissions before 2050" - according to everything I have read recently, the scientists are telling us we don't have 30 years. More likely 10 or less. In this case isn't it better to aim high with the possibility of missing,rather than aiming low because it sounds easier? Thanks	
Mayor Wheeler--Last November the UN Environmental Program Annual Emissions Report stated that we need to cut emissions by 7.6% per year from 2020 to 2030 to avoid climate chaos. The draft Emergency Declaration is woefully inadequate in light of this reality. The City's goal of Net Zero emissions and 100% renewable energy by 2050 is far too little, far too late. The City must take bold, specific, concrete actions to reduce our emissions. These steps must start now. The City's and the nation's response to the ongoing COVID 19 situation establishes that bold, effective action is possible at both the City and the national level. There is no time for delay. Please modify the Declaration to take strong, real steps to reduce carbon emissions immediately and continuing for the next 10 years. Or more.Sincerely,David A. Snyder	Portland Extinction Rebellion
all good and important ideas	
The Draft Climate Emergency Declaration is a step in the right direction, and is aligned with climate justice in Portland. I believe the Draft needs language concerning the expansion of public transportation- buses, streetcars, MAX lines, and bike lanes- as well as affordability measures for public transport. Often, the people who rely on public transportation the most can least afford it. Students, underemployed or unemployed, homeless folks, and others are all disproportionately burdened with fares for public transport. The City of Portland spends more money on enforcing fares than it actually loses due to skipped fares. If we are to advance climate justice, we must examine the role transportation plays in climate. I believe transit should be fareless and should be accessible to all people.	350PDX
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This is a good draft and a significant improvement to Portland's current climate plan. However, additional improvements should still be made. Some recommended changes: - Declaration #2 - Please add Portland's strong neighborhood associations to the list of entities that are needed to rise to the occasion. Those associations can be localized centers of shared knowledge to help their residents find cost-effective ways of reducing their own carbon footprint. - Declaration #16 - This declaration is missing a target date for Portland and Trimet to end all purchases of traditional diesel vehicles, no later than 2021. TriMet is still overwhelmingly purchasing diesel buses, which will be in operation for more than a decade.- Declaration #18 - This declaration is missing interim carbon emissions reduction targets prior to 2030 (which is too long to wait for an initial target). There should be strong reduction targets for 2023 and 2027 (for example).- Declaration #19 - This declaration is missing a call on NW Natural. NW Natural should be called upon to completely eliminate the use of fracked gas by 2030.- Declaration #20 - This declaration should be changed to be an annual update by BPS to the Council and it should specifically be stated that it is a public report. - A declaration is missing on budget. While an annual spend on climate by the city cannot be predicted, the city can and should resolve to be transparent on what and why we're going to spend on climate in each upcoming budget and what we've really spent on climate in each past budget.- A declaration is missing on our collective tree canopy. We need to prioritize revitalization of our canopy in front-line communities and we need to set a specific goal for increasing our total canopy.Thanks.Daniel D. Frye, PhDPortland, Oregon	OLCV Metro Climate Action Team

Please accept these comments from the River and Environmental Team at BPS. If you would prefer a word version or if you have questions, please contact Mindy Brooks or Sallie Edmunds (team manager). It is very important that we bolster the work done at BPS, BES and Parks with regards to protecting existing natural resources and mitigating risks such as flooding, landslide or extreme heat. (new) WHEREAS, threatened and endangered aquatic species rely on cool in-water river and stream temperatures. Hotter summers and changes in snowpack will increase river and stream temperatures and further jeopardize species like Pacific Lamprey, salmon, and steelhead, species that are culturally significant to native people and keystone species for the greater Pacific Northwest ecosystem. (new) WHEREAS, ?extreme heat events cause more deaths in the US annually than all other weather events (see footnote for citations) and natural hazards combined and hotter summers in Portland will have a direct impact on community health, particularly in frontline communities; and (new) WHEREAS, warmer, wetter winters will increase the risk of localized flooding and landslides having a direct impact on private property and public infrastructure and frontline communities are disproportionately at risk from these natural hazards; and (new) WHEREAS, changes to the length of the summer season is having a direct and immediate impact on city tree canopy by causing stress to species like Western Red Cedar. Large trees provide functions including rainwater capture, groundwater uptake, soil stabilization, air temperature moderation and wildlife habitat and those functions will become limited as trees die from climate change induced disease; and (new) WHEREAS, sensitive wildlife species, such as Red Legged Frog and Streaked Horned Lark, depend on habitats that are at risk from climate change including wetlands, bottomland hardwood forests and grasslands; and (edited existing) WHEREAS, protecting, restoring and managing our natural resources, including rivers, streams, wetlands, flood areas, trees and unique habitats builds resilience to the impacts of climate change, protects private property and public infrastructure, protects public health, provides benefits to mental health, and supports biodiversity and the intrinsic value of natural ecosystems; and (Note â€” there are no be it further resolved related to natural resources and there should be to support the work being done by BPS, BES and Parks) (new) BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability is directed to work collaboratively with Bureau of Environmental Services, Portland Parks and Recreation, as well as other City bureaus, Metro and state and federal agencies to protect and restore rivers, streams, wetlands, flood areas, trees and unique habitats to protect property, public infrastructure and health, support recovery of threatened and endangered species, and maintain and increase biodiversity within Portland and the region; and Sources:Luber G, McGeehin M.?Climate change and extreme heat events.?Am J Prev Med?2008;35(5):429â€”35. 10.1016/j.amepre.2008.08.021Shandas, V., Volkel, J., Haggerty, B. Developing High-Resolution Descriptions of Urban Heat Islands: A Public Health Imperative. Prev Chronic Dis. 2016; 13: E129. Published online 2016 Sep 15.?doi:?10.5888/pcd13.160099	Bureau of Planning and Sustainability
Wonderful start! But it seems awfully long on vague aspirations and short on detail and specificity. And when it does get specific (eg. setting 2050 as the goal for carbon neutrality) it seems to suggest "business as usual" will get us out of this mess. We need more urgent goals and clear steps to back them up. For example, 10% reduction in carbon emissions each year, backed by funds dedicated to getting there.	
It's a crisis. We need to act fast and deep and make forever changes.Workers are suffering from climate driven heat and smoke. Weather is changing diseases are changing species are disappearing. The changes we make must improve the lives of affected workers if we want their support for the changes. The city needs to educate the people about the climate and the necessity of change.	Climate Jobs PDX
A climate declaration must provide a plan for phasing in REQUIRED solar panels on rooftops (we have already squandered too much time on this)ANDMust provide a plan for PHASING OUT FRACKED GAS from NW Natural, even if it means making angry big campaign donors.	
The gist of the plan looks good. Some vagueness, but it is a draft after all. I appreciate the focus on equity and climate justice. According to everything I've read from IPCC, the time line is too slow. We need to act more rapidly.In addition, I would like to see some language about protecting the tree canopy and tree equity. Tear-downs often completely raze a lot to erect a McMansion. So yes, your mention about building codes is apt. Portland's present residential building codes seem to favor large expensive houses heated by NW Natural Gas. This is out model and needs to change. Maybe Portland could follow the city of Berkeley and prohibit gas hook-ups to new construction. That would tie in to needing well insulated buildings. Since transportation is also a large carbon generator, I think it is critical to make reliable, affordable (free?) public transportation available that even the rich will use (maybe because of congestion pricing downtown?). Cars have ruled the roost for 80 years now, and infrastructure for cars should be the last priority. That is it for now. Thank you for all your hard work.	
Thank you for your leadership in drafting a climate emergency declaration for the city of Portland. It's critical our city do its part to help reduce the dangers and impact of climate change on behalf of the planet and our more vulnerable citizens.I'm in total agreement with 350PDX that bold, measurable action with accountability and regular reporting to citizens is needed. Their recommendations include the following: - A clear definition of climate justice at the outset to properly frame what has created this crisis and to lay out a vision for creating justice-based solutions.- Plain, concrete language with specific actions the city will take, clear timelines, and frequent reporting to the public on the progress that is made.- Funding dedicated for implementing the actions described in the resolution at a level necessary to meet the cityâ€™s targets. City funds should be invested in ways that benefit Portland residents, especially people of color and those with low-incomes, and not diverted for carbon offsets or other schemes.- A focus on greatly expanding public transportation and making transit fareless and accessible to all residents.- Commitments to increase the urban tree canopy, achieve tree equity in the city, and make improvements to the tree code.- A timeline for phasing out NW Naturalâ€™s fracked gas.- Interim emissions targets that start long before 2030. 350.org recommends annual emissions reductions of 7.6% to align with what the UN says is needed to stay below 1.5 degrees of warming. Regards,Matt Phillips	
This Climate Emergency Declaration Draft is a good start but it MUST be much stronger and quicker. Thank you for focussing climate justice on frontline communities. I would like to understand how that will be implemented. There isn't time for such a gradual emission reduction over 30 years. We do not have that luxury because we have wasted valuable years on this. We must be bolder and braver. #1 TriMet should not be buying 159 new Diesel buses. That is insane! Spend more now on electric - the savings will be there for the long run. Diesel is a dangerous polluter. I want to know what is happening with Portland Measure 26-201???? I worked on getting that passed and I don't know how that is being implemented. The surcharge for big retailers is to create clean energy jobs and training. Can we please hear about that! That should making a difference. NO more fossil fuel infrastructures period!! How can the City budget suggest less than 1/3 of 1% directly slated for climate mitigation? We should see that our natural areas are sequestering carbon for free. We need to stop cutting down trees in Mt. Hood National Forest as well as all other areas.	
The declaration should include provisions that look into local resilience for provision of food, water, utilities, goods and services in the event of climate related systemic failures.	
Aggressive Climate Change action is needed to meet our targets, here are some ideas I would like to see considered.Provide incentives to businesses that allow employees to work remotely. Make a large portion of downtown Portland car free. Only public transit, government, delivery, public safety, and emergency vehicles allowed in the car free zone. Permits for residents with cars in this area. Do this in stages, and plan for adequate park and ride structures in the metro area outside the car free zone.Place a car tax for residents who own a car and live in the car free zone. Low income is exempt.Repurpose parking garages downtown and build affordable housing there instead. Award contracts to developers that have plans to incorporate solar/wind energy, plants to help with air quality, and urban farming in their designs. Expand Trimet/MAX by increasing payroll tax and make public transit free for anyone in the Trimet service area. Require all new commercial and residential buildings to run on at least 80% renewable energy if the plot is good for solar or wind power. Update zoning and property assessments to include a solar score. Use solar score as a way to rate viability of solar panels, and if over a certain threshold for solar score and building size/type, require solar on new construction there.Set a target number for older buildings to be retrofitted for renewable energy.	

Climate change is the result of the world using the wrong materials and energy technologies. You folks have the sociology down. Now you need to think about which technologies to adopt and promote, and which to shun.I am an old energy conservation consultant/solar home designer/Sustainable Housing Professional/builder/journalist, and I’ve been studying the technologies that could slow/stop/reverse climate change for 40 years now. I've been researching/writing a book I call Pumping the Brakes on Climate Change; a review of the technologies that could leave the future a future for the last 15 months; I am, I hope, close to the agent-finding part of the process. I've learned of several emergent technologies, in my research, that Portland could adopt, that could avoid and sequester lots and lots of carbon while cleaning up wastes and pollutants, solving other problems, and creating jobs. I would really like to talk to you about the way we handle sewage, for one. But I didn’t learn of this comment period until 3/12/20, and I am under the gun with other work. So I am going to talk to you about concrete.I hope you folks know that our infrastructure is crumbling because we built it with the wrong materials. Portland cement (OPC) concrete unavoidably cracks, admitting water which rusts its steel rebar; rust expands three times and breaks the concrete apart. That can happen in as few as 40 years, or 100, but it will happen. And making OPC produces six or eight percent of global GHGs: steel is another nine percent. If we repair our infrastructure with the same materials, we are worsening climate change, and our kids—if they survive—will have to pay to rebuild it all again in another 60 years.There are better cements. One, called Blue World Crete (BWC), is a geopolymer that can be made with coal fly ash, steel-mill slag, and other wastes we badly need to clean up, or with pumice/volcanic ash. The proprietary activator is extracted from seawater by algae. A transportable production plant—if it’s transportable, it’s mass-producible—is supposed to cost 1/10th to 1/20th what an OPC plant costs to build. BWC has 1/10 the carbon footprint of OPC, is fireproof—is used as fire proofing—should cost less, and has twice the compressive and three times the tensile strength. It doesn’t crack, and is far more flexible; it should resist earthquakes and storms much better. It is hydrophobic, repels water, so water can’t harm it, and it needs no protective finish. And Blue World Sciences claims that it insulates—very well, in fact, up to R35/inch. That’s huge. The best of modern foam plastic building insulations, polyisocyanurate, is ~R6/inch after it ages. OPC concrete is a highly-conductive heat sink, and when you build with it you have to add insulation, a wall inside a wall, that’s usually framed with steel studs and covered with gypsum board, taped, caulked, and painted. With conventional frame construction you have all that plus sheathing, housewrap, standoffs, siding, more paint—lots of different materials, layers, and trades. All expensive.BWC, OTOH, is waterproof, fireproof, super-strong concrete that super-insulates, a finished wall in one layer. BWC might be the best material for rebuilding Portland’s bridges and roads. But I can also show you how to build the shell of a Passive House,* or reinforce an old brick building with it for maybe half the cost of conventional methods and materials; and as BWC loves cellulose, mineralizes it and protects it from fire and rot, that house could use wood chips for aggregate, and bamboo for reinforcing, and so not just avoid carbon, but sequester quite a lot of it for hundreds of years. This is a partial solution to the affordable housing and homelessness crisis. You want to help vulnerable front-line communities first? Who is more vulnerable than the homeless? We desperately need a reduction in the cost of housing. Here’s how.The problem is that BWC isn’t available here yet; nor is another steel-mill-waste cement called Ferrock, that I need for heat-storage mass in a passive solar home. But you folks know some of the “investing class” hereabouts; if you research BWC (and Ferrock), and decide that it is the right material with which to rebuild/build Portland and create some affordable housing, I’ll bet you could find investors. And I see no reason Portland couldn’t own its own cement plant, maybe recoup the investment selling “green” cement when the plant is otherwise idle, and so promoting this tech. Portland likes to be first: we could introduce this important new technology to the western U.S. And possibly short of turning tons of charcoal and crushed silicates into every acre of city-owned soil, and demanding that residents do the same (Terra Preta and enhanced weathering), there is probably nothing else you could do that would avoid/sequester more carbon. (But we should do Terra Preta and enhanced weathering, too.)Please. Check out BWC and Ferrock (and Italcementi’s TX Active. Eats air pollution including GHGs, reflects solar heat back to space.) Call on me if I can help, with internet research or?? And when BWC and Ferrock are available here, contact me and I’ll show you how to build the fireproof, waterproof, super-insulated shell of a passive solar home for ½, maybe 1/3 the cost of a current American kindling-wood house. John O’Renick971-352-2948jman97216@gmail.com*A passive house is so well insulated that it needs almost no heating/cooling.http://www.blueworldcrete.com/ http://blueworldsciences.com/blue-crete.html https://www.newswire.com/green-cement-company-emerges-as/265795 https://www.greenlodgingnews.com/blue-world-crete-develops-sustainable-concrete-product/ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ozc1mIxGGnIhttps://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bHn0SdEBSpM https://techlaunch.arizona.edu/news/ua-invention-turned-startup-offers-revolutionary-eco-friendly-substitute-cement https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yWPzERdNh50https://www.nytimes.com/2007/12/09/magazine/09smogeatingcement.html https://www.good.is/articles/pollution-absorbing-cement	
Mayor Wheeler and City Commisioners:I commend you for pursuing this ambitious but essential goal of achieving carbon neutrality in the foreseeable future. Climate justice cannot wait as a problem for the next generation to solve. We must as a community embrace it as a shared goal with a shared vision of making out diverse communities places that are healthy and environmentally friendly places to live. There are so many solutions to these problems that can be addressed right here in PDX. Which like Copenhagen and other cities can serve as successful examples of action that can be take to fight the climate imperative that faces us all. Please work to achieve carbon neutrality long before 2050.Mark SE Portland	350 PDX supporter
I love to see any document that aims for net zero carbon emissions...the sooner, the better! Thank you for your leadership!	Portland resident
I agree with 350pdx.org that the climate emergency declaration should contain: A clear definition of climate justice at the outset to properly frame what has created this crisis and to lay out a vision for creating justice-based solutions. Plain, concrete language with specific actions the city will take, clear timelines, and frequent reporting to the public on the progress that is made. Funding dedicated for implementing the actions described in the resolution at a level necessary to meet the city’s targets. City funds should be invested in ways that benefit Portland residents, especially people of color and those with low-incomes, and not diverted for carbon offsets or other schemes. A focus on greatly expanding public transportation and making transit fareless and accessible to all residents. (Driving should be inconvenient and costly!) Commitments to increase the urban tree canopy, achieve tree equity in the city, and make improvements to the tree code. A timeline for phasing out NW Natural’s fracked gas. Interim emissions targets that start long before 2030. We recommend annual emissions reductions of 7.6% to align with what the UN says is needed to stay below 1.5 degrees of warming. Please implement these ideas.thanks	
I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Draft Climate Emergency Declaration.Â There are two parts to my comment.Â In the first part of my comment, I would like to call attention to a key item that is missing from the proposed actions of the City of Portland.Â The fossil fuels that are burned to provide energy for our city are not specifically named, nor do I see any reduction goals.Â For example, my electricity bill is made up of more than 60% coal power.Â While ramping up renewable energies is part of the goal, I suggest that the ramping down of fossil fuel energies should also be explicitly stated so that there is no ambiguity.Â Furthermore, I recommend that fossil fuel technologies that endanger communities such as hydraulic fracturing (or fracking) should immediately be disallowed by utilities that are servicing Portland such as NW Natural.Â For the second part of my comment, I would like to call attention to the statement that this is a declaration of climate emergency.Â Therefore, the declaration should have interim emissions targets that start long before 2030. To align with what the UN says is needed to stay below 1.5 degrees of warming, annual emissions reductions of 7.6% are needed (citing my source of 350pdx for that recomendation, also here is the link to the UN statement: https://www.unenvironment.org/news-and-stories/press-release/cut-global-emissions-76-percent-every-year-next-decade-meet-15degc?fbclid=IwAR3ZzBkH05SvGGMJneh0ES_G9s5OirjpS25yrXkTy0QrP9ZfN4IRddkpHb-k&eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=ab917a87-b148-48f0-9b32-29d141ae0b1d). Thank you for reading my feedback.	
I am in complete accord with the list of actions Emily, Ellen, Anissa, Brooke & the 350PDX City-County Watchdog Team are submitting for the Climate Emergency Declaration to The City of Portland, and co-committees. We must follow actions toward the crucial lowering of combined emissions by 7.6%. We should have started "yesterday"! Thank you for an immediate & significant role in propelling change in our shared Climate Emergency. We must for and with our youth, especially.	350PDX
We need to act with the urgency this crisis demands. In the face of the inaction of this administration localities must pick up the slack.	
Thank you so much for implementing a carbon reduction plan and climate change mitigation plan! As a young person, I am highly supportive of your action on this matter.Have a wonderful day!	
All new build residential and commercial to have solar or renewable energy incorporatedPublic, schools, govt transportation to be EVNo plastic: bags, containers, cups, utensils, plates.....Plant more treesBillboards showing what the world will look like if we don’t ACT - shock and awe! Only the younger generation truly get it.	

A clear definition of climate justice at the outset to properly frame what has created this crisis and to lay out a vision for creating justice-based solutions.Plain, concrete language with specific actions the city will take, clear timelines, and frequent reporting to the public on the progress that is made.Funding dedicated for implementing the actions described in the resolution at a level necessary to meet the cityâ€™s targets. City funds should be invested in ways that benefit Portland residents, especially people of color and those with low-incomes, and not diverted for carbon offsets or other schemes.A focus on greatly expanding public transportation and making transit fareless and accessible to all residents.Commitments to increase the urban tree canopy, achieve tree equity in the city, and make improvements to the tree code.A timeline for phasing out NW Naturalâ€™s fracked gas.Interim emissions targets that start long before 2030. We recommend annual emissions reductions of 7.6% to align with what the UN says is needed to stay below 1.5 degrees of warming.	
We need "teeth" and enforcement consequences if measures are not followed. We cannot disappoint our youth and frontline communities! Whereas's are lovely--enforcement is essential. We have no time to waste. This declaration must include ways to mitigate the impending disaster that will occur when the inevitable earthquake happens and the Zenith site becomes a virtual holocaust. We have seen that jurors and the State agree that protecting ourselves from climate and environmental disaster warrants drastic and unusual actions. Our city must not be afraid of potential lawsuits in establishing and enforcing the measures of the climate emergency declaration. This is definitely a public health crisis. We are in the midst of a global pandemic which very likely is exacerbated by climate change--bacteria and their viruses thrive in warm, moist environments. The time for action was actually decades ago--we must hasten!	
Please consider the following points when drafting the Climate Emergency Declaration. It's time for aggressive action to fight climate change:A clear definition of climate justice at the outset to properly frame what has created this crisis and to lay out a vision for creating justice-based solutions.Plain, concrete language with specific actions the city will take, clear timelines, and frequent reporting to the public on the progress that is made.Funding dedicated for implementing the actions described in the resolution at a level necessary to meet the cityâ€™s targets. City funds should be invested in ways that benefit Portland residents, especially people of color and those with low-incomes, and not diverted for carbon offsets or other schemes.A focus on greatly expanding public transportation and making transit fareless and accessible to all residents.Commitments to increase the urban tree canopy, achieve tree equity in the city, and make improvements to the tree code.A timeline for phasing out NW Naturalâ€™s fracked gas.Interim emissions targets that start long before 2030. We recommend annual emissions reductions of 7.6% to align with what the UN says is needed to stay below 1.5 degrees of warming.	
Plant more trees along public streets and zone for rooftop gardens. Beef up the size of parks and cut down on the grassy mowed areas. Require parking lots to have trees and green strips. Require solar collectors on all city and federal buildings make all city state and federal car fleets as well as TriMet to go electric. Plan high speed rail along I 5 corridor to Salem and Seattle. Do NOT increase the freeway size that destroys neighbor hoods in NE PDX. Curtail oil trains running through Portland and prepare seismic upgrades along the industrial area on Hwy 10! Climate emergency discussions should include discussions that involve fuel storage, maintenance and emergency spill protocols! MOST important is to have a vision and plan that transforms our old extractive methodology of energy use to new technologies, that are CLEAN and SUSTAINABLE. No more big gas and oil pipelines, no fracking, no methane plants... wind, solar, battery, plants based solutions...	Kismet Design
I believe first and foremost that widespread communication and education needs to be conducted in Oregon to inform residents on the grave issue we face due to the climate crisis. Too many people in our state are unaware or remaining ignorant to the emergency. Furthermore I believe the emergency declaration should include a plan to make our transit system fareless so more people utilize the resource and cut down on emissions. In addition I want to see clear and concrete timelines on when and how these decelerations will be enacted so thereâ€™s no longer any overdrawn sessions or Republicans refusing to show up for work. I want people held accountable and if they fail to perform their elected duties then penalized for doing so.	Our Climate, Renew Oregon, PSU
This city has drafted many declarations, etc. with many nice words that voters want to hear. However, there has been a noticeable lack of accountability language and even less when it comes to their action. We must have goals, timelines and accountability measures in any future declarations or else they are a waste of taxpayer time and money.Our elected representatives must fearlessly pursue the mandate of their constituents and overcome their timidity for the health and well-being of our city .	Sierra Club, Greenpeace, 350PDX, Friends of the Gorge
I believe a declaration of a climate crisis should address the following: A clear definition of climate justice at the outset to properly frame what has created this crisis and to lay out a vision for creating justice-based solutions.Plain, concrete language with specific actions the city will take, clear timelines, and frequent reporting to the public on the progress that is made.Funding dedicated for implementing the actions described in the resolution at a level necessary to meet the cityâ€™s targets. City funds should be invested in ways that benefit Portland residents, especially people of color and those with low-incomes, and not diverted for carbon offsets or other schemes.A focus on greatly expanding public transportation and making transit fareless and accessible to all residents.Commitments to increase the urban tree canopy, achieve tree equity in the city, and make improvements to the tree code.A timeline for phasing out NW Naturalâ€™s fracked gas.Interim emissions targets that start long before 2030. Thank you	
I just heard Mayor Wheeler's Declaration of Emergency around Covid 19. It was clear, thoughtful, compassionate, urgent, immediate, and tough. My life will be disrupted because of it, but I know it was necessary. This is an emergency. We don't know a lot about this virus but we know we have to do something huge, now. In contrast, we know in sickening detail the horrible effects of climate change. So why are we talking about "summits" and meetings and rather nebulous goals when we know the crisis is upon us now? This too is an emergency, in most ways much more disastrous than Covid 19. To set a goal of 2050 for carbon neutrality is obscene because it suggests we have time and, perhaps we can dodge the bullet. We don't and we can't. The crisis is upon us now. Rethink this, please.	
GREAT JOB!!(It'd be better with more teeth, but I believe you'll get it done.)Very minor point that you already know: The "Climate Test" is simply vague. I love the concept, so if it helps to bring it to reality consider fleshing it out better to commit to it.	OHA Sustainability Committee
Thank you so much for your leadership in climate change! We must take action as a community to help save our planet.	

Dear Mayor Wheeler and City Council, 2050 is way too late to meet net-zero emissions and 100% renewables for community energy needs. Changes to scientific computer models in the past quarter along with what is being learned about the impact of feedback loops suggest that those goals need to be reached at the latest within the next decade to mitigate some of the worse impacts of climate chaos. The longer we wait, the more draconian the measures will need to be so the draft declaration needs to commit to annual concrete action steps towards at least 10% decarbonization every year. The declaration of a climate emergency should embolden the City to use all of the powers you have at your disposal to move decisively and quickly in a WWII style mobilization. In order to stop tar sands exports, you need to exercise your right to demand a Land Use Compatibility Statement before DEQ considers updated air quality permits for Zenith Energy or any fossil fuel infrastructure expansion. You need to use your power to pressure the state, businesses, Trimet, and other entities to take necessary and timely steps towards decarbonization. For example, when Trimet feigns a transition process towards a net-zero fleet while at the same time authorizing the purchase of up to 159 new diesel busses (having lifespans of 12-20 years), the City needs to weigh in and say this is preposterous (especially given battery lease programs that make costs comparable). It is disingenuous to stand on the same stage and not call them out.While it is good that this draft appears to have a better understanding and positive recognition of the impacts on and necessity for inclusion and leadership from frontline and youth communities, you need to initiate a Citizen’s Assembly oversight process with far more involvement of grassroots environmental groups, frontline communities, youth, climate experts, and others at the table to actually ensure a rapid and just transition to a carbon neutral economy. The longer we wait the more drastic the steps will need to be which could very well work against the very climate justice concerns you are raising. Given your own data that carbon emission decreases have slowed and transportation emissions are increasing, the few actual actions listed in the draft are meager steps in a right direction, but there needs to be far more creative solutions sooner to get us where we need to be in this crisis. A quick perusal of your budget shows the city is actually only putting 1/3 of 1% towards climate mitigation and when asked about this, we have not heard back from the Mayor’s office. If this is the case, there is no sense of urgency in your actions to match the rhetoric. Please step up and show emboldened leadership at a level to meet this challenge and serve as a model as green cities learn from each other about the actions needed to move us forward at the required pace. Please make the needed changes to this draft and open up the Decarbonization Pathways group to a broader set of voices who want to help you along the way. Thank you for your time and consideration.Diane Meisenhelter	
Thank you for all your good work. I particularly appreciate your involvement of young people. However, if this process is going to be something more than a nod to their involvement and will become, in fact, something that delivers on what they are demanding, setting a goal of Zero Carbon Emission by 2050 is not going to do it. Greta Thunberg recently noted a 2050 goal is "Surrender." We have to move faster and more systemically. We don't have that much time!	
While all the climate change proposals sound great, they will increase the cost of government, which will increase the cost of living in Portland, which hurts low, middle and fixed income. When looking at what this proposal does on a global scale is like a grain of sand on the beach. WE HAVE A HOMELESS CRISIS, Please put efforts into something that would help the city, not just raise the cost of living	
I did not see explicit firm commitment to sustained reliable green house gas measurement and publication for the metro area. This, I think, is required to permit a society-wide awareness and hopefully commitment to making the changes in our lives necessary to reduce the solution immensely and rapidly and keep it low. Please add this idea somewhere in the declaration.	Community for Earth, action group, 1st Unitarian/Universalist Church
Our climate crisis is an emergency and I thank the mayor for leading an effort to meet our challenge - but I don’t see tangible action in this resolution that rises to the need we face.The actions I see in my reading are tepid verbs such as: plan and involve. Where are the “do” statements. Where is the: we will shift city operations and city contracts to renewable sources of energy/fuel by xxxx date? Where is the ordering of city bureaus to shift their operations? Where are the other actions that rise to the level of an emergency declaration by shifting normal operations to emergency mode - and effectively constitute a stimulus for a clean energy, renewable future that also includes carbon sinks such as increasing natural infrastructure? The governor’s executive order on climate is an excellent model - it directly orders agencies under her control to take specific action in teh short term as well as set in motion longer term actions. https://drive.google.com/file/d/16isIO3GTqxVihqhhIcjGYH4Mrw3zNNXw/view Moreover, while including front line communities is necessary, the mayor’s declaration seems to speak in frontline code to only address specific communities - climate is a crisis that affects us all, and should mobilize us all, including native, people of color, etc communities. Again, the governor’s EO gives a nice example. Finally, emergencies mobilize resources - people, dollars and the public will - by declaring what the executive will do for agencies under their control (city bureaus and contractors) and mobilizing the public by suggested actions and dollar/other incentives/penalties to move forward in the direction we want to go anyway - ditching meaningless actions such as idling our parked cars while texting on our smartphones (smartphones don’t run on gas) with the right rah-rah, we are all mobilizing for a greater good, the Oregon we love message and action. And when needed, we can sacrifice short term for our longterm future when we see the sense in it all (e.g. we are taking actions we never thought we’d need under the Coronavirus situation). Thank you and I look forward to a strong climate emergency declaration.	
First, and most importantly, thanks for this. It's about time that we started using words like"crisis" and "emergency" to talk honestly about the coming disaster. But, This doesn’t sound like “emergency”This sounds more like, “Oh, gosh, maybe we have a problem that can be solved by diddling around the edges and having more meetings. Don’t call the fire department; let’s refer it to a bureaucracy.”	
As a city that carries immense pride in its urban tree canopy, and given the effective and cost efficient mechanism of tree photosynthesis and growth as a means to sequester atmospheric carbon, it is a bit disappointing that the draft declaration does not give specific attention to tree canopy conservation as a priority. Many of the proposed actions have the potential to complement or detract from the vigor of the urban canopy and should be better integrated with tree conservation as revisions proceed.	
The "whereas" statements of fact are all well and good, but the promised responses are only about investigative process - what the City will consider when planning projects. That guarantees very little change, very slowly. Portland needs to commit to getting cars off the road in ways that will anger drivers - some of whom are voters. Portland needs to charge market price for car parking on each block, including neighborhoods outside of downtown. Portland should toll its Willamette and Columbia River bridges, charging for every motor vehicle that is not mass transit. Portland needs to stop compromising its bicycle program because drivers are inconvenienced by having to change their usual route, or not drive as fast as they would like. Portland needs to actually follow its official modal hierarchy and design primarily for the use and benefit of pedestrians, bicyclists and transit. There should be actual transit-only lanes anywhere transit is delayed by private motor vehicles, not just language supporting then. Portland should see "natural" gas as the problem it is, and not the solution it has so successfully been marketed as. Is the City continuing to allow has service to be installed where it does not yet exist? Don't. Is the City allowing the utilities to place their pipes in the RoW at no cost? Don't. Portland should commit to the installation of community ground source heat pumps, installing heat exchangers in the RoW whenever any portion of it is rebuilt.Aspirational language is laughable several years later if programmatic change does not follow immediately and continually. Do it, or hope there are no historians in town. There will always be passionate citizens writing history and recording any timidity of elected leaders.	Numerous
I am strongly in favor of the Climate Emergency Declaration. We have just commenced the DECADE OF THE MILLENNIUM, so our actions have never been so important.Thanks!Janet Madill MD	PSR. 350PDX
I	Persister

I would like to see some specific target dates and plans of implementation. For example, when and where are more electric car charging stations going to be installed in Portland. I understand the importance of increasing bike and pedestrian lanes, more public transit routes and accessibility, etc. And for some, electric charging stations would add to the CO2 mitigation. Are there direct plans for planting and preserving trees, as you know, an important carbon sequester and creator of O2. As Portland develops, it seems we are creating more urban deserts. Also, food policy--our agricultural and eating habits are also an important emitter of greenhouse gases. And food waste--there are some effective practices in Japan and parts of Europe, for example, where food waste is collected, recooked, and fed to livestock. This not only reduces waste, it also eliminates the need to devote extensive lands to the growing of soy beans, corn, etc for animal feed. And, how can we compel Zenith and other companies at the North Portland energy hub to enforce safety for the outdated storage tanks, for example? When the inevitable earthquake strikes, the liquefaction of the ground beneath the tanks will cause catastrophic damage that will negate any measures to reduce carbon emissions. Can they be required for public safety to earthquake proof the tanks (or move them to more stable ground)?	
I have no issue with the content.Has anyone reviewed this document with a particular eye for grammar? A cursory reading showed numerous errors.	
After two "whereas's" I stopped reading. If it's an emergency, it should sound like an emergency. How about starting with, "Whereas science tells us we have no more than ten years to radically change our ways or our children and grandchildren are fucked." Make it sound like an emergency and not rearranging deck chairs on the Titanic.	
Great to see such a declaration.One immediate step is stopping the proposed expansion of highway 5 by the Rose quarter. More cars, more pollution, more destruction of the world- enough!Also, denying permits to companies such as Zenith and their planned shipping of crude oil from our port.Thank you.	
Yes, there is an imminent climate emergency. I support all your efforts to stop all use of fossil fuels as soon as possible, and to protect the remaining ecosystems of the Pacific NW.	
Widening a freeway through the core of the city does not in any way reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	
I support this climate emergency declaration. Please pass RIP ASAP. Each month that plan is delayed is counterproductive to achieving the housing and climate goals articulated within this declaration.	Accessory Dwelling Strategies LLC
Add mandates - ensure the resolution has teeth. Make the goals more audacious - it's the #1 issue of our time.Add goals around building consensus for the resolution with communities outside of Portland (think regional).	
Looking forward to seeing what action will be taken to meet these carbon reduction goals! I would like to see more publically funded and placed EV Charging stations on the central eastside near 8th and Burnside. I would also like to see more bans on single use plastic. I would like to see government agencies focusing on hiring sustainable businesses. Iâ€™m Portlandâ€™s only Sustainable Certified Florist, Iâ€™d love to work with the Mayorâ€™s office to improve sustainability in our city, in agriculture, and in consumption. Looking forward to hearing more!	Coy & Co. Curatorial Floral
Thank you for drafting this document and using your political powers to address the climate crisis. I support the ideas and community centered approach the document proposes. After community buy-in for the Declaration is received, a document proposed by front line community members outlining their recommendations for solutions is what I would like to see. In other words, I want proof people, other than white people are leading with their ideas are actually being given the opportunity to lead. Information about how homelessness and climate change are connected would also be helpful so people can understand how the problems we face are interconnected, and why action on the local level are crucial. I agree with other comments about the Declaration (really all government docs) need to be in plain language and multiple languages so the climate crisis can truly involve the Portland community. Thank you again for your actions.	
Why put the climate reduction goal on #18 of the declaration. I engage in this work daily and hard a hard time staying with the document, until finally you mention the goal. Same with the four bullet points above. Start with the end in mind, then share the how.	
In addition to lofty goals, the city should establish some realistic short-term initiatives, such as dealing with homeless encampments that are little more than festering dumps of garbage and human waste polluting land and eventually the water supply. Given the current situation with the Coronavirus, an outbreak in these camps could be devastating to Portland. The city needs to re-examine the stringent building and landlord requirements that makes â€œaffordable housingâ€ impossible. Considering that thousands of people are sleeping in tents or literally on the sidewalks, it seems that any structures would be preferable. TriMet should have a wealth of rider data by route and time of day. Smaller, more energy efficient buses could be purchased and used for these routes during non-peak times.	
Although the climate action plan has traditionally been between or in collaboration with Multnomah County, I encourage the County and the City to reach out it's neighboring partners (Cities, counties, regional governments) as well. Many of the outer areas - and less served areas of the City of Portland - are in Clackamas and Washington County. We should not leave them out either. I did not see any reference to what is expected of NW Natural, while PGE and PacifiCorp are specifically called upon to take action. Natural gas needs to be included in this declaration.	
It is hypocritical to declare a climate emergency at the same time PBOT is taking away full- service traffic lanes on city streets thereby creating more congestion which in turn adds to both fuel consumption and emissions. This is all being done when both the percentage of transit ridership and bicycle ridership is flat. Build it and ridership will come you say. Well it hasn't worked and the numbers show it! At the very least, an environmental impact statement MUST be required for each and every full service traffic lane removal proposal and every curb extension where buses stop and obstruct travel lanes to board passengers which in turn also add to congestion. It is also hypocritical that some in city government oppose fixing I-5 at the Rose Quarter to reduce congestion which will also make the interstate safer. If the city wants people to get out of their cars, then show us how that works by eliminating 100% of the city's passenger vehicles that can be seen on streets on a daily basis. Then from the top officials down, all the city's business travel can then be done by bike or transit. If that can't work, then don't expect the public to take that route. Likewise, since each seat on an airliner has a similar carbon footprint to driving the same distance, all airline travel for city officials and city business needs to be abruptly banned. Finally, it is also hypocritical to move forward with the contentious and flawed Residential Infill Project that will add more heat island type density, eliminate green lawns and remove mature trees that act as a carbon offset. Additionally, what is the carbon footprint impact of constructing the Southwest light rail line? The impact for Interstate Max was it would take 166 years of offset the carbon footprint from the construction of the line. How many years will it take for the Southwest corridor? . .	
Weather always changes. There is not climate "emergency"... so I'm against such a declaration. I don't appreciate the major making blacks "victims" of the climate. Quite saying all these groups are "victims" of everything. People are homeless due to two main reasons: mental illness and drug/alcohol addition. Yes, it sad the homeless are not sheltered, but don't drag them into this climate issue. REDUCE POLLUTION, that should be the MANTRA. There is no Renewable energy source which can power our planet. Electricity is not clean - as most of it is created by burning coal. The only clean source is wind...and you can't power airplanes and ships and locomotives with that. Not in this country. Don't forget, the more people you have, the more pollution we'll have. It's common sense. The earth temperature shifts with the solar cycles. Quit blaming the earth temperate on people.. the sun has much more effect on earth temperature than we could ever dream to have.	
I support this declaration. It is an important step forward and will help Portland address the climate crisis. I think it would be worth considering how to integrate Portland's creative community into climate justice work. As a city with many artists, musicians, writers, etc., creative energy and thinking is a resource for addressing large-scale, dramatic change.	

I commend Mayor Ted Wheeler and the City of Portland for drafting this necessary and ambitious declaration. I am particularly pleased to see that climate inequities and injustices are placed at the forefront. Similarly, I appreciate that native nations have been properly identified for their role in managing the climate crisis. I do have one question that may need to be further clarified in the declaration. Resolution 18 states that "Portland adopts a new target of ... net-zero carbon emissions before 2050". This resolution is mainly described in terms of renewable energy and negative carbon technologies. However, there is another form of reaching net-zero status that is commonly used by corporations: carbon offsets. Under this resolution, would carbon offsets be sufficient for reaching net-zero? I would encourage against that, since carbon offsets can have mixed results and are definitely not as effective as preventing carbon emissions in the first place.	
YOU ARE GOING TO HAVE MORE PEOPLE WANTING WATER TO DRINK.YOU ARE NOT GOING TO MAKE MORE WATER. YOU HAVE TO CONSERVE IT.ANY DEVELOPMENT THAT POLLUTES STREAMS , WHETHER WITH SAND AND MUD OR TOXIC WASTE AND FRACKING FLUIDS, SHOULD BE ABSOLUTELY PROHIBITED!!!!	Earthling
Thank you for declaring a climate emergency. I agree ... time is of the essence.Jeff Walton	self
Hello, thanks for the opportunity to comment.I'm so glad that you are putting effort into a Climate Emergency Declaration, and addressing the needs and leadership of the most affected communities. As a social worker, I see firsthand the problems that people face as a result of climate change. As a resident of inner NE Portland, I know that my neighborhood is affected immensely by emissions and other forms of pollution as well as global climate changes.I think we can do better than net-zero carbon emissions by 2050. I have heard it floated that 10% per year is a realistic goal and I would like to see us set that goal. I also think this issue deserves a bigger share of the budget than is given in this declaration. Certainly if we are able to put a bigger portion of the budget toward this emergency, then we would be able to get to net zero sooner. There are many problems this city faces and I see many of them in my work as a social worker and also as a citizen walking through town. Many of them need funding and attention. I know you are making some tough decisions; however, some of the decisions made regarding the most affected communities address more than one issue at a time. I hope the draft can be updated to take a bolder, serious stance on this emergency we are facing.Thank you.	
Very good list of resolutions. A couple of things I would like to have added:1. A plan to increase city tree cover by X percent, prioritizing sidewalks, especially in areas inhabited by front-line communities. All pedestrian walkways should be under tree cover, to encourage walking.2. City should divest any assets it has invested in companies that promote fossil-fuel extraction and use (if it hasn't done so, already), and move them to environmentally responsible companies.Thank you.	
I moved to Portland a year ago from a midwest state and one of the first things I discovered is how beautiful Oregon is - our forests, coast, mountains, sand dunes, rivers - it's all just amazing. But the 2nd thing I learned is how many threats there are to them: gas pipelines, tar sands export terminals, train derailments, clear cut logging, invasive species, watershed pollution, and more.However the #1 threat of all is the climate crisis. The threat of climate change to Portland and nearby communities includes increased wildfires and smoke, rising sea levels, hotter summer days, dying trees, and extinction of species such as salmon. We know what we must do: we must stop burning fossil fuels.But so far Portland has only plucked away at the lowest hanging fruit: making it harder to drive automobiles in Portland. Yes, transportation is the highest GHG emitting sector in this city but what about electric cars? What about people who are unable to walk and ride a bike? Portland needs more electric car incentives, infrastructure, and programs. That won't work if all cars are virtually prohibited from driving in Portland. Paris, France, is banning all gas-powered cars by 2030. It would be great is Portland could do something like that!ELECTRIC BUSES must absolutely be a top priority. Buses are so very inefficient, there's so much to gain by switching to electric they will pay for themselves very quickly.And electric bikes are also a very good alternative to ICE passenger cars. Please keep up the programs supporting these services, they're working very well!But electric vehicles are not nearly as clean if they're charged by fossil-fuel burning power plants. Portland is not blessed with a lot of sun and wind, and hydro dams are problematic to salmon. But what about off-shore wind? We will need a little bit of all types of green energy to get to 100% renewable. It's too late to pick winners and losers, it's time to start investing in them all. Even nuclear. To close, my wife and I moved to Portland to build our future. We want to have kids but we cannot raise children on a doomed planet. Please, Portland, become the climate leader you say you are. We deserve a future.	my family
(1) Terminology such as "frontline communities" divides rather than unites. Them and us is to be avoided. We are all one. Interconnectivity. This does not preclude acknowledging the poorest of our citizens (as opposed to communities) least responsible for contributing to climate change, are disproportionately affected by its impacts and will continue to bear a disproportionate burden. The climate crisis needs to get more personal. (2) The Indigenous Peoples are ignored in this town so I wonder just what this really means? One true native Portlander was booed off the stage at one community meeting in the Pearl around homelessness. I don't believe an apology was ever offered to the woman and her community. Leaders such as Ilarion Merculieff (Aleut), Dave Courchene (Nii Gaani Aki Inini), and Randy Woodley ((Keetoowah) are three climate experts you might consult in the wording of this document so it reflects the point of view I think you really want to bring to the fore in a document of this kind and at this time. Indeed, I highly recommend the City innovate in not only calling out climate justice, as you are trying to do, but have the entire document be the voice of Native Peoples (recognized as climate leaders internationally as well as locally) expressed in collaboration with City officials. Put them in charge now.(3) In the second declaration reference is made to "businesses, non-profits, academia, large institutions, other governments and residents." I would add faith-based organizations which need to include climate justice as part of social justice ministries as well as address policy issues they need to support that are not generally well received as they require considerable change in lifestyles and community livability expectations. (4) Those among the 1% think climate change affects the people living on small islands in large oceans but not them. I recommend looking at what former Mayor Bloomberg initiated after Hurricane Sandy flooded not only the small beach communities but Manhattan. We don't need to wait for a natural disaster of that proportion do we, I hope.(5) The neighborhood associations need to be included in this as they make land use recommendations and are seeking an economic vitality model still largely built on more parking, more highways, more unsustainable products and services. Lots of talking, little walking of the talk. (6) Certainly the demand for more parking and highways/byways suggests that the least burdened need to be brought into the fold on this and fast. NIMBYism and a belief that home ownership is next to godliness are beliefs that need to assessed in light of the negative impact on renters and the quality of life for all our citizens, not just those with money. Building affordable housing along highways and busy streets often in heat islands is just one exampleof a highly discriminatory belief system that makes it okay to continue to spew toxins into the air as long as it isn't in the West Hills or in the "better" neighborhoods that close gates to affordable housing and, dare I say it, shelters? (7) Even the public transportation leaders pander to the needs of drivers/commuters. Look at how the Streetcars crawl along NW 10th and 11th juggling for space among the cars and closing doors in peoples faces in order to make a schedule that is largely dependent on automobile traffic! Recent additions of bus lanes seemed like a miracle, when they have been standard in many cities for years! Yes, we riders are grateful, but not going far enough, fast enough. (8) What's good for Portland, climate wise, is too good for the poor neighborhoods in terms of previous efforts in spending money on green infrastructure, equitable mobility, carbon pathways analysis, resilience, adaptation, net-zero energy buildings and sector-based emissions analyses. Lot to overcome in past practices that clearly favored developers and landlords over nearly everyone else.	EarthSayers.tv, Voices of Sustainability
Dear Portland City Commissioners,As a Portland writer who specializes in clean energy, I'm very aware of the dangers of climate change and the benefits of climate legislation.I fully support your efforts to declare a climate emergency,I like the focus on advancing climate justice and supporting partnerships with youth organizations to create a 2020 youth-led climate summit.Creating a new governance structure with City, County and community is a great way of ensuring we meet our 2030 carbon reduction goals.I also like the idea of amending the City's carbon reduction targets to at least 50% by 2030 and net-zero carbon emissions before 2050. However, I hope you consider moving toward zero carbon sooner.Thanks for your efforts to fight climate change.Lisa Cohn	www.LisaECohn.com
I am very disappointed in Portland's Leadership in dealing with many aspects of the CLIMATE EMERGENCY...that includes everything from underfunding public Parks to oil trains, to new building codes that don't require solar...destroying small neighborhoods with housing choices that don't cater to sustainable living.	
Please ensure that all new high rise buildings install wind turbines so as to be self-generating for electrical needs. There are so many new buildings going up in Portland, this would be a boon to ensuring less dependency on fossil fuels for energy.	

Looking at the graphs of changes in our climate over the brief time since the advent of big fossil fuel use is terrifying. We are already experiencing death, destruction, mass migration and war linked to this. We must act with passion. Thank you for the declaration. Keep going!	
Well, sounds like restaurant and airport workers are the frontline workers. Why is there nothing about addressing driving, product consumption, concrete manufacturing..... so many year\$ working on the reduction CO2 yet increases continue!	Electric car driver
Replace roads with raised gardens leaving room for walkways and bike paths. Vehicles whether personal, electric, or government owned are unnecessary when a person can walk from one end of our city to the other in less than an hour. Designing our cities and suburbs around automobiles has to be one of the most retarded things conceived by "modern" man from an environmental stance as well as an ethical stance relating to equality/equity. The only transportation devices which should be allowed to be operated inside our city need to be either human powered or free and open to the public.We have only one planet and we've already ruined it. Don't fuck up our chance to mitigate the damage by wanting "to keep your cake and eat it too." Personal convenience is not an excuse for environmental destruction. Build gardens over roads. Grow food to feed the 9.5 billion expected by 2050. This is our test and the lack of actual progress over the last 50 years shows we are failing miserably. For shame.	
It is a good first step.	
Because the albedo/atmosphere reflect 30% of the incoming solar energy the earth is cooler with that albedo/atmosphere than without. Without an atmosphere the earth would receive 30% more kJ/h becoming a barren rock much like the moon, hot^3 on the lit side, cold^3 on the dark. This observation is easily confirmed by comparisons with the moon as Nikolov, Kramm suggest and UCLA Diviner mission observes. This refutes the RGHE theory which postulates just the opposite, that the earth sans atmosphere would be a -430 F ball of ice or 288 K w/ - 255 K w/o = 33 C cooler. (Rubbish!) Because of the non-radiative heat transfer processes of the contiguous participating atmospheric molecules, 396 W/m^2 of BB LWIR upwelling from the surface is not possible. As I demonstrate in the grand science tradition of performing experiments: https://principia-scientific.org/debunking-the-greenhouse-gas-theory-with-a-boiling-water-pot/ Without the 396 W/m^2 upwelling LWIR there is no net 333 W/m^2 for the GHGs to "trap", "back" radiate or warm anything anywhere. There is no radiative greenhouse effect and the so-called GHGs do not "warm" the terrestrial surface.Nick Schroeder, BSME CU	Unaffiliated
I'm a baby boomer and I've seen six dire predictions about global warming since the 1960's with the sixth one being AOC's prediction we are all going to die in twelve years. The fifth one was the dire prediction in 2010 that global warming will melt the glaciers at Glacier Park by 2020. A few weeks ago they removed the signs because the glacier never melted and in fact had grown a bit. I imagine there are more dire predictions coming. Can't wait for the next one.	
Hello, and thank you for taking this step toward declaring a climate emergency.Many of the proposals calling on our city to reduce greenhouse gas emissions assume that someone is keeping track of those across government, organizations, businesses and buildings. While this might be true in some cases, I suggest that the resolution call on city agencies and organizations as a whole to start determining their emissions and publishing the results as publicly accessible data. We need to have baselines from which we can measure progress over time, both for individual organizations and the community as a whole. We also need ongoing measurements of emissions in order to make comparisons and understand what is normal. For example, how does my 200 unit apartment building compare with similar apartment buildings; are its emissions higher or lower? Such information, when exchanged among peer-to-peer networks, will help everyone understand how their emissions rank and how well they are doing at reducing them. Peer pressure and public information can provide a helpful framework to encourage voluntary emissions reductions.I suggest the city create and distribute a carbon footprint calculator that can be downloaded and used by households to calculate their emissions. This calculator could be organized to include localized data, such as the carbon content of electricity generated by our local utilities. When multiple households start comparing their carbon footprints, they will understand much better where they stand and how they are doing at reductions. When residents understand their own emissions, they will be more supportive of the changes in lifestyle we must make. There are online calculators but they all have different assumptions and so give inconsistent results for the same input; the city needs a commonly used calculator so we can all share our results.Iâ€™d also suggest that the city work with the utilities to include emissions in their monthly billing. Today an electric, gas, propane or fuel oil bill does not state what that fuelâ€™s carbon emissions are, so end users have no idea what their respective emissions are.The resolution is fine regarding intentions, it just needs some action steps that we can all start taking today.Thanks again, Mike Oâ€™Brien	NA
---Free/Reduced transit/bike from climate credits--Please use the money from charging gas users from cap/trade to give credits to people that use bikes or transit with reduced fares and/or reduced/free bicycle's w maintenance for people that choose not to own a vehicle.	
I find this to be a joke. The City talks a good game but does not deliver on the talk. Why has the city not required Both solar thermal and PV to be on all new apartments built in the city? Missed opportunity. Why does none of of the "affordable housing " bond money that voters approved not have solar thermal and PV on the buildings as a REQUIREMENT ??? missed opportunity This Emergency Declaration rings hollow to me. But you seem to have checked off all the boxes with aggrieved groups...except the LGBTQ people	
I think anything Portland does HAS to be tied to Metro at least, probably the City of Vancouver, the counties and communities of the Willamette Valley, and optimally including our towns and counties along the Columbia and north coast (which will all be affected hugely by the direction climate is changing) . Not doing so would be like protecting 160 acres of prime bighorn land in the middle of a mountain range... the critters don't know that there's a political border. They roam their biome, their ecosystem. Climate is the same way.I am absolutely not saying 'do nothing', but I strongly support and encourage a coalition approach. And given that many of these communities are tied to farm and timber-town values, we can't be all 'Portland-y' when we reach out to them. A dose of humility and respect goes a long way in their world. I speak as someone with a foot in both. Thank you for taking this seriously! Go get 'em.	
Mayor Wheeler, you are a show-boating waste of taxpayer dollars. Very few people deny the reality of climate degradation. But do you think Portland can solve it? Portland can't keep the streets clean, can't hire enough police officers, can't house and help the homeless, can't repair roads, and fails at dozens of other things that are clearly the city's responsibility.I'm sure it is fun to think you're in the forefront of fighting climate changes. I'm sure it is fun to go on junkets to sister cities. I'm sure it is fun to gain recognition as the mayor of a sanctuary city.Stop having all this fun and do your job - address the urgent needs of this city and its residents. Let me be blunt - climate change may have the most most deleterious effects on minority communities - but when drug addled people are sleeping on the streets, I don't think they will be too interested in your efforts to protect what is left of the environment. Stop trying to solve problems one which you have almost no control, and instead help address the ever-increasing problems Portland faces by focusing on the mot basic city services.	Citizen
Does this policy address the impact of material consumption (most of the impacts are in production) such as concrete, wasted food and items that are not readily reusable or repairable? It seems like there is not enough attention toward reducing the barriers to reduced consumption and requiring builders and manufactures to consider lower impact design and material choices.	
Instead of spending time, effort and money trying to save the world, how about if you first do the basics of city government and services well for the City of Portland.	Self

This city excels at plans and proclamations. It needs to do a much better job of implementing. I think the city should place a moratorium on generating more plans and focusing on implementing the ones we have (which are generally pretty good).The 2030 bike plan is a great example. The city was a bit reluctant to fund it, and then after finally adopting it in 2010, it took another 6 years to incorporate it into the TSP. Now it's painfully clear that implementing the plan is WAY behind schedule.The Conceptual Design Report for SW Corridor demonstrates a clear favoritism for auto park and ride over ped/bike access to MAX transit. Fixing Barbur will be great, but this the only major improvement offered. Ped/bike access to stations, such as in West Portland Town Center, will continue to be abysmal. The city has not helped by passing on opportunities to construct SW Corridor Shared Investment Strategy ped/bike improvements proclaimed in 2013 (elg. Terwilliger gap and Chestnut bike lanes). Hold PBOT accountable for being asleep at the wheel.I appreciate how difficult it is to turn such a big ship around. The car culture is prevalent, but we must stop traffic engineers from having such extreme influence on urban design that works best for driving.	None
I applaud the City in advancing this climate emergency, an action that follows over 1,500 other cities that have already done so across the globe. Of particular importance, and lacking from many other cities, is the centering frontline communities in this Declaration. Bravo!That said, I will note that the actions in this document do not accurately reflect that impacts facing frontline communities. The majority of actions are based on mitigation -- that is 'decarbonization' of the economy, building stock, transportation, etc. -- while holy lacking any mention of adaptation. Frontline communities face grave impacts from the carbon (and other GHGs) already in the atmosphere -- currently at 413.04 at Mauna Loa -- suggesting a need for us to shift from a carbon focus to one of preparedness and planning. I use the term 'adaptation' here to refer to the capacity for frontline communities to endure increasing impacts from climate-induced extreme weather, which, as this Declaration notes, is already occurring. As we know, stormwater from extreme rainfall, and heat waves that are increasing in intensity, frequency, and duration, will have disproportionate effects on communities that have been historically underserved by the City. By focusing exclusively on mitigation efforts in this Declaration, the City is side-stepping, and in many ways ignoring, one of the most important opportunities for reducing vulnerability among those who are central beneficiaries of this effort. To include adaptation more directly in this Declaration is consistent with what we know is already occurring, and also prudent for increasing safety and security for all Portlanders. A few modest additions to the Declaration can help. Consider the following amendments: (1) requiring developers to show that buildings, particularly those that will house lower income communities, will provide evidence of having evaluated alternative scenarios for mitigating heat, flooding, and other climate-induced extreme weather; (2) develop a program that evaluates existing buildings within the City to meet a climate-compliance standard; (3) include language, perhaps modeled from existing energy disclosure policies, which requires all properties to identify their potential climate risks from extreme weather events; (4) use and define the phrase 'green infrastructure' so that BPS can develop explicit collaborations with those city agencies (and community groups) managing urban trees and forests, which are known to provide adaptation (and mitigation) services that reduce climate-induced effects; and (5) develop climate-relevant partnerships with current research and analytical organizations (e.g. Portland State University, Metro, Energy Trust, etc.) who have the capacity to provide timely and evidence-based information for adaptive decision making that improves that improves the lives of frontline communities. These are a few (of many) possible revisions to prepare our frontline communities for changes already afoot. While this Declaration is an excellent, albeit delayed, start, we can surely do better. By centering frontline communities and adaptation efforts, we can ensure that we are doing what we can to reduce GHGs, while also recognize that our efforts alone will not slow the acute and discriminating effects of climate change on our region.	Self
One thing that may be buried in the whereas's that I think might be worth putting more detail around; greater frequency that immigrants from areas that are or will be under water. Today, there are islands and coast lines that are facing their final days and we must not forget that they will need another home. I hope that we will identify this need and work to help welcome the people who suffer the most.	BPS
Declaring a climate emergency is pointless if we continue to expand fossil fuel infrastructure. No I5 expansion! No more freeways! Climate mayors don't expand freeways!	
Climate leaders don't widen freeways! It is hypocritical to support the I-5 Rose Quarter project while claiming a climate emergency.	
I very much appreciate that Portland is moving toward a Climate Emergency Declaration.The Draft contains 17 "Whereas" statements and 20 "Be it Resolved" statements. While inclusiveness is admirable, focus tends to drive more action (in my experience).I therefore urge a consolidation into a few memorable, actionable statements.	
While working on drafts like this, the city also should be taking immediate bold steps to reduce climate destruction. Implement the bike plan. Reduce bus fares and increase service. Stop expanding freeways. Eliminate free parking. These are just a few things. Please get right on them. Thank you.	
In my opinion, this is another attempt to increase taxes with the ultimate goal of bailing out PERS.	
i think it's overrated and i believe you and the youth have been brainwashed to believe in climate change by the deep state waste of money just like the ridiculous bike lanes we are not in a crisis at all just more BS The real crisis is having a roof over our head that we can afford that would be a great accomplishment to be proud of Real Goals for real people	
Gov Inslee's proposed goal is Net Zero and 95% below 1990 emission levels by 2050.Your proposal is only net zero, which leaves too much wiggle room for bogus carbon offsets.I live in Vancouver and am leading a campaign to match you.	Volunteer with Sierra Club, Columbiaa Riverkeeper et al
	Volunteer with Sierra Club, Columbiaa Riverkeeper et al
Whereas the steps for fighting climate change include:1. Stop digging deeper.2. Maximize efficiency3. Electrify every thing that can be electrified and mitigate what can't4. Do everything possible to avoid war, and take the profit out of it.and Whereas, when capital is invested in new fossil fuel heating systems and industrial process heat, that is like signing a contract to burn fossil fuels for the rest of the century.1. Therefore we hereby issue a moratorium on all NEW fossil fuel dependent infrastructure, such as: -- new gas heating systems in schools and commercial building-- new gas distribution lines-- new gasoline stationsAnd whereas new construction without enough EV charging provisions forces people to burn fossil fuels - - - 2. We hereby require adequate and accessible charging outlets (220 volts 30 amp) in new construction. (All that is needed is a lockable outlet)3. Strengthen your building codes for efficiency.	Volunteer with Sierra Club, Columbiaa Riverkeeper et al
The Draft Climate Emergency Declaration is an excellent statement. It hits all the salient points. Three thoughts (from my perspectives of having studied and taught Oregon and Portland environmental history):1. Although the Declaration mentions working with "organizations," I believe it should more-specifically detail certain kinds of them, especially neighborhood associations. These are strong, local organizations within the city and should be at the table.2. Everything Portland does now must be done at a regional (five county) level. This should be described more clearly in the document.3. A clearer description of the committee or commission charged with overseeing the city's actions should be clearly spelled out (yes, even in this early stage of the Declaration) so that everyone has a sense of how it will be supervised and, generally, by whom (even if only representative organizations and agencies are listed).Thank you.Chet Orloff	Oregon History Works

These all sound good, and if quick action follows the intent, can change our corner of the world. We need to actively discourage driving in all the ways drivers hate: no free on-street parking, bundled parking not allowed in apartment rent but instead paid for separately, frequent diversion of cars in residential areas to prevent cut-through traffic. As, or preferably before we make driving noticeably unattractive, we need to make the alternatives both available and attractive. The Rose Lanes project is a good start - solidify, improve and expand it. I bike past bumper-to-bumper traffic on my way home almost every day. This is a good thing. Give bikes enough roadway width that many of us can safely and comfortably do the same. Let drivers see, envy and emulate us. Provide plenty of lane width so faster riders can pass us slower riders. Plenty of room so adult trikes can be ridden and when necessary passed. And of course not everyone can ride a bike or trike as far as their workplace; that's what transit is for. We can do both, and if we are to survive this climate emergency, we must do both. Transportation is the largest single category of emissions, and asphalt is probably the least productive thing to "grow" on our land. Solve the growing, amorphous no-point-source transportation pollution problem first, because the rest is far easier.	Inner Southeast Action!
What a huge waste of time and money	
If "Black" is to be capitalized when referring to a group of people "White" should be as well when referring to a group of people.	
Here's my Resolution rewrite...."Less Is More." Don't talk about doing something....Do Some Thing!RESOLUTION No.Declare a human-made climate change emergency threatens Portland, Oregon, and this emergency necessitates the need for greater action, sharing resources, effective collaboration, and tangible results to restore a livable city for our Future. (Resolution)A. WHEREAS, today's Children inherit the legacy of our decisions on climate change,B. WHEREAS, this climate emergency is an existential threat to our Children, Community, & Portland, Oregon, so combatting this threat will require government agencies, businesses and residents to Change, and take bold steps to meet the Portlandâ€™s carbon reduction goals..Declaration1. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council declares that a human-made climate change emergency threatens Portland, Oregon, and this emergency calls for greater action, sharing resources, effective collaboration, and tangible results to restore a livable city for our Future; and2. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Portland will support & advance climate justice and climate action initiatives; and3. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Portland will develop and act towards the delivery of results/benefits that at least meet, and exceed, the City and Countyâ€™s 2030 carbon reduction goals; and4. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Portland enact ongoing climate-related initiatives and support neighborhood-led efforts related to sustainable consumption, equitable mobility, carbon pathways analysis, resilience, adaptation, net-zero energy buildings, and sector-based emissions analyses which will be used to update the 2020 Climate Action Plan and work with the City and County to create & implement new pathways for equitably meeting the 2030 carbon reduction goals; and5. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Portland will review previously enacted policies to adopt new policies and development standards to prevent expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure, reduce fossil fuel consumption, and reduce risk to the environment and community; and6. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Portland will decline fossil-fuel consumption; and7. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Portland prioritize & advance policies, and divestments, to reduce carbon emissions from buildings and transportation â€“ the two largest contributors to local carbon emissions â€“ to reach net-zero carbon before 2030; and8. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any policy efforts to decarbonize the building sector will follow the lead of frontline communities and with improved comfort, and utility savings for renters, and protections for low-income tenants; and9. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Portland will develop and implement programs, projects, and policies that reduce vehicle miles traveled, increase active transportation mode share, and accelerate the transition to clean renewable transportation fuels, including electricity and the infrastructure to support electric vehicles; and10. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that to inform the 2020 Climate Action Plan update, Portland will analyze decarbonization pathways to address residual emissions, including but not limited to planting more Trees, sequestration, and negative carbon technologies, to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2030; and11. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Portland is calling on investor-owned utilities, Portland General Electric and PacifiCorp, to produce & deliver 100% clean renewable wind & solar energy to all Portland residents and businesses no later than 2030, and to prioritize efforts to protect low-income customers. Otherwise, these utilities will become publicly-owned; and12. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability will update City Council and the community on the action these directives monthly.- ends -	
Youth are the frontline community, they are the future of all communities and need to be front and center in this Declaration. Get rid of the WHEREAS A - E and start with F.In the BE IT RESOLVED section change the wording where Frontline Community is there to Youth.	
While working on drafts like this, the city also should be taking immediate bold steps to reduce climate destruction. Implement the bike plan. Reduce bus fares and increase service. Stop expanding freeways. Eliminate free parking. These are just a few things. Please get right on them. Thank you.	
The inclusion of Economic Impact Assessments would serve to educate us all in what to anticipate in the future. They would also assist in the development of pragmatic policies.	Resident
I applaud your efforts in reducing CO2 emissions for the city. I urge the city to require new homes to have heat pumps rather than air conditioners in order to drastically reduce natural gas use. Also to have wiring for an 50 amp electric vehicle charging unit.	
I very much appreciate the opportunity to provide my comments. As a Portland her, and environmentalist, an avid cyclist, and someone that actively tries to leave my world better than I found it, I feel Strongly that we need to focus on building his mouth sustainability in our community as possible. Sustainability is obviously a very squishy term, but in this case I mean very specifically we need to make Portland them more livable city that actually contributes to and helps the rest of our world around us. I feel one of the best ways to do this is through transportation â€“ and making sure we plan properly to not only facilitate getting people out of cars, but onto alternative means of transportation whatever those are. If we accomplish that will be pretty far along to help the climate change crisis. In addition, if people shift to using transportation that require them to be in their environment and not protected from their environment by being in a car, theyâ€™ll learn to appreciate the outside world that much more while also increasing their fitness and health.I deeply value you caring about climate change and wanting to make action on this, and equally Value your curiosity and openness to solicit thoughts from the community. Thank you so much, and keep making good choices on behalf of Portland.	
I applaud the declaration of a climate emergency. That is the situation we face. However, the declaration lacks concrete, immediate, and substantive action. I believe we are past the point where we have time to work to establish new policies, governance, etc. Action, not talk, is needed. The city can and must do more to take action today. The carbon we've already emitted into the atmosphere will bring us years of trouble in the future. The momentum of continued emissions from our existing infrastructure will mean continued and worse trouble, if not confronted directly, immediately, and aggressively.Thank you.	
Take you climate change and shove it up you ass Ted you dumb Piece of shit	
Yes, do all of this and MORE. Climate change is the greatest crisis the human race has ever faced. Our Portland-based club of 100+ households strongly supports everything that can be done on a local basis to help mitigate climate change.Mark ScantleburyPresident, Lower Columbia Canoe Clubwww.l-ccc.org	Lower Columbia Canoe Club
Reducing Carbon emmission is important however you are directing your efforts in the wrong direction. Your policies are a double standard system. You want to reduce pollution however you continue to overbuild this City and encourage people to move here. Portland is full and until you stop any increase in housing the pollution will grow. Take a look at LA, Seattle and many other overpopulated cities. That is where the pollution comes from. The very thing that everybody is moving here from the polluted towns are now here polluting ours and no all of a sudden trying to force everybody to ride a bike or the bus. Oregon as a whole only produces 1.2% of Carbon Emsions in the US. If we reduced to zero, there would be no change. We are not the problem. But if you continue to build high-rises and encourage people to come, it will be. Even if people don't drive, the pollution that is created from excessive people living here will be worse than Portland was 15 years ago before California gentrified Portland. I'm sure this won't get posted but your policies are ruining this City. Portland is FULL. Time for people to move to a different city which has room for growth. Don't ruin the City Mayor and Council. That is what you have been doing.	

We need building codes that require the highest levels of action for not just city buildings but ALL construction AND improvements. Builders only look at their bottom line and not society. Farmers get subsidized and help for bad crop years. So should other industries, so that taxes help share risk and the burden of climate change. Housing costs should be mitigated with taxes as with other common expenses. We need higher taxes on individual transportation that is not renewable. Tax bad behavior. Reward good. Write laws that prevent neighborhoods from requiring large houses for instance. Thanks for listening.	
We're not doing enough. Its time to put significantly more weight behind biking, walking, and transit. Make parking more expensive in downtown to discourage driving into downtown. Expand the parking permit program to more neighborhoods and continue to develop and expand the usefulness of the transportation wallet idea. Put more money into Travel Options that actually change people's behaviors.	
Immediately halt Rose Quarter Highway Expansion; transfer jurisdiction of SE 82nd and SE Powell to PBOT, replace 1+ SOV lanes with traffic calming infrastructure/safety features/priority bus lanes.	
Since transportation is our largest source of emissions and traffic is still increasing, more specificity around the "reducing vehicle miles travelled" piece is needed. Is there a particular target in mind for this reduction? What specific actions are being proposed to reach this target? What do the policies look like? Is it a ban on cars in the downtown core? Superblocks? Removing lanes on major thoroughfares? Rapid buildouts of protected bike infrastructure? Thank you for making climate a priority and for the opportunity to comment.	
Hooray! If anyone thinks the current status of our emissions and climate isn't an emergency, then they are hiding from the truth. We need AGGRESSIVE pushes to respond as communities at the local, state, and federal level or we have NO chance of making the necessary changes. Americans and humans simply wait too long to feel the pain before responding. Thank you for taking a stand, making this about climate justice as well, and using your public office to make a real difference.	
While I support carbon reduction, Portland being more aggressive than Oregon, USA and the world does little more than negatively impact our economy and livability in Portland. It is making it difficult for affordability and negative on equability for our less affluent folks.	
You cannot be serious about addressing climate while supporting the expansion of a freeway and covering the Eastbank Esplanade so people (women especially) feel even more unsafe and avoid biking on it, switching to driving. Policies and projects that expand space and access for cars are climate denial. Your Climate Emergency Declaration mentions VMT reduction, but it is well known that adding lanes on roads and highways stimulates more driving. What will reduce VMT is congestion pricing. Why isn't that in your document? Your declaration is vague and checks off the boxes regarding many vulnerable communities, while ignoring the danger that increased driving has on the most at-risk, including those who walk and bike and the young and old. There is no boldness in this declaration. It is weak and means nothing. If you accept that we are in an emergency, it's time to greatly limit cars within our city and region.	
You are insane. This is absolute evil control of our daily lives.	
I think the declaration is good overall, and I know it's meant to be a high-level statement, but it would be nice to see more clear actionable statements of how local government can address climate change. For example:--Create some kind of incentive for owners of rental housing to add solar panels, switch to electric heating and cooking, and tankless water heaters. Home owners often take advantage of these things but as a renter I have no ability to retrofit the house I live in and the landlord isn't interested.--Create regulations requiring all business-owned "fleets", not just City of Portland government vehicles, transition to all-electric over time. --Ban things like gas-powered mowers, leaf blowers, etc as many cities have done, which good for climate change and local air quality.--Ban natural gas hookups in all new construction, so that electric heating, cooling, cooking, water heating, etc is baked into new buildings from the start (read this article about how hard the natural gas industry is fighting this kind of thing: https://www.vox.com/energy-and-environment/2020/2/14/21131109/california-natural-gas-renewable-socalgas)	
Hello yes. I find it concerning that none of your whereas' or your resolutions have any studies cited or sources of data attributed. Please cite your sources. Thank you.	
Ban all single-use plastic. Put the pressure on companies, if they want to conduct business in Portland, they'll have to invest in sustainable packaging methods to continue doing so. Also stop all freeway expansion and other ridiculous, expensive autocentric measures that have been shown to do nothing to relieve traffic. Invest in cycling and pedestrian infrastructure that make people feel safe traveling through the city they live in. Even if it's not the popular thing, do the right thing.	
the climate action declaration is awesome! One critique is it doesn't go far enough is developing a concrete action plan to curb emissions - but i guess that's government. Basically, we only need say a few things:1. we are pretty much screwed as a city, county, state, country and world if climate change continues to heat up with no abatement.2. we are in uncharted waters right now with CO2 air concentrations higher than ever seen in any of the last 800,000 years.3. we don't know what will happen to life in a much heated atmosphere; and we don't want to wait around to find out. we are baking ourselves and don't know when the oven will quit warming or how fast it will warm.4. in light of all this, we are taking drastic measures and making sacrifices to cut all non-renewable carbon emissions from our life ASAP.the good news is that wind, hydro and solar electricity is actually much cheaper to make than coal/LNG! Our region is ripe with renewable energy resources. lets go for it!everyone needs to watch "nova - polar extremes", then put political bias aside and just go for it. it's difficult to be forward thinking but the science is adding up quickly!	self
With the extreme construction going on in downtown Portland you are slowly killing us off with the Co2 emissions from air conditioning from packed desity. I suggest you have new buildings completed outside of downtown. Everyday around Morrison, Alder, and Yamhill SW avenues, trucks are allowed to idle emitting dangerous NOX gas, diesel fuel fumes in our neighborhood. Make these trucks follow the law and quit idiling their engines in front of our apartment buildings.	
Customers from China said we should pick up all the garbage in our city before telling other people how to live. Thatâ€™s at least how it was translated to me.	Resident of PDX International Sales Agriculture
Your declaration is symbolic and ineffectual. Instead of “involve youth,” “identify...changes” and “prioritize policies” we need to (1) stop all freeway expansions, (2) remove parked vehicles where they obstruct people from safely using the right-of-way for non-motorized travel, (3) remove or slow moving vehicles where their presence or speed endangers people using the right-of-way for non-motorized travel, and (4) implement video radar enforcement of speed violations city-wide with fines proportional to income. Do these things and Iâ€™ll smile and nod with the other stuff that has no substance.	
I don't think it is necessary for a city to issue a climate change policy. I am a strong proponent of c.c. preventive measures, but I would rather see a comprehensive national policy rather than piecemeal local policies.	
Just another stupid idea from stupid people. This theory you put forth of climate change is not indisputable. Just because you might think so does not make it so. The charlatan you are most likely trying to use this to take the focus off your failing policies. Rhetoric and proposed policies like this continue to divide this community. You are also not living up to your own policies. For instance , is it not in everyone's best interest to save water? But yet the Portland building remodel removed all urinals in the bathrooms. I guess it is okay to waste water to pacify a militant, malcontent segment of the community. If this is what is in store for the futur of my community, then at some point I will take my tax money and move to a city, state that represents my values and listens to all the segments of the community and not just the squeaky wheel. Maybe the squeaky wheels that seem to have more time for demonstration than working can support your wasteful policies. If enough people like me move you'll have a dead city like Detroit, or others that cant manage issues better.	3rd gen lifelong Oregonian Disabled Vet

We strongly support the Climate Emergency Declaration.	Buddhist Peace Fellowship, Portland
The lack of singletrack mountain bike trails in the Portland Parks system is forcing cyclists into cars in order to ride bikes. Currently, Sandy Ridge is a 45 minute drive and Rocky Point (only open to the 2000+ NWTA members) is a 20 minute drive. If there was a system of green to black rated mountain bike trails available within Forest Park, Riverview and Rocky Butte this would allow cyclist to RIDE TO TRAILS and would go a long way towards reducing climate change. The offroad cycling master plan just needs to be adopted and the NWTA is willing and able to build world class trails in our parks.Please make sure we can ride our bikes to trails!	Northwest Trail Alliance
I agree with all declarations made in this letter, however, I don't think it's aggressive enough. Making a broad declaration shows initiative and gives general direction for the city of Portland, however, I fear that this will be all bark with no bite to back it up. If climate change is truly an emergency that threatens all human life, we need a full pressure campaign to reduce our use of fossil fuel and other pollutants immediately. I understand our options to affect other governmental bodies are limited as a city but setting soft goals only allows softer compromises. I will always support any declaration, policy, law, etc. that supports climate reform but I don't think we're doing enough	
Mayor Wheeler,The homeless people camped in doorways, begging for money and using the side walks for toilets are a bigger threat to us in Portland than climate change. Take care of the homeless epidemic, make the streets enjoyable to walk on and go shopping, then you will have my support for the silent killer of climate change.Why have you forgotten about us, the tax paying citizens asking for a clean city that we can be proud of?You have more important and pressing matters the charging the windmills of climate change. Get a homeless plan together. Get the crazy people help, the criminals off the street and the drug addicts treatment. When you have that handled and only then will you have the credibility to tackle a world wide problem like climate change. Lead us into solving these malignant local problems and quit wasting your time on things you can't fix.	
Fix the homeless problem. That should be your top priority. It is becoming an embarrassment. Look beyond the “housing first” solution everyone is proposing.	
COMPLETELY IDIOTIC and completely wasteful. Carbon reduction is complete money grab . . . It's all about some people getting RICH while the rest of us suffer.REMOVE BROWN AND WHEELER. . .	
Ted,Climate Emergency? Are you completely nuts? Our earth regularly goes through cycles of hot, cold, hot and cold. And now because you and your climate alarmists you have sounded the alarm. The sad thing is we are raising an entire generation of young people who believe this.This does nothing but set the stage for more city taxes. And we have an affordable housing problem.....Go figure.	
I wholeheartedly support this.	
I fully support and applaud our City’s recognition and action towards addressing climate change, the existential problem of our time!	
Please make real, substantial change to the transportation sector in Portland. We have made some great improvements over the last decade, but we now need radical re-allocation of space to non-carbon intensive forms of transport. Maintaining service levels for single-occupancy vehicles benefits the upper class, kills people who choose to make less polluting transportation choices and steals land that could be used to house people, but is instead used as free car storage.	
Commit to these goals by cancelling the Rose Quarter expansion project.By significantly reducing or eliminating Tri-met faresDoing everything possible to encourage use of electric bikes and scooters as a vehicle alternativeMaking a public statement in support of the Green New Deal	
1. It is absolutely true that frontline and historically discriminated against communities are disproportionately affected by climate change.That being said, I'd summarize this fact rather than elaborate on it in paragraphs A-L.It will be easier to create a consensus for the hard work ahead by emphasizing that we are all in this crisis together.2. I'm not sure the governance structure should be dominated by youth and frontline communities. Once again, everyone owns the crisis and its solution.3. Some groups (loggers, fossil fuel workers, suburban car owners, etc.) are going to be negatively affected by the transition to a low carbon future. They need to be made whole (as do the frontline communities).4. The proposed specific actions and goals are excellent.	
Build real, world class separated and protected bicycle infrastructure. There's plenty of models for it all over the world. Dutch, Danish, Swedish, even Canadian. Build infrastructure safe for people 8-80. If you want ridership to increase, protect us. There's so many distracted drivers. I want to ride bikes in this city with my wife and young nephews. As our system stands now she won;t ride it and my brother in law wont allow it. Make Car free corridors in every neighborhood. Make it possible for East Portland to ride a bike without mixing wixing with 35 and 45 mile an hour traffic. Expand the BRT with priority lanes. Work with ODOT to enact congestion pricing. Work against ODOT for Rose Quarter expansion. Stop prioritizing free public street parking over bike and bus networks	
Thank you for your pro-active work towards climate justice, slowing down climate change, and reducing the impact of climate change for our future.	
Following are some of my suggestions. Let me know if I can help:• Use what you have in a more effective manner.o Open Wapato “ Be willing to compromise for achieving 75% of our goals and a roof over the heads of our homeless as well as access to services and hygiene.o Do not demolish perfectly good structures in an attempt to make them more sustainable. This adds to landfill and puts a burden on our resources. Curtains and carpets can be a great insulators. Open the doors to simple solutions.o Do not demolish structures due to future earthquake risks. If a person is willing to live in a structure that may pose a risk, that is the decision of the individual.• Have the downtown offices turn off their lights at night “ cities in Germany do this.• Invest in recycling centers and technology “ it is ridiculous that we cannot get rid of our wood, shredded paper, many plastics . . .• Invest in better public transportation and reduce the need for Uber and Lyft.o Do not encourage trends that are damaging for the environment! Germany does not allow Uber and Lyft in many cities.• Create a car pooling site for commuters from Beaverton . . . Germany has many and they get used extensively.• Tax on gasoline. • Tax on cars past a particular size. All these SUVs are nuts.• Tax on single family houses past a particular size. If a family can afford a large house, they can afford extra taxes.• Create prescriptive paths for building sustainably that do not price the developer out of building low income communities.• Continue to plant trees “ they provide shade in the summer and light in the winter on top of all their other benefits.o Use street sweeps and street clean up crews that get paid a decent wage to keep out streets clean and beautiful and provide wages for people that might not be able to hold other jobs. The leave blowers used by the city have terrible emissions. I hear that the parks department is terrible underfunded. This is the wrong place to save money. They can organize community events that clean the garbage off of the streets.• Start a cigarette butt bill. • Create public bath houses and garbage drop off centers for the homeless. • Put programs into schools that educate and practice sustainable and healthy living “ do not serve packaged and processed foods, have community gardens, have the kids walk the neighborhoods and clean them up.• Make sure we have trade schools that focus on sustainable practices in their training.• The government needs to enforce some community oriented efforts by the citizens. Everyone points fingers but we do not do things as a team. One day a year could be set aside for the city to come together and do something.	Arciform Llc
You support domestic terrorists and communism. You are a sick and evil monster	
Real climate change doesn't cost money	
Since when do the youth get to dictate what we have to pay for . When they start paying for this crap then they can have a say . You can’t even fix the dam roads , or the homeless , or the traffic but you think you can fix climate change thats why this city and every liberal city is just a shit hole. I was born here raised here have not left , but I am counting the days that I can leave. Hopefully this place doesn’t turn in to another shit hole like San Francisco before I can retire and get out of this place.	

The following are some suggestions:1. "The sobering fact is this: global carbon emissions must peak in 2020. This year could not be more important" The real sobering fact is the China, India and a lot of the third world is contributing a great to this problem and will continue to unless they are supported in finding alternative energy sources. Stating something that is impossible to meet -- such as that emissions must peak in 2020 is counterproductive and unhelpful. We will already have failed. I would strike the sentence.2. You state that temperatures must not rise above 1.5 degrees. Is that F or C? The articles I have read state it as Celsius and also provide a range. 3. From a perspective of public buy-in I would not start by referring to 'frontline communities.' I don't know if that is policy wonk term or political designation, but if you want the involvement and support of EVERYONE, then the document should start that way. Later the declaration states that some communities are impacted more than others. We should prioritize our actions based upon impacts. What will we do for those 'frontline' communities. I suggest removing the second paragraph and adding more to the later paragraphs. What we are specifically offering for those impacted more in Portland/TriCounties.	
Read the DCED and am wondering where the defunding of fossil fuels and funding of R&D is listed? I might have just missed it, but funding the proper R&D (hopefully through a carbon tax) is going to be important. We could really lead in this area with the right funding/grants to attract talent in these R&D sectors. Maybe I'm looking for topics that are too specific.	none
We can hardly wait to see what your "climate justice" entails. You don't want any input that doesn't agree with your nonsensical stance. Yes, let's let the "yourh" that have been indoctrinated by your agenda driven educational system, create a city and state that produces nothing and is fed by your taxes...Who will be paying taxes in your system if there is no working class??	
Mayor Wheeler:I applaud your efforts to mitigate climate change. It's the tail wagging the dog, when the feds seem determined to do the opposite. So, I realize you cannot affect all of what I'm about to mention. However:- Portland needs to ban gas leaf blowers and mowers.- It also needs a no-idling law.- Oregon needs diesel regulations on par with California's. That includes clean construction requirements and standards for fleets.- You MUST limit the use of concrete, or require low-carbon concrete. The construction boom is surely a huge source of carbon emissions.- And finally, can you lobby the feds to innovate clean commercial airline fuel? I can't imagine addressing global warming otherwise; airline emissions are incredibly damaging and most people won't stop flying.- And, of course, federal deregulation of dirty energy sources has got to stop.Thanks for all you do and putting up with life at Portland's city hall.Regards,Juliet Hyams, former Portland activist and city manager of the City of Wheeler	
Completely vegan school meals as other schools in California have done. This is a potent way of reducing carbon footprint as well as fostering compassion for animals. This would save animals and benefit the environment greatly. School education of animal product myths and their impact on the climate would also be beneficial. An Oxford study asserts that veganism may be the largest way of reducing impact on the environment as a private citizen.	
Cut the BS on climate	
Mr wheeler, how bout you work and address REAL ISSUES that Oregon taxpayers face everyday, homelessness, mental illness, drug addiction, UNAFFORABLE PRESCRIPTION COST... you want to listen to a bunch of kids cause you all have brainwashed them. Poor Oregon... climate change is the least of your concerns Ted	Oregon taxpayer
"Black, Indigenous, and people of color" - this description is somewhat confusing and non-inclusive. Black and indigenous people ARE people of color. And, there are other groups that are also people of color. Please try to find a better way to include all. Maybe just say, "people of color" and leave it at that."the next generation will be facing the consequences of todayâ€™s decisions" change to "future generations...."	self
Our City is in crisis. Homelessness, crime, and rogue police should also be at the top of your emergency list. Prosper Portland has wasted millions. Close that office and put the money toward climate issues and homeless issues. Give someone else the authority over the Police Dept. You are too fearful of them, and they are harming our City. Today's exx. is the PPB involvement in the West Linn police scandal. Recruiting into a dysfunctional police dept has shown to be difficult. How did it respond? It lowered the standards to become an officer. This sort of leadership is causing the problems to snowball.	Resident/Voter
My main comment after reading the Draft is a concern about how the entire Draft seems to focus on the claims of minority and “vulnerable persons” who are being significantly effected by climate change but fails to provide any actual, quantifiable evidence or directions to such evidence, that would justify the rather intense focus and language being used in the draft. To a somewhat well read and reasonable person, this draft seems to be invoking “woke” and intersectional language as an emotional smoke screen in order to hijack our higher reasoning skills in an attempt to persuade us to agree with something that “sounds” good but appears to be nothing more than a grab for more funding from various areas and more regulations, when Oregon is one of the least polluting states in the Union, and the USA being one the least polluting developed country in the world.My other concern is the push for more representation if the youth population on the matter of climate change. Inexperience aside, the youngest generation is struggling with a lot more than just worrying about future impacts of climate change (something we still cannot predict reliably and havenâ€™t for decades). Very few teenagers and young adults possess the reasoning ability of a developed adult (science shows full brain development between ages 23-25). As a millennial myself, I can attest to the immature and poor reasoning skill I possessed (even as a very intelligent young adult) and more so to those around me.To summarize, I believe this is just an attempt to create an answer to a problem that either does not truly exist or that we do not truly understand yet. And attempting to make an emergency out of it is paramount to gaslighting and fearmongering. Stop attempting to hijack the conversation with power grabs and get down to real science, so that we the people can decide how to address the issue. We donâ€™t need you to hold our hands or hold the threat of government authority over it to run our lives.Thank you for your time.	Concerned Resident
Take care of your homegrown environmental catastrophe first. Clean up the dangerous, needle- and feces-ridden trash dumps and crime camps that line our freeways and city streets. Sorry if this means fewer taxpayer-funded boondoggles to global climate conferences for City staffers.	Common Citizenry
Thank you	
The sun is in a vortex of galactic solar migration through the universal path, we are going to experience what ever nature has in store for humanity This carbon tax stuff is man made requiem regression into false information and false taxation by the powers of government... It is not going to matter what we do at this point, the false reality we can do something about is just that... If government was the answer? Then our lives would be beautiful already...Spend your time on helping the homeless and the creation of real paying jobs... In my opinion this is just a distraction from everything that is wrong with government today... Focus on the real problems we can cure and the rest will fall into place as people engage in the process of a better economy... and time to be better carbon entities! Gc	REALITY
Speaking of the planet...the United States led the world in CO2 emissions last year. US CO2 emissions dropped by 2.9% last year...more than any other country still in the Paris Climate Accord. Why don't you concentrate on the CITY of PORTLAND, Ted? Get control of the homeless hordes that are chasing tax-paying citizens out of their downtown homes. Perhaps you should focus on the lawlessness of the marauding Antifa thugs.	
I am so opposed to the PBOT plan that is actually keeping us in our cars for longer time periods. Having 4 lane suburban roads helps move us more quickly. Flashing crosswalks that are used by pedestrians would save lives. The roads in East Portland are a mess, Halsey between NE 102 and 114th is a prime example of mass confusion. I had hoped that you people would see this. Eudaly will lose her seat this election cycle and you may too if this continues. East county HATES this horrible change!	

From your first false statements in the first paragraph, to the devastation on businesses and people, this resolution is complete garbage. Now, more than ever in the history of this planet we are able to sustain more life, NASA photos show more green on this planet, and your "indisputable" science has in fact been not only disputed, but proven false, as we have new evidence that Co2 is not the cause of climate change, but the effect of it, which helps balance out the planet's temperature. To make a resolution like this is absurd and unquestionably reckless, and there are far more important things to resolve, such as the homeless, and the terrorists like Antifa that are allowed to hurt people in the streets while the police watch. Your complete lack of evidence to back up this resolution is staggering and the plans of taxing the crap out of everyone without any proven effect on Co2 output proves your complete lack of care for businesses and people here in Portland. You have done nothing but destroy businesses and be the enemy of the people. We don't need to be saved from Climate change, we need to be saved from this political BS.	
It's nice you want to help poor people, but what about me and my family? It feels like you're forgetting us homeowners in this proposal. You expect me to pay for these services with my taxes, but what are you providing me back in return?Where in the plan do you mention homeowners and how the city plans to help us in this debate?For instance, I would be open to solar power panels on my roof or property but don't even consider this due to the initial costs involved. Are you going to create programs that could make this a reality for me and other homeowners in my neighborhood and around Portland?What if I got an electric car, are there extra incentives for that? Don't forget the working class!!!	homeowner
I fully support and applaud our Cityâ€™s recognition and action towards addressing climate change, the existential problem of our time!	
Yes, please acknowledge and proclaim a Climate Crisis. Jim	
Owner of Arciform and Versatile Wood Products. Companies recognized as businesses for a sustainable tomorrow, Takes actions many years prior to it becoming fashionable to make the declarations, and we are the type of people to actually get stuff done. I installed our own energy system generating enough power to heat our city block in the urban core. (that's my brief bio)I appreciate your declaration. It's hard to argue with declarations as there is no regulations or rules that come with them. Goals are nice to have. Same as "get enough sleep, and eat right." What you do about it matters. My recommendation is that your office is getting carried away playing the race card all the time. If you want to get everyone behind this, stop. Recognizing this is fine, but you are going overboard. Not everything and everyone is a racist. Just stop. We all share the same air and water. And please don't even say that the homeless are some of the least contributors to the problem. If you want to look at the local level, they are probably the worst. Human waste directly on the ground, millions of pounds of trash blowing through our city, into our rivers, into our natural environment.And statistics don't work in the real world, great for politics, but not science. You say we are 15% below carbon emissions of 1990, but our population has probably doubled if not more since then. To maintain 15% below and increase population is a huge net gain. We can get better, for sure, with people doing the right things, I'm all for that, but your stats alter the facts for political gain. That's the math behind statistics. If you want a win, put an end to allowing the destruction of our environment by what you call our marginalized citizens. They are committing crimes and you are letting them. Open Wapato, make the open land around it a campground, give the police the option to give them a day to get there or their junk goes in the trash and they are then recognized as committing a crime. An electric fire truck isn't impressive and won't help you reach your goal, and neither will scraping old buildings as you say and putting that inherent energy into the landfill.Sincerely, good luck with your declaration, but it's time for action. Richard De Wolf	
I am all for reducing pollution in our environment. I have several questions. How do you measure the carbon reduction? What is our current carbon starting point? What agency does the measuring? What are the anticipated costs to citizens, businesses, and industries? What measurable effect will we expect to see in our climate if we reduce our carbon footprint by 50% or 0? Do you think we can control the climate?	
I never heard of dirty gasoling before moving here. Is there some way we could curtail that. Also, diesel is a bad one for us to breathe in. I heard there are some type of catalytic converter that makes the exhaust coming from these cars and, flat bed, and long haul truck, much cleaner burning. It has been tried, but apparently it's prohibitively expensive according to some sources in the trucking industry. Maybe, since, I am only focusing on combustible engine exhaust, which of course, is only one source of green gas emissions,we could petition Salem to give incentives to vehicles that have these safeguards built into new and existing vehicles at the point of license renewal. Right now, the emissions checks every two years, every non-government vehicle and I'm not sure of who doesn't have to 'qualify' for those emissions tests, but don't older cars not have to pass? Does that make sense? Those that do have to go through every two years, it's sort of a joke. I mean, almost anything with a motor, qualifies as road ready gets a pass through those gates.	Street Musicians Union...
In addition to my last comment: Net zero by 2050: Besides no more cooking or heating with natural gas.No more propane BBQ or gas fireplaces.No more fuel for airplanes No gasoline, diesel or lgp cars and trucksThis is not realistic.Perhaps clarify what you really mean by net zero.	
The state has no business supporting Marxist activisium. This is Ted acting woke. Sad. This will just further raise taxes and costs on those who can bear it least. It is a sad virtue signal.	self
You must resist the cap and trade policies of our Governor. It is a terribly regressive tax. Also the effects world wide on carbon reduction are less the .001 of 1 percent. Concentrate your efforts on finding ways and means to cut down on China and India's carbon base energy. Institute and be a leader in saving our Amazon rain forest abroad and our nature forest environment here while also support individual means to reduce pollution. (I like to paper bag policy) Also stop punishing gasoline drivers with increase gas taxes to make up for loss of revenue to electric vehicles. Institute a tax on miles driven in lieu of a gas tax that is for more fair. And lastly how about a modest registration fee on bicycles so as to promote their understanding of infrastructure cost that they benefit from.	
Our climate HAS NOT CHANGED much during the last 100 years. We have minor cold years and warmer years but that is natural for earth. CO 2 is needed for plant growth and is not bad. NASA has said it is not a Problem. Your Cap and Trade is Crap and Tax, it's a Money Transfer Tax and will Not help the environment. I have seen the environment change for 80 years and today it's very cleen in America. If you want to do something talk to China, they have a problem.	
This is an admirable Emergency Declaration. As a model of how to respond, look no further than how this country shifted it's priorities to address the national threat posed by World War Two. The economy shifted focus to the threat on our nation. The world, with Portland showing the way, needs to focus on the current threat to Planet Earth. Priorities and short term econimic interests must change. A quick aggressive approach will lessen the long term damage.	
While climate change is very important - YOU should PRIORITIZE - We face many other challenges - Climate is an US - you, me and the rest of the world - CRIME - and general livability are what you should focus on!	
The Whereas about youth could be strengthened to say something about youth of all communities indigenous, marginalized under represented etc. It doesnt really cover the 20 to 30 year olds that feel cheated by our.lack of action and excess. My own 3 25, 28 and 30 y.o. dont have much hope this will change.	Resident
Great work. I fully support all of the initiatives proposed and am especially a proponent for reducing carbon emissions in the building and transportation industry. I would hope that we focus on investment in our mass transit making it the norm for getting around the city and suburbs. How can we make buses, the Max, and bikes even more popular among residents and reduce single vehicle traffic. I'd also hope that we can encourage density within the city: more healthy, diverse, and vibrant pockets. Let's bring in the right type of development for Portland and establishing heavy incentives or laws mandating net zero buildings and affordable housing.Ultimately, let's get started and become an example for the rest of the country!	DLR Group
Itâ€™s a meaningless document because itâ€™s only Portland. This city has little to no effect in the real scope of things.	
Another waste of money. Why don't you bozos get India and China to curb their emissions before you go wasting our local tax dollars on BS proposals? We have homeless roaming our neighborhoods stealing everything they can get their hands on but you can't be troubled with that. I guess it doesn't affect you in your fancy neighborhoods.	

Climate change always has, and always will, exist. Mother earth is more powerful than us thus far. Yes.... We need to protect her. Their has been at least 5 ice ages over time... man did not cause these.With that said, have you looked at the 300 year sun cycle? There is data showing when the sun goes into this period, earthquakes and volcanic activity rises. THAT is a much bigger risk that I am not aware of much we can do to protect ourselves. We are going into a period of global COOLING... not warming imo.What if you and nearly everybody else are wrong and the expected warming period becomes cooling? Famine and disease comes from extended periods of cold. Technology is evolving. Electric cars as an example will on its own address co2 challenges in part over time as they gain additional acceptance. What local efforts do we have to mass grow produce inside locations via led lights etc.? I would be interested in speaking further on that as a PART of the solution. This could help feed homeless folks as we ramp as well. We have ideas on how to grow more food greener, quicker, and more sustainably.I am extremely concerned governments are imposing great costs that ultimately is going to bankrupt us. We cannot afford additional taxes, costs, etc without certainty it will solve the problem. Jobs are at risk which means lower tax revenues. We can be a leader but we need China and others to follow or our efforts which otherwise are insignificant in the grand picture. It is not ok to put us at a massive competitive disadvantage that expedites our loosing our global leadership role.Thank you.PS... we drive electric cars, Priuses, etc as our company is "Green As Can Be" as we too believe we need to do what we can within reason to protect our environment and world. Thanks.	Pest Solutions LLC.
Mayor Wheeler,I have a handful of quick comments. 1. Why don't you do something about our homeless CRISIS here in Portland - I'm sure you'll say you're doing SO much, but let's be honest, all the money you throw at it is not helping the situation2. Why don't you do something about our failing education system in Portland3. Take a trip to China or India, then you can come home to the US and get a true appreciation of all we've already done4. Your ignorance is astounding on this issue5. Stop promising things you have no intention in finishing	
The US military bares responsibility for the largest bootprint on our planet. The US military uses 25% of the world's oil each day.We need to work to reduce our unnecessary wars for profit to the wealthiest	VFP
Are you kidding me? Did you read the news this morning?CO2 produced by US down 2.9% in 2019. CO2 produced in China and Asia up. If this is an emergency the declaration should be aimed at the countries that are not going down.	
Question: What do you mean by City's net zero by 2050? Do you mean the city government or the entire city?What does net zero mean? I think it means no more heating or cooking with natural gas. No more use of gasoline for cars. I don't think this is realistic.	
pandering!	
Needs more binding prescription:1. Efficiency First = Local Jobs2. Code change requiring all new construction be NetZeroReady starting 20273. Carbon Tax On Imports4. \$1B funding commitment	
You fools think by additional taxing (Theft) youâ€™ll change the weather? This is purely another attempt of our pathetic and inept Portland government to take more of your hard earned dollars!!!	
This is making no sense to me, what is climate justice. It sounds like a line from Aquaman. And I dont think children have enough knowledge of the way the world works to be your saviors in climate change. You cell phone destroys the planet probably the most try to get them to give that up. They are made on plastic, lead, gold, aluminum, lithium, sapphire and more, start somewhere that will actually count. You are trying so hard to be woke, but look like fools. You ban straws made of plastic that go in your mouth, but give away syringes made of plastic that go in your blood by the thousands. I can say I have probably seen more needles in the gutter than straws. You are worried about electric firetrucks and electric leaf blowers to help save lives from a climate crisis and you have how many people dieing on your streets every night from overdose to drive by shooting. Put your priorities in the right spot save lives now not 100 years down the road. You have bigger problems like earthquakes that will happen befor the climate changes enough to hurt Portland.	
It won't work. Portland needs a mayor that will tackle what really matters, like the homeless emergency.	
There is no emergency. This is A scam. You will never TAX you're way to a different climate. That's all this is...a way to drain the wallets off the working class so that the elites "feel better"	
Stop with all these b.s. excuses to create more taxes and start fixing real issues in our communities. It is time for ted wheeler, kate brown and every other democrat politician to be voted out because you guys have totally destroyed oregon with your communist ways.	None
I'm still waiting for global cooling that was predicted in the seventies. Or the hole in the o-zone. Remember that? Acid rain, Global warming, Climate control, and every generation since I can remember has given the world 10 yrs until critical crisis. Scientists from every generation always seem to agree with the one writing their check.So the points I would like to emphasize here are:1. The science in not settled. How can it be when the science hasn't gotten it right in the 50 yrs that I can remember.2. There is a whole different side to climate science & Carbon levels that is NOT being represented. Why? The arguments are very compelling, with hard researched data. 3. A discussion on GeoEngineering would be appreciated. Since my research has led me to some interesting information. So here's my conclusion:The earth cools. The earth warms. Sometimes it happens fast & sometimes its happens over a long period of time. How is it you can claim there is some sort of Right temperature for the earth? What are you comparing our climate to in order to establish it as getting worse? Do you have a baseline?I have to ask myself these questions since they are so "common sense" to me. I say to myself "what is this really all about?"And my answer is, and always has been "it's a power grab." How can it be anything else, and how can I see it in any other way? Especially since the other side of the scientific argument is being silenced and not represented.	
Noticed a flaw in your web page USA citizens should have English as required language.	Hello
Hey Ted and Kiddos stop the use of all fossil fuels in Portland. Try it for 2 or 3 weeks. Getting hungry yet. Maybe this fall Bernie will give you some free cheese and beans. Emergency and Free stuff are just Beliefs. !	
All this will be is another tax on Oregonians. Just as the cap and trade bill is. Climate change is real, but more taxes will not solve the problem. And you wonder why there are so many homeless people up here. Will be glad to vote the mayor and the city council out of office in November.	
All this will be is another tax on Oregonians. Just as the cap and trade bill is. Climate change is real, but more taxes will not solve the problem. And you wonder why there are so many homeless people up here. Will be glad to vote the mayor and the city council out of office in November.	
This should be a nationwide effort. Why should a city take on this effort and make local citizens pay higher carbon cost when much of the rest of the country sits on there hands. Not fair to Portlanders.	
There is no "climate emergency". None of these measures will decrease the already low carbon emissions. As it is, Oregon only contributes .7% of the total carbon emissions in the United States. Even if fully implemented, the Paris agreement would fail at slowing down the so-called "climate change... http://news.mit.edu/2016/how-much-difference-will-paris-agreement-make-0422	
THERE IS NO CLIMATE EMERGENCY.Stop wasting taxpayers money..	Oregonian
We are not California and do not want to be California. You are trying to destroy our logging industry. NO!	

I appreciate the city's attempt to tackle the issue of climate change. After reading the draft I think the emphasis on youth activism is misplaced (if you want to achieve fair results). The draft made clear that the children are our future, and therefore we must prioritize them in this fight. But why? Do they bring intrinsic value that the rest of us don't? It's more important that we make sound, stable decisions that are based on good evidence than it is to have particular group be elevated as leaders because they're enthusiastic - or they'll live longer - or any other reason that isn't based primarily on merit. Nowhere in the draft did I see the word 'vote'. I didn't see 'discuss' or 'debate'. It seems to me like we're going to call this an emergency to try force people to deal with the decisions the government wants to make.The upcoming decisions for the people of the city aren't easy. It isn't clear that a youth led summit on climate will do anything to help achieve our goals. Nor that an ongoing governance structurethat prioritizes leadership by frontline communities and youth will help. Nor a climate test. There are complexities that require nuance, experience, differing opinions, and rigorous debate. "...That Portland is committed to a just and manageddecline of fossil-fuel consumption and equitable implementation of solutions thatbenefit affected workers, frontline communities and Portland residents broadly"The previous sentence was the only thing I found that acknowledged people would be impacted by some of the new policies. This is exactly my issue. Some people will be negatively impacted by this massively. Some businesses will close, people will lose their jobs, and I want to make sure we're considering those people JUST AS MUCH as a youth climate activist, or a member of a frontline community.	
Portland's frontline communities, indigenous peoples, youth, and everyone really would best be served by:- Free transit- Increased frequency of transit- Increased reliability of transit- Dedicated bus lanes - Dedicated streetcar lanes- A comprehensive network of protected bike lanes- No expansion of I-5 in the Rose Quarter- In fact, just remove the highway altogether. Vancouver, BC doesn't have a highway cutting it in half.- Removing I-5 could stitch back together the Albina neighborhood.	
The term “frontline” commuters is used twice without a hint to a study that says who is really affected by climate changes in our urban employment structure. Are these frontline people the truck drivers , urban farmers and purveyors of imported products made from fossil fuels from world regions not subject to our environmental standards? Concrete manufacturers and users?Is frontline the coastal fisheries and tourism?Why should we be worried about the ski resorts?Is frontline code for an unidentifiable population in portland in need of climate tax dollars?Please define!	Resident/taxpayer/educat or
There are too many (20) "Resolved" statements. We should be more strategic. Remove the resolves statements that are too general and not actionable, e.g.: "13. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Portland is committed to a just and managed decline of fossil-fuel consumption and equitable implementation of solutions that benefit affected workers, frontline communities and Portland residents broadly; and" 14. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Portland will prioritize and advance policies and investments to reduce carbon emissions from the building and transportation sectors “ the two largest contributors to local carbon emissions “ that put us on a path to reach net-zero carbon before 2050; andThese priorities are self-evident in other parts of the document.	
Thank you for this. I'd suggest a change to one of the Whereas by adding the text between * *. I think mitigating risks and building resilience are linked but different. Increased flooding, increased fire, increased extreme heat events are risks that we need to mitigate while building resiliency.WHEREAS, protecting, restoring and managing our urban natural resources tosequester carbon, *mitigate risks* and build resilience to the impacts of climate change providesbenefits to human physical and mental health, as well as protects the intrinsicvalue of natural ecosystems and biodiversityI would also like to see an action ... *Be it further resolved, Portland will protect it's remaining flood areas and tree canopy and adopt policies to improve these existing resources to mitigate the risks of increasing floods, fires and extreme heat events.*	
Consider integrating the Land Acknowledgement work into the language used in the decoration. There are three different phrases used to refer to indigenous communities.	BPS

Mayor Wheeler and City Council Members,

Thank you for taking public testimony on the draft climate emergency declaration. I have reviewed it and have a few pieces of feedback to share:

(1) The City of Portland's climate response would benefit from more input and accountability than exists today. As reviewer and recommending body for the Climate Action Plan, the Planning and Sustainability Commission theoretically offers this. But the PSC has not provided substantive accountability for the sustainability side of the city's operations since the passage of the 2015 Climate Action Plan, and the climate crisis can't wait.

The City should convene and empower a new Climate Commission to fill this role. This could be the 'new governance structure' referenced in the draft declaration – but it should have more authority and include a broader coalition of members. In addition to (and ideally overlapping with) members of frontline communities and youth leaders, the commission should include technical and policy experts familiar with climate science, energy policy, and levers of change. Frontline communities and youth members must be at the decision-making table to ensure the city adopts just climate policies. But they need not bear the full responsibility of climate leadership. This is a huge undertaking that demands as much leadership as we can muster – inclusive of but not limited to young people and frontline communities.

(2) The plan should be specific and action-oriented, with clear timelines. The current draft should be updated to include specific action items with deadlines. At minimum, it should direct all bureaus to report back within 90 days on opportunities for radical greenhouse gas and co-pollutant emissions reductions and greenhouse gas drawdown opportunities, including metrics that prioritize the decrease of fossil fuel use and climate-adaptive land use planning. This could happen in parallel with the creation of the aforementioned governance structure, which would help guide the translation of these ideas into concrete actions. Without such detail, the resolution runs the risk of being perceived as hand waving – at a time when concrete action is needed.

(3) Shorten the feedback loop by establishing interim targets. The earliest 'target' date reference in the draft resolution is 2030. This is way too far in the future to motivate the actions we need to be taking this year and next. We must establish hard annual targets so we know if we're actually on track to meet the 2030 goals – or need to work harder – before it becomes too late to try and play catch up.

(4) Don't start back at square one. Reading the draft action plan makes it seem like we're starting from scratch on a process to infuse equity into our climate plan. But City and County leaders already have a history of partnering with frontline communities in this area. Over the course of 2 years, Portland, Multnomah County, and members of the Equity Working Group integrated equity into the 2015 Climate Action Plan, as outlined

in the “2016 Climate through Equity” report. We should build upon this important process, particularly the 9 equity considerations to guide decision-making described on p. 12 of the report (attached).

(5) The climate resolution could be half as long and twice as potent. Consider drawing from this excellent template: <https://www.theclimatemobilization.org/climate-emergency-resolution>. The following clauses, cherry-picked from it, could be used to shorten and focus the current draft:

“WHEREAS, justice requires that frontline and marginalized communities, which have historically borne the brunt of the extractive fossil-fuel economy, participate actively in the planning and implementation of this mobilization effort and that they benefit first from the transition to a climate-safe economy;

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, [CITY/COUNTY] declares that a climate and ecological emergency threatens our city, region, state, nation, civilization, humanity and the natural world;

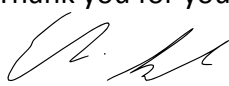
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the [CITY/COUNTY] Council directs all [CITY/COUNTY] Departments, proprietaries, and commissions to report back within 60 days of the date <of the all-staff meeting> referenced above on maximum emergency reductions in greenhouse gas emissions from their operations feasible by the end of 2030;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the [CITY/COUNTY] Council directs [RELEVANT DEPT/AGENCY] to report back within 90 days on the feasibility for the rapid phase out of fossil fuel production, power generation, and use within [city/county] limits, including immediate changes to building codes, local ordinances, and permitting processes to prevent the construction of new local fossil fuel infrastructure;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the [CITY/COUNTY] commits to keeping the concerns of frontline and marginalized central to all Climate Emergency Mobilization program planning processes and to inviting and encouraging such communities to actively participate in the development and implementation of this Climate Mobilization Action Plan and all climate mobilization efforts;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the [CITY/COUNTY] recognizes that the full participation, inclusion, support, and leadership of community organizations, faith communities, youth, labor organizations, academic institutions, indigenous groups, and racial, gender, family, immigrant and disability justice and organizations and other allies are integral to the climate emergency response and mobilization efforts;

Thank you for your consideration.



Eli Spevak
4757 NE Going St.
Portland, Or 97218

Feedback was molded into 9 equity considerations

Staff summarized the feedback from these work sessions and finalized them after review by the Equity Working Group. (See Equity Considerations text box for more details).

Staff then used the Equity Considerations to conduct a basic equity assessment of every action proposed in the draft Climate Action Plan. Actions were revised based on that assessment and the updated actions were shared with the Equity Working Group to determine if their feedback had been adequately integrated.



"For the community-based grantees, we learned how to better navigate the government bureaucracy while developing our own internal leadership around the issues of climate change. This small investment in our organizations had great returns in terms of building new capacity within various groups that are often ignored in the civic process due to cultural or language barriers. Moving forward, this grant could be a great model for future meaningful community engagement in a policy making process."

Duncan Hwang, Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO), Equity Working Group Member

EQUITY CONSIDERATIONS

1. Disproportionate impacts

Does the proposed action generate burdens (including costs), either directly or indirectly, to communities of color or low-income populations? If yes, are there opportunities to mitigate these impacts?

2. Shared benefits

Can the benefits of the proposed action be targeted in progressive ways to reduce historical or current disparities?

3. Accessibility

Are the benefits of the proposed action broadly accessible to households and businesses throughout the community — particularly communities of color, low-income populations, and minority, women and emerging small businesses?

4. Engagement

Does the proposed action engage and empower communities of color and low-income populations in a meaningful, authentic and culturally appropriate manner?

5. Capacity building

Does the proposed action help build community capacity through funding, an expanded knowledge base or other resources?

6. Alignment and partnership

Does the proposed action align with and support existing communities of color and low-income population priorities, creating an opportunity to leverage resources and build collaborative partnerships?

7. Relationship building

Does the proposed action help foster the building of effective, long-term relationships and trust between diverse communities and local government?

8. Economic opportunity and staff diversity

Does the proposed action support communities of color and low-income populations through workforce development, contracting opportunities or the increased diversity of city and county staff?

9. Accountability

Does the proposed action have appropriate accountability mechanisms to ensure that communities of color, low-income populations, or other vulnerable communities will equitably benefit and not be disproportionately harmed?



Date: March 22, 2020
From: Audubon Society of Portland
To: Mayor Ted Wheeler
Re: Climate Emergency Declaration

Dear Mayor Wheeler,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Climate Emergency Declaration. Please accept the following comments on behalf of Audubon Society of Portland and our 17,000 members in the Portland Metro Region. Climate adaptation and mitigation is one of Portland Audubon's top priorities and we have worked with the City for decades to advance climate strategies. Unfortunately we have found the process to develop the Climate Emergency Declaration to be largely incoherent and the resolution leaves us with far more questions than answers about the City's resolve to push ahead and take its commitment to climate leadership to a new level.

We have been told in the past (and even by staff during this process) that the City has consciously chosen not to declare a climate emergency because it viewed such a step as a superficial gesture more appropriate for municipalities that are just now initiating climate action and engagement programs rather than for a city which has been a national leader on climate change planning for decades and which has a robust climate action plan already in place. We concur with that assessment.

We believe that the time, energy and resources devoted to developing this resolution could have been better spent advancing and updating the City's existing climate action plan, including engaging diverse stakeholders, assessing strengths, deficits and progress made to date on the existing plan, selecting priority strategies to advance in the short term and capturing new ideas and actions for longer-term development. Instead what we appear to have before us in the Climate Emergency Resolution, after more than half a year of work, is little more than a vaguely described process to develop a process to advance climate objectives.... the proverbial "plan for a plan" or more aptly in this case "a plan for a plan for revision of a plan." To the degree that this resolution serves as a catalyst to spur the city to bold climate action, it will be useful. However, we are concerned that it in fact, represents an unfortunate trend of the city substituting big statements for bold action.

1) Bold and decisive action that challenges the status quo is needed.

We agree with the Mayor's statement in his introductory letter that asserts that we must take bold and decisive action that challenges the status quo. Words on the page however, must be matched by action on the ground. Unfortunately what we are seeing right now is a city that has become increasingly timid and lethargic in its approach to climate change. There are major plans currently going through development and adoption processes in which the City has failed to assert leadership on climate issues. Recent examples include the South Reach River Plan, The Regional Transportation Plan, the I-5 Rose Quarter Expansion, Residential Infill Project and Levee Ready Columbia. The City has delayed for years putting forward a comprehensive green infrastructure plan that could advance multiple goals including climate justice and climate resilience and recently dismantled its Watershed Services Program. It took more than a year of lobbying and multiple packed hearings just to get the City to lift a sunset clause on municipal code protecting big trees. We urge City Council to apply the sentiments expressed in the resolution and the Mayor's letter to plans and programs as they come before the Council and ensure that the City is in fact integrating bold and decisive climate leadership.

2) Landscape resilience and natural resource based strategies need to be elevated as climate priorities.

The city has a long history of emphasizing climate mitigation strategies while de-emphasizing climate adaptation and landscape resilience focused strategies in its climate planning. This resolution perpetuates that trend. While adaptation and landscape resilience are acknowledged in the "whereas" section (Specifically sections P and Q), these priorities are completely absent in among the twenty "be it resolved" objectives. The City should include at least one resolution that directly addresses climate adaptation and landscape resilience. We would recommend the following:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City will review all plans and major projects currently under consideration to ensure that green infrastructure based adaptation strategies are maximized to sequester carbon, reduce urban heat island impacts, increase landscape resilience, reduce air pollution and promote environmental justice.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City will work with the community to develop neighborhood scale green infrastructure plans to sequester carbon, reduce urban heat island impacts, increase landscape resilience, reduce air pollution and promote environmental justice.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City will fund and advance improvements and updates to the Title 11 tree code consistent with the resolution passed in January 2020 including but not limited to consideration of application of the Title 11 to commercial and industrial zoned lands, reduction in the diameter of trees eligible for inch-for-inch mitigation, application of tree protections on lots smaller than 5,000 square feet, application of tree mitigation funds and improved enforcement for tree code violations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City instructs all City agencies with authority/responsibility over the public right of way, including PBOT, BES, BPS, BDS and PP&R, to develop a unified strategy to increase green opportunities in the ROW.

The impacts of climate change are already directly impacting our community. Portland has long been recognized as a national leader in green infrastructure strategies, but it has now been 15 years since Portland adopted its cutting edge watershed management plan which called for green infrastructure to be integrated into every city project. Climate change makes this mandate all the more imperative.

3) Climate action planning needs to live up to the verbiage in the resolution about collaboration and inclusion.

Audubon supports a collaborative and inclusive process for advancing climate action and specifically supports engaging frontline communities and youth. We also recognize that this may require prioritizing and reallocating limited resources. That being said, we felt that the city did an unacceptable job conducting outreach on the development of this resolution. This process was difficult to track, communication was minimal, and at times the City seemed indifferent and even hostile to input. It was particularly disappointing to hear City staff using equity as an excuse for these failures. Using equity an excuse for treating stakeholders badly ultimately serves to undermine rather than advance the cause of climate justice. It will be important when the City does get to updating the Climate Action Plan that it engages frontline communities and youth and the broader community, especially if it wants to make good on Resolution # 2.

4) The resolution should clearly delineate substantive changes from the current Climate Action Plan.

The resolution includes a number of projects and programs. It would be helpful if the resolution clearly delineated which of these represent substantive changes or additions to the existing Climate Action Plan and which of these are merely restatements of actions that the City has already committed to doing either in the Climate Action Plan or elsewhere.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Bob Sallinger". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Bob Sallinger
Conservation Director
Audubon Society of Portland



20 March 2020

Mayor Ted Wheeler
1221 SW Fourth Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97204

RE: Climate Emergency Resolution

Honorable Mayor Wheeler,

We appreciate this opportunity to offer feedback on the City of Portland's Climate Emergency Resolution and want to thank the City for their leadership in addressing climate change. Since 1986, the Columbia Corridor Association has represented the largest economic corridor in Oregon, comprised of 3,000 businesses in manufacturing, transportation and exports, employing 70,000 people with more family wage jobs than anywhere else in the state. It has been our mission to improve both the environment and economy of our industrial sanctuary. We feel we are in a unique position to partner with the City on policy stemming from this resolution.

While the current resolution places our most vulnerable communities at the forefront, it is likely to be more successful if the business community is part of the solution. After all, Columbia Corridor businesses provide a higher percentage of family wage jobs to communities of color than the City of Portland or the State of Oregon. And we had \$15/hour starting wages long before it became a talking point. As a sector that has already achieved these goals and has reduction of energy use as a top priority, we can be a good partner.

In addition to substantive stakeholder engagement, we ask for policy that is not ideologically based, but data driven. Our goal should be carbon reduction results. A resolution and policy that reduces greenhouse gas emissions, both short-term and long-term, makes business sense. Additionally, the resolution should encourage policies that keep affordability of energy front and center for communities of color and the companies that employ them. We look forward to working with the City staff to identify opportunities for increased energy efficiency and steer away from regressive policies that are easy but provide few emission reductions and greatly increase energy costs for those who can least afford it.

We welcome the continued dialogue and partnership in determining how our region leads the way in climate policy and continues to grow the vibrant economy we all depend upon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Corky Collier'.

Corky Collier
Executive Director



Coalition of
Communities of
Color



Sunday, March 22nd, 2020

To: Ted Wheeler, Mayor of Portland
Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, City of Portland

From: Coalition of Communities of Color, Verde, Sunrise PDX, Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility, Climate Jobs PDX (a project of Portland Jobs with Justice), 350PDX, Columbia Riverkeeper, Willamette Riverkeeper, and Center for Sustainable Economy

Re: Comments on Draft Climate Emergency Resolution for the City of Portland

Dear Mayor Wheeler and Bureau of Planning and Sustainability,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the City of Portland's draft Climate Emergency Declaration. We, the undersigned, urge you to make the following changes to this resolution to make it a powerful and effective tool for the City and demonstrate Portland's leadership by setting a strong example for other communities. Fuller detail for each of these changes is elaborated upon below.

- **Resourcing Community Climate Action Planning**
 - Commit to resourcing frontline community members so that they can participate fully in climate action planning
 - Commit to building bridges to ensure successful outreach with and participation by key stakeholders, including a new staffer and/or expert consultant to focus on this work
 - Commit to finding and deploying resources to achieve climate justice goals
- **Accountability and Transparency**
 - Commit to a thorough and inclusive public recruitment process for the new governance structure for advising climate action planning
 - Indicate specific desired outcomes and process for the new governance structure
 - Commit to public reporting on creating the new governance structure and its progress
 - Commit to regularly coordinating with frontline organizations and leaders

- Demonstrate commitment to accountability, inclusivity, and transparency in the next steps of passing this Climate Emergency Declaration
- Specific Issues and Priorities
 - Noting what specific details are appropriate in the resolution thus far, and
 - Highlighting specific issues that should be named in the resolution

Introduction

Our organizations and our collective memberships agree with the City that we are in the midst of a climate emergency. Our City has a pressing and urgent need for climate justice and thus we appreciate that the City of Portland is committed to calling it what it is. The City must not only declare a climate emergency, but commit to action that is appropriate for addressing the crisis at hand. That action must be transparent, rooted in justice, and accountable to the communities on the front lines of climate change. For the reasons discussed below, we believe the City's Climate Emergency Declaration must go further in order to rise to meet this emergency at the scale and urgency that it demands.

In particular, this means rapid curtailing of Portland's contribution to greenhouse gas emissions and increasing resiliency measures. We must support those who have contributed the least to the causes of global climate change but who are most exposed to its health impacts, such as our communities' young people, and those who live on the front lines of the climate crisis. These frontline communities include but are not limited to black, indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC), low-income households and people experiencing poverty, and unhoused persons and people experiencing housing instability. Workers, especially those in high-carbon industries, are also at risk as we enact a swift transition to a renewable energy economy. We must ensure a just transition for all of these communities that respects people's dignity and leaves no one behind.

The rapidly spreading COVID-19 pandemic highlights a wide range of areas where our social safety net is failing to provide for communities who need it most and demonstrating unacceptable weaknesses in our systems. Universal health care, housing stability, living wage jobs with benefits and protections for workers, and food sovereignty are all examples of critical infrastructure needed by all in order to weather public health crises. Health professionals worldwide have correctly pointed out that climate change is one of the largest and most complex public health crises the world has ever faced. We need swift action prioritizing the most vulnerable among us both to tackle the acute health crisis of COVID-19 and the ongoing health crisis of climate change.

With these points in mind, we urge you to adopt the following changes to the City of Portland's Climate Emergency Declaration.

Resourcing Community Climate Action Planning

In the time that has passed since early efforts to pass a Climate Emergency Declaration (“Declaration”), there have been some efforts made by the City of Portland to engage with frontline communities in refining the draft resolution. We appreciate that the process was slowed and that effort was taken to receive more input before moving forward this Spring. However, many of our calls for investments in frontline communities to participate in shaping this resolution have not resulted in action from the City to provide resources to community members for full participation in this process.

The draft Declaration is right to acknowledge:

- WHEREAS - B: that frontline communities “must be the ones that benefit first from the transition to a renewable energy economy and be able to lead the planning and implementation efforts to address climate change” and
- WHEREAS - D: the value of “the sovereign voice of Native Nations and the importance of working in partnership with tribal leaders to uphold treaty-reserved lifeways, traditional values, and cultural resources that are jeopardized by the increasing threat of the climate emergency.”

In order to act accordingly, the Declaration must include a prompt commitment to provide resources for frontline communities to participate in the “new, ongoing governance structure” outlined in BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED 4-6. These resources should include, at a minimum, commitments to:

- Stipends for frontline community members’ time spent,
- Free childcare and translation/interpretation services, and
- Travel compensation.

These are necessary commitments to allow frontline communities to “be able to lead the planning and implementation efforts to address climate change.”

New bridges and relationships should be built by the City with frontline communities to ensure success in climate action planning. In executing the Declaration, the City should consider hiring a new staffer or, at the least, an expert consultant to assist with outreach and recruitment efforts to build relationships with frontline communities and to help facilitate the co-creation of this new governance structure with frontline communities. This is essential because to date, the City’s efforts have not yielded significant headway in this area. A new hire should, ideally, be a member of a frontline community.

In addition to resourcing essential collaboration with frontline communities, the City should commit to finding and deploying the resources needed to implement the goals and targets outlined in the Climate Emergency Resolution. One avenue by which this could be carried out is to expand the City’s emergency powers relating to the goals in this measure. Those powers could be used to allocate financial resources as well as make it easier for the City to make regulations needed to make progress on the goals of the Declaration.

Accountability and Transparency

Outreach, recruitment, and reporting

Opportunities to actively engage with the “new, ongoing governance structure” must be made widely available to frontline communities. The City should commit in the Declaration to a broad effort to invite resourced participation in this governance structure. The outreach efforts to solicit applications to serve on the Portland Clean Energy Community Benefits Fund Grant Committee in 2019, which were conducted in partnership with the Portland Clean Energy Fund community coalition steering committee, provide a strong template for a broad and inclusive recruitment effort. Two reports, one on interim progress and a final report, should be made by the city to detail how these recruitment efforts are carried out. These reports should be made widely available to the public. Additional reports should be made to assess the progress made on goals outlined in the Declaration, ideally quarterly and no less than annually.

Process & Outcomes from the New Governance Structure

Clear outcomes for the Declaration’s governance structure should be established in the Declaration, as well as a mechanism for transparency in decisions made by this governance structure. Again, the Portland Clean Energy Community Benefits Fund Grant Committee provides helpful models on equitable commission structure and transparency. Side boards need to be established so that the governance structure is set up for success and city leaders take its recommendations to heart in future climate policymaking.

Coordinate with the Broader Community

The Declaration should include a commitment to regular check-ins with frontline organizations and leaders in Portland in a clear, coordinated fashion. The purposes of these check-ins will be to ensure that the execution of the Declaration is being completed in a timely manner and being done in a way that is inclusive, transparent, and true to the stated goals in the “Whereas” section of the Declaration. This gives the City the opportunity to share back how community input is represented in process.

Process with the Climate Emergency Declaration Itself

In order to demonstrate its commitment to inclusive, accountable, and transparent climate action planning, we strongly urge the City to:

- Release a summary of its engagement process for the current draft of the Climate Emergency Declaration

- Allow community groups to review the next draft before it is voted on to ensure feedback is incorporated
- Ensure remote-access public testimony on the Declaration prioritizing frontline community members

Amplifying Specific Issues and Priorities

The Declaration rightly acknowledges some specific areas of focus for climate action planning in Portland, and we appreciate the Declarations mentioning of the following key issues:

In the **Whereas section**:

- Defining frontline communities
- Acknowledging the disproportionate burden borne by frontline communities, youth, and frontline youth.
- The public health and safety impacts of fossil fuel infrastructure (from extraction to transportation to storage)
- Housing justice, energy burden, air quality, and displacement as critical climate issues, and these issues' connection to racist land use policies and discriminatory urban planning and real estate rules
- Historical and current emissions levels and regional warming
- Our natural resources' role in climate action

In the **Be It Resolved section**:

- A cross-sectional approach calling on all sectors of the city to take ownership over climate action
- Commitment to supporting a youth-led summit on climate in 2020
- Managed decline of fossil fuels in a manner that is equitable for workers and frontline communities
- Building and transportation emissions reductions mindful of renter protections and advocacy for YouthPass
- Clear goals and a timeline for carbon reduction in the utility sector and a transition to 100% clean and renewable energy from Portland General Electric and PacifiCorp to all Portland residents and businesses
- An update on progress by the end of 2020

We urge you to **go further and acknowledge the need for progress on**:

- Specific infrastructure issues such as the Zenith Energy facility and the oil trains that move through Portland neighborhoods to supply the facility
- Advocacy from the City of Portland for fully fareless and decriminalized transit at TriMet and improved transit service, especially in outer neighborhoods

- A clear commitment that the City's statewide and regulatory advocacy to achieve 100% clean, renewable energy from Portland General Electric and PacifiCorp are focused on energy that benefits communities, such as community-generated renewable projects and frontline workforce development
- Specific annual emissions reductions goals, on either an annual or 5-year basis
- Diesel emissions, especially from old engines and construction
- Methane emissions from so-called "natural" gas as well as "renewable natural" gas
- The Portland Harbor Superfund Site and Critical Energy Infrastructure hub as major sources of environmental injustice in Portland
- Worker safety and empowerment, including protections for whistleblowers and acknowledging the huge environmental threats to workers posed by increasing air pollution, smoky air, hot weather, and more
- A climate test should be given the precedent that it should apply to permitting processes
- An acknowledgement for the need to collaborate with other governments to achieve success and maximize the positive impact of our actions

Conclusion

We appreciate that the City of Portland is taking the climate crisis seriously and making space and time for community engagement on this important declaration. The current moment we are living in shows us how important it will be to care for all residents of our city as the climate crisis worsens, like the public health issue that it is. We believe in the resilience and strength of our communities and our ability to respond well and take timely action for climate justice. We hope that many fruitful partnerships are built between the city and communities so that we are successful in our collaborative efforts for a just transition to a clean, renewable energy economy and a brighter future for all Portlanders.

Sincerely,

Taren Evans, Environmental Justice Director
Coalition of Communities of Color

Tony DeFalco, Executive Director
Verde

Indi Keith, Partnerships Coordinator
Sunrise PDX

Damon Motz-Storey, Healthy Climate Program Director
Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility

Laurie King, Climate Jobs PDX
A project of Portland Jobs With Justice

Dineen O'Rourke, Campaign Manager
350PDX

Dan Serres, Conservation Director
Columbia Riverkeeper

Elisabeth Holmes, Staff Attorney
Willamette Riverkeeper

Nicholas Caleb, Staff Attorney
Center for Sustainable Economy



March 20, 2020

The Climate Emergency Resolution has many positive statements but needs more specifics and clarity to actually achieve them. As stated in the resolution, climate change is an existential threat, and therefore we must ensure that our words and plans actually translate into effective, positive action.

- There needs to be specification of the methods that will be used to accomplish the climate goals listed in the resolution while accomplishing other City goals at the same time. Some questions to consider when outlining specific actions include, but are not limited to the following: How will we budget for these goals? What is the **timeline** for each action? How has the City looked at other situations in which this has been done, learned from them, and incorporated those lessons into this resolution? How has the City worked with other cities to reach their goals? In addition, how will we use this resolution to create solutions that deal with both the climate crisis *as well as* other issues (ie, houselessness, environmental degradation, wealth inequality) at the same time? How will the public be updated on the progress and how will the city hold itself accountable for taking action on a timely basis? The City cannot have public pressure be its only plan for accountability, it needs to take more responsibility for its own plans and resolutions.
- Item E states “*climate justice acknowledges that...*” The resolution should include a clear, accurate, and inclusive definition of climate justice.
- Items 3, 4, 6 and others throughout the resolution focus on the engagement and leadership of communities. It is important that specific wording be added to the resolution that explains how this engagement will be realized, how much determination over the City’s actions and decisions communities will actually have, and what budgeting will be put in place for additional staffing when necessary. The centering of community in City-related decisions has been difficult in the past and it crucial that there are specific plans to ensure the community is actually engaged.
- Item 7 states “*Portland will pursue partnerships with schools and youth-serving organizations to support a youth-led summit on climate in 2020.*” While it is important to maintain youth autonomy in this proposed summit, it would be valuable for youth to have some sense of why the City sees our work as important. The City should outline why it sees a youth summit as valuable, and the outcomes that they hope to see achieved.
- Item 8 states “*that Portland will involve youth in the development of a proposed climate test – such as a carbon fee or an internal price on carbon – to ensure City bureaus are making informed climate-friendly decisions...*” Firstly, an internal price on carbon is not what the youth who have struck envision for a climate test. A climate test should be a lens through which all

decisions in the City are made. Each proposed policy or project should be evaluated to see the impacts it would have on Portland's climate and equity goals. If it is not in line with those goals the policy/project should not go through. A carbon fee or price on carbon is important and should be added as a separate clause elsewhere in the resolution, but the climate test must be more extensive. The resolution should also include specific language about how youth will be engaged to further the development of a climate test. Secondly, the words "*climate-friendly decisions*" should be replaced with "*decisions based on the best available climate science*".

- Item 12 states "*that Portland will adopt new policies and development standards to further prevent expansion of new fossil fuel infrastructure, reduce fossil fuel consumption and reduce risk to the community and environment.*" How can we ensure that this will be more effective than current policies such as the Fossil Fuel Zoning Amendments? The issue with Zenith Energy is one example that demonstrates how current policies struggle to halt fossil fuel projects.

Furthermore, the word "*consumption*" should be replaced with "*fossil fuel production and use*" because focus on consumption puts the burden on individuals to reduce their own consumption, not on citywide action.

- Item 16 states that the city will "*accelerate the transition to clean, renewable transportation fuels, including electricity and the infrastructure to support electric vehicles.*" There should be a clarification of what fuels the City is referring to, beyond electricity and infrastructure to support electric vehicles. Additionally, renewable fuels such as "renewable natural gas" are also dangerous for the climate. It is important to not engage in the use of harmful products that have been greenwashed by companies, and that would likely extend our dependence on dirty fossil fuels.
- Item 13 claims that the City of Portland will be "*committed to a just and managed decline of fossil-fuel consumption and equitable implementation of solutions,*" Current climate science is telling us that we need to reduce our emissions by at least 8% each year. There need to be specific actions and goals in the resolution that ensure yearly reductions and ways for the average citizen to be able to see that reduction and equitable implementation. For example, with the emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the average Portlander knows that it is NOT business as usual: there are no gatherings of 25 or more, schools are closed, many people are working from home, etc. This didn't take a year to figure out. It's an emergency, and our actions show it. This Climate Emergency Declaration and its results should be quickly observable to the public.
- Furthermore, Item 18 states "*Portland adopts a new target of achieving at least a 50% reduction in carbon emissions below 1990 levels by 2030 and net-zero carbon emissions before 2050.*" Given that the climate crisis is an emergency, this goal should be 50% reduction

from current levels by 2030 and net zero by 2040. Because of the lack of strong action in the past, we no longer have the kind of time that the current target suggests.

- The declaration as a whole needs to use stronger, more direct language, especially since its goal is to recognize and act on the fact that this is an emergency. It needs to be enforceable, with actual directives, but not limiting.

For instance, Item 2 only “asks businesses, non-profits, academia, large institutions, other governments and residents to rise to the challenge of this emergency” to which they can easily say no or decide not to act, without any accountability or requirements from the City. In addition, they are being asked to act on climate, without any specifications as to what ways, how much, or when -- which is necessary to make sure these institutions’ commitments to climate action actually materialize and have clear positive effects.

Similarly, Item 19 states “Portland is calling on investor-owned utilities, Portland General Electric and PacifiCorp...” The words “is calling on” does not ensure any action. These words should be replaced with stronger language like “directs” or “requires.” The City must put strong pressure on utilities to provide electricity that is backed by renewable, clean sources.

- Item 19 must also include other “investor-owned utilities,” namely NW Natural; the point of this resolution is to take actions that haven’t been taken, to push those who have not acted, and do what we need to -- regardless of which agreements have already been established. It should also be made clear that these forms of clean, renewable energy will not include any types of methane (often green-washed as natural gas), and that protections for low-income customers will not just be prioritized but ensured. There also needs to be a timeline with specific dates and check-in points for phasing out NW Natural’s fracked gas.
- Item 20 states “the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability will update City Council on the progress to implement these directives before the end of 2020.” These progress reports should be done at least once a year, if not quarterly, from 2020 on, and also be promoted and made readily accessible to the public. Following any City plans that are made, we want to see strong action. In order for Portland to be a climate leader in the future, we must back our ideas and commitments with urgency on the ground. Additionally, we want to see the City renew its commitment to plans that have been made in the past such as the 100% Renewable Energy Resolution.
- The resolution needs to include specific plans for making public transportation more extensive, fareless, accessible, safe, and sustainable.
- The resolution must commit to increasing Portland’s urban tree canopy, tree equity, and improving the Portland Tree Code. In addition to any improvements in the Tree Code,

there needs to be funds for enforcement for required mitigation of trees that have been cut down.

- Additionally, there should be language in the declaration about protecting and expanding natural systems like wetlands and forests that efficiently sequester carbon in addition to their many other ecosystem benefits.
- The following questions need to be addressed: How are we going to make these transitions truly work for people? How can we deal with the root, systemic barriers that keep people from transitioning in a way that does not delay action, and does not put all the responsibility for change on the individual?
- Finally, the Portland Youth Climate Council was told in the past that this resolution would be a roadmap for the reexamination of the Portland Climate Action Plan. We would like to see a more clear statement in this resolution about the role that this resolution overall will play in guiding the Climate Action Plan.

Thank you for your consideration of these suggestions and the opportunity to voice our concerns.

Sincerely,

The Portland Youth Climate Council
pdx.climate.council@gmail.com



TO: City of Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability
RE: Comments and Suggestions on PDX Climate Emergency Draft
DATE: March 22, 2020

I. Introduction and General Comments

As climate justice advocates, we appreciate the urgency with which the City is moving forward with declaring a climate emergency. With the United Nations telling us that only 11 years remain to avoid irreversible damage due to climate change, it is time to act with urgency and adapt our strategies accordingly. Public engagement, however, is also a critical part of any policy striving toward environmental justice. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this draft and hope the City will be responsive to community feedback.

These comments provide a critical assessment of the content of the draft emergency resolution, as well as suggestions for amendments and additions. We will proceed through the draft resolution section by section in Section II of this memo.

Generally, the resolution does not go far enough in calling for additional authority and specific code changes. We are concerned about the lack of concrete commitments to action coming out of this resolution, particularly given the lack of subsequent action in the wake of the passage of the 2017 100% renewable energy resolution. By comparison, the City's declaration of a housing emergency granted new and specific powers to the City through ordinance (No. 187370), including the ability to expedite permit processes, waive City Code regulations, and order other measures "to protect the life, safety and health of persons, property or the environment". This draft resolution also does not utilize many levers that the city already has available to drive climate action further and faster and does not specify funding toward achieving the stated goals. It is crucial for the City to commit to more specific actions and special powers of emergency to address this crisis, and in order for this to be a meaningful step.

We look to the City of Portland to continue to take action on climate and lead boldly on this global crisis. We appreciate the opportunity to offer these comments, and we look forward to further dialogue and collaboration in the months ahead.

II. Suggested Amendments

A. WHEREAS section.

B. Change “least” to “fewest”.

B. Define “the extractive economy.” This is an opportunity to catalogue the top sources of GHG emissions in Oregon, such as industrial timber, the fossil fuel industry, unsustainable farming practices, inadequate access to free, and reliable public transit, residential fossil gas usage, etc. Ideally, this definition goes beyond the context of unsustainable natural resource use and includes the ways in which humans and other life forms are exploited for the benefit of a wealthy elite and the global capitalist system, which is the underlying cause of both climate crisis and the lack of meaningful action taken to prevent or adapt to it thus far. .

G. Replace “humanity’s” with “the extractive economy’s” or “capitalism’s” or other term that places the fault on a specific system that certain humans rule over and benefit from instead of humanity as a whole.

G. Because fossil fuels also are harmful at the site of combustion, this point should be re-written using accurate life-cycle language. Suggested amendment: “Fossil fuels pose risks to safety, health, and livability, including mobility of people, other freight, and other commercial vehicles, throughout their entire life cycle which includes extraction, transportation, storage, refinement, and combustion.”

G. Clarify what frontline communities are and how they are impacted by a proximity to fossil fuel infrastructure. This should include communities of specific concern in Portland, like the unhoused, and communities living near the Critical Energy Infrastructure hub in North and Northwest Portland. This definition language does not exist in the “No New Fossil Fuel Infrastructure” Resolution (37168), but there are other examples of this language that may be helpful in rounding out this section.

H. Suggested amendment “... requires a managed decline of the fossil fuel industry in line with the imperatives of climate justice and science, and a transition to a clean, renewable energy system that is ecologically sustainable and equitable for all people, especially frontline communities.”

J. The City should declare its share of the historical responsibility for this human rights crisis and establish a truth and reconciliation commission to correct its harmful generational effects.

B. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED Section.

1. Instead of simply declaring an emergency by resolution, City Council should amend the City Charter and Code to expand its emergency powers. Specifically, they should amend the Title 15 Emergency Code Section 15.04.030 definitions to include “climate change” and define additional powers in Section 15.08.020. For example, the City could define its powers to include restrictions on bulk fossil fuel shipments during a climate emergency. As written, Section 15.08.020 already allows the city the power to “Regulate by rationing, freezing, use of quotas, prohibitions on shipments, price fixing, allocation or other means, the use, sale or distribution of food, feed, fuel, clothing and other commodities, materials, goods and services” in an emergency. This would be a rather bold and unprecedented invocation of city power, but if we are serious that we are in an emergency as that term is generally used, this is the type of action that should follow.

8. Clarify that a climate test is about things that the city has control over in permitting, not just procurement. A climate test should apply to the largest emitting activities like “freeway expansions”, “parking structures”, “large-scale fossil fuel infrastructure”, and “franchise agreements with high emitting utilities”. Suggested re-write: “that Portland will involve youth and the broader community in the development of a proposed climate test – such as a carbon fee or an internal price on carbon – to ensure City bureaus are making informed climate-friendly decisions, particularly for major capital investments, high-carbon-impact decisions (such as fuel and vehicle purchases and resource procurement), franchise agreements, new developments, public-private partnerships, urban renewal, and other areas where the city has environmental, safety, land use, or design review authority.”

12. Suggested addition: “... and to conduct a community process to plan a managed decline of fossil fuel infrastructure in line with the imperatives of climate science, human health and safety, and environmental justice.”

13. Change “consumption” to “infrastructure”. Supply-side language is highly preferable to demand side language.

15. Suggested amendment: “that any policy efforts to decarbonize the building sector, such as restrictions on new residential and commercial gas infrastructure and a transition away from gas heating, will follow the lead of frontline communities and will prioritize improved comfort and utility savings for renters and protections for low-income tenants.”

16. Suggested addition: “... and decriminalized, fareless public transportation”.

19. NW Natural needs to be mentioned by name either in this section or elsewhere with special language about when fossil gas will no longer be allowed in Portland. Since we are accelerating timelines for renewable electricity, we propose an immediate ban on new gas hookups for homes and buildings and at least a 7.6% annual decline in emissions city-wide, with a focus on a just transition for low-income households first.

19. Suggested addition: “... and to protect low-income customers. The City of Portland will explore code changes, ordinances, and franchise agreement amendments to facilitate this transition.”

C. Other Recommendations

1. Suggested addition: Whereas The United Nations Environment Program issued a report in 2019 calling for at least a 7.6 percent annual decline in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 in order to avoid exceeding the 1.5 C target of the Paris Accords. In addition, the IPCC states, “limiting warming to 1.5°C implies reaching net zero CO₂ emissions globally around 2050 and concurrent deep reductions in emissions of non-CO₂ forcers, particularly methane.” To delay annual sharp declines in emissions between 2020 and 2030 is to ensure a rise in temperatures of 3.2 C which would be catastrophic.

2. There should be an acknowledgement that wealthier people emit more carbon even if they are living in denser dwellings because their consumption habits (i.e. international travel) are so much more carbon intensive than low-income people. The present density discussions obscure this fact.
3. There should be a specific acknowledgement of the Portland Harbor Superfund Site and Critical Energy Infrastructure hub as a major source of environmental injustice in Portland and an area of critical concern as the City plans for a just transition away from fossil fuels. . There should be specific acknowledgement of the need for a community-driven plan to address these harms as part of the City of Portland's upcoming Climate Action Plan.
4. Suggested addition: Given black carbon's ever present nature in our society via diesel engines in transportation, construction and shipping and its impact as a short term climate accelerant which, when measured in terms of how it heats the atmosphere, can be thousands of times greater than that of CO₂;
5. Suggested addition: Therefore, Portland shall use its existing authority to regulate indirect sources of black carbon to lower emissions, namely sites that attract diesel engines like construction sites, railyards and distribution centers.
6. Suggested addition: WHEREAS Oregon is currently the single fastest growing state in the country for new gas hookups to buildings and homes;
7. Suggested addition: Given the climate forcing aspects of methane (a byproduct of food waste in landfills), and the need to get to zero food waste while enhancing the carbon drawdown potential of composting in urban and community gardens;
8. Suggested addition: Therefore, be it resolved that Portland will set targets and timetables to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from all sectors by at least 7.6% annually.
9. Suggested addition: Therefore, be it resolved that Portland requires all new homes and buildings to be 100 percent electric, with no new gas hookups for any new built structures and for existing structures in Portland to be carbon-neutral as quickly as possible and the City should explore how to best ensure that low-income households are able to get subsidies to switch at the soonest possible opportunity from gas to electric for their heating and cooking needs so that the poorest don't pay the highest price when fossil gas becomes the last remaining option with stranded assets and costs.
10. Suggested addition: Therefore, Portland shall develop procurement policies for all food purchased for schools, prisons, and other government agencies that enhances the development of the regenerative agricultural industry regionally.
11. Suggested addition: Therefore, Portland shall develop procurement policies that require the purchase of climate-smart timber products and the purchase of tree-free paper.

12. Suggested addition: Therefore, to incentivize young farmers and foresters to take up a career that results in a more rapid carbon drawdown, we encourage Portland's public schools, community colleges and universities to begin to teach regenerative farming and climate-smart forestry techniques with an emphasis on the carbon sequestration potential of this form of farming and forestry, providing incentives to students willing to commit to a career in regenerative farming or sustainable forestry or for forest or farm workers who need to be retrained in regenerative farming and forestry techniques as part of a just transition.

III. Conclusion

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on this important resolution. We appreciate the time already invested in this draft resolution and look forward to working with you toward a final product in the months ahead.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Caleb,
Staff Attorney
Center for Sustainable Economy

Tori Heroux
Program Director
Neighbors for Clean Air

Submitted via the City's online form on Wednesday, March 18, 2020

Portland General Electric (PGE) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments to the City of Portland on their February 12, 2020 draft Climate Emergency Declaration. PGE shares our customers' and our communities' vision for a clean, affordable, resilient and reliable energy future that provides meaningful participation and opportunity for everyone. We applaud the City's leadership in addressing the climate emergency and its commitment to obtaining meaningful feedback from all stakeholders including community advocates, businesses and residents.

PGE supports the City in realizing its climate and clean energy goals. PGE is investing billions in clean and renewable energy, energy efficiency, emerging technologies like battery storage, and building the grid of tomorrow to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions by more than 80% and to support economy-wide decarbonization - especially through transportation electrification. We also offer a suite of innovative products, programs and partnership opportunities to enable customers who want to move further and faster, such as our nationally recognized voluntary renewable energy program – Green Source, our Green Future Impact program that is supporting what will be Oregon's largest solar facility, and our net-metering program in which more than 2,000 Portlanders currently participate. We are also in active development of new electric vehicle charging stations, residential charging pilots, and microgrid pilots. As Portland's largest electricity provider, we also commit to working in partnership with the City, stakeholders and customers to develop new products that support Portland's electric customers being served by 100% clean and renewable electricity by 2030, while protecting the value of Oregon's integrated, fully-regulated electric system.

We are excited to keep working with Portland to tackle the climate emergency and build a clean energy future that provides everyone with healthier, safer, more resilient and prosperous neighborhoods. PGE provides the following comments and recommendations to the February 12, 2020 draft Climate Emergency Declaration to help realize this vision.

General - Key Definition: The draft declaration uses the term “carbon” as a proxy and shorthand for “greenhouse gas.” In the state and federal regulatory context, “carbon” often refers exclusively to carbon dioxide and not the suite of greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change.

General Recommendation: PGE recommends using the term “greenhouse gas” or define “carbon” as including all greenhouse gases in the declaration to ensure the full suite of greenhouse gases are included, such as methane, nitrous oxide and hydrofluorocarbons. A common approach is to refer to the suite of greenhouse gases as CO₂e.

Resolution 4 - Governance: Resolution 4 in the draft declaration states: “...that the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability is directed to collaboratively work with other City bureaus, Multnomah County and community-led organizations to establish a new, ongoing governance structure that prioritizes leadership by frontline communities and youth (especially from frontline communities) ...”

Comment to Resolution 4: Businesses partnering with the City and County to help meet decarbonization and clean energy goals – like PGE – would like the opportunity to participate in the development of new governance structures and in the ongoing operation to provide input and contribute expertise on reaching the goals of the declaration. Widescale deployment of renewables, distributed energy resources and other emerging technologies to reach clean energy goals will require a broad group of stakeholders—customers, community, developers, utilities, regulators, and municipalities – with differing needs for, access to, and uses of information – to have access to timely, complete and accurate technical information. It is unclear to PGE how decisions are made about who can participate in the City's current stakeholder processes and how outcomes and recommendations from these processes are decided. This includes how technical knowledge is attained, validated, used and disseminated. Planning,

regulation and deployment decisions are greatly influenced by the timeliness, completeness and accuracy of technical information. In addition to community members, impacted businesses who do the on-the-ground work and utilities who are managing massive system transformations, should have the ability to participate in governance structures to help translate technical knowledge and otherwise provide input in a manner that acknowledges the need to promote inclusive and equitable solutions to achieving the goals of the declaration.

Resolution 6 - Building Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Resolution 6 in the draft declaration references ongoing work related to “Net Zero Energy Buildings” that will be used to inform the 2020 Climate Action Plan update.

Comment for Resolution 6: Energy efficiency and distributed energy resources are key to a decarbonized future; however, if the goal is greenhouse gas emission reductions from buildings, PGE recommends targets around Net Zero Carbon for buildings, and not Net Zero Energy. This is consistent with the C40 and the World Green Building Council *Net Zero Carbon Buildings Declaration* on which Portland is a signatory. PGE believes Net Zero Carbon is the appropriate metric for buildings in a decarbonized future as it will allow the City to go beyond building shell improvements and energy efficiency to leveraging the electric grid and community level energy management systems – like our Smart Grid Test Beds – to achieve quicker and deeper emission reductions. Further, deep decarbonization studies consistently show that reaching a decarbonized economy may require increasing the use of clean electricity in buildings through beneficial electrification. PGE’s carbon intensity is already well below the national average, and our electric grid will become increasingly clean as we drive toward meeting our share of Oregon’s greenhouse gas reduction goal. Investments in new utility-scale renewable energy facilities (like our Wheatridge wind-solar-storage facility) are key to this future, as well as smart energy use and grid-connected appliances (such as water heaters, grid-connected storage, electric vehicle charging, and thermostats) to help integrate those renewables. We are testing these technologies today as part of our Smart Grid Test Beds which also allows for customer engagement and empowerment through grid enabled technologies.

Resolution 8 - City Operations: Resolution 8 in the draft declaration states: “...Portland will involve youth in the development of a proposed climate test – such as a carbon fee or an internal price on carbon – to ensure City bureaus are making informed climate-friendly decisions, particularly for major capital investments and high-carbon-impact decisions, such as fuel and vehicle purchases.” PGE reads this resolution to be specific to city operations only.

Recommendation for Resolution 8: To ensure clarity, PGE suggests the following language edit so ensure any pricing mechanism developed would only be applicable to internal City operations: “...Portland will involve youth in the development of a proposed climate test – such as an **internal** carbon fee or an internal price on carbon...”

Resolution 16 - Transportation Electrification: PGE supports Resolution 16 regarding transportation electrification and views the city as a key partner in accelerating the adoption of electric vehicles. The 2019 legislature adopted zero-emission vehicle adoption goals for the state (SB 1044) to support decarbonization of the transportation sector. Portland joined dozens of cities, electric utilities, labor unions, environmental and customer groups in supporting this legislation.

Recommendation for Resolution 16: PGE recommends that the declaration add interim Portland-specific goals for adoption of zero-emission vehicles that are tied to the state’s goals under SB 1044. Additionally, we recommend developing specific goals for transit electrification and micro-mobility determined through the pathways analysis noted in Resolution 6 and possibly the ongoing governance structure noted in Resolution 4.

Resolution 18 - Electric Sector: Resolution 18 of the draft declaration references the electricity and community wide energy goals from the June 2017 resolution. However, as currently written, Resolution 18 limits the resource eligibility in reaching the electricity goals more than was provided in the June 2017 resolution.

Recommendation for Resolution 18: For consistency with the June 2017 resolution, PGE recommends adding the word “clean” before renewable or define the term “renewable” as included in the June 2017 resolution to allow for the inclusion of hydroelectricity from existing facilities. Suggested language edits could include:

“BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Portland adopts a new target of achieving at least a 50% reduction in carbon emissions below 1990 levels by 2030 and net- zero carbon emissions before 2050. This target complements the existing goals of meeting 100% of community-wide energy needs with **clean and** renewable energy by 2050 and 100% **clean and** renewable electricity before 2035. This target will be carried forward into the 2020 Climate Action Plan update; and”

As we move towards a decarbonized future and in the timeframe provided by the draft declaration and the June 2017 resolution, all carbon-free resources should be available to help achieve local and state greenhouse gas reduction goals. This is consistent with other state clean energy standards that have passed recently - specifically the states of California and Washington - that are technology neutral standards and focus on carbon-free resources.

Resolution 19 - Electric Sector: Resolution 19 of the draft declaration calls on utilities to provide clean and renewable electricity by 2030. PGE will partner with the City to help realize its goal for clean and renewable electricity; however, PGE is requesting language changes that are essential to meeting Portland’s goals while ensuring PGE maintains an affordable, reliable and fair system for all our customers, including those outside of Portland.

Recommendation for Resolution #19: We suggest that Resolution #19 be re-worded to clarify that additional tools are necessary for the City to achieve its clean electricity goals:

“BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Portland is calling on investor-owned utilities, Portland General Electric and PacifiCorp, and all Electric Service Suppliers serving Portland direct access customers, to rapidly decarbonize their energy mix and provide options that enable all Portland residents and businesses to be served by 100% clean and renewable energy no later than 2030, in a manner that protects low-income customers, and that Portland adopts a resolution that all residents and businesses participate in these options.”

The revised language allows the resolution to: (1) apply equally to Electric Service Suppliers who serve business customers in the City who elect to go direct access; (2) recognize that our resource mix is transforming and decarbonizing, but that our mix that serves all of our nearly 900,000 customer accounts will not be 100% clean and renewable by 2030; and (3) recognize that the City will play a significant role to get 100% Portland customer participation in program options.

General - Goal Consistency: In the draft declaration, Resolution 18 and Resolution 19 provide two different target dates (2035 and 2030) and resource eligibility for the electricity goals.

General Recommendation: In addition to the comments above regarding Resolution 18 and Resolution 19, PGE recommends that the language in these two resolutions is consistent on the applicable dates and generating resource eligibility.

Mayor Ted Wheeler, City of Portland
Director Andrea Durbin, Bureau of Planning and Sustainability
Mayoral and Bureau of Planning and Sustainability Staff

Original Sent March 21, 2020 (*updated 3/30/2020*)

Dear Mayor Wheeler, Director Durbin, and Staff:

The climate imperative we face demands collective action. It's why NW Natural is committed to pursuing a carbon-neutral pipeline by 2050. This is not business-as-usual. We embrace the change that's needed.

With energy efficiency and first-of-its-kind renewable natural gas legislation in Oregon, we're committed to this path. There will be challenges ahead, but we see no technical barrier to achieving our vision. By using the natural gas infrastructure already in place – one of the tightest, newest pipeline networks in the nation – we can help reach climate goals faster and more affordably, while providing reliability.

We are honored to partner with the City of Portland, and we appreciate the intent of the draft Climate Emergency Declaration. With a well-designed framework, we believe natural gas customers in Portland can help lead the way into a low-carbon, renewable energy future. When we look at the draft declaration, we're also thinking about the complexity of balancing the needs of energy reliability, resiliency, equity, and the economy. NW Natural commits to its role of being a technical resource on these aspects in the proposed community-centered and community-led climate action process.

Given the interdependency of the energy system, how can the energy sector work toward emission reduction while also maintaining the resiliency and reliability that our region depends on? How will we do all of this in a way that preserves affordability for our most vulnerable customers, and supports the economic needs and growth of Portland's businesses and large public organizations and institutions?

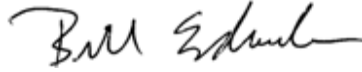
These are the questions we are asking in our approach to climate work. We've outlined this thinking as feedback on the draft declaration in the attached pages. We welcome your questions and appreciate the opportunity to engage in policy discussions over the coming months.

As a 160-year-old company, NW Natural is in business today because we've been willing and able to evolve. This is why we're excited for our renewable future, and why we believe that together we can create a model – a technological, policy and partnership framework – to lead on carbon neutrality for natural gas utilities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kathryn Williams', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Kathryn Williams
Vice President of Public Affairs

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bill Edmonds', with a long, horizontal stroke at the end.

Bill Edmonds
Director of Environmental Management &
Sustainability

Attachment: NW Natural's Feedback Regarding Portland's Draft Climate Emergency Declaration (detail)

NW Natural’s Feedback Regarding Portland’s Draft Climate Emergency Declaration (detail)

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on this draft. We appreciate the intent of the declaration as both a framework for establishing a climate emergency and pursuing future policy items on climate action, but also in sections A through L, the declaration does the important work of centering frontline communities and those most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. NW Natural commits to its role of being a technical resource in the proposed community-centered and community-led climate action process.

Our intention with this feedback is to engage in ongoing discussions with frontline communities, the business community, our customers, and the City of Portland as a partner for the Climate Action Plan and its implementation. Should you have any questions on the below, please contact Jennifer Yocom, NW Natural’s Local Government Affairs Manager – jennifer.yocom@nwnatural.com | 503-459-1292.

DECLARATION SECTION	NW NATURAL FEEDBACK	BACKGROUND
Overall and Sections 17, 18 and 19	Given the critical role the natural gas system plays in Oregon and it being key to achieving regional climate goals as affordably as possible, NW Natural requests that the declaration and subsequent climate work explicitly include a vision on how to leverage a decarbonized gas pipeline system (by 2050) to deliver a carbon-neutral future faster.	<p>NW Natural delivers a vast amount of energy for a modest carbon footprint. We deliver more energy in Oregon than any other utility: NW Natural’s system heats 74% of residential square footage in the areas we serve and provides 90% of our residential customers’ energy needs on the coldest winter days. Yet, the use of natural gas in our customers’ homes and commercial businesses makes up just 5% of Oregon’s annual emissions and only about 20% of the emissions from the building sector in Portland as emissions are accounted for by the State of Oregon.¹ But we can do better.</p> <p>There are no technical barriers to decarbonizing our pipeline by 2050 through production of renewable natural gas,^a renewable hydrogen,^b and more. Not only are there no technical barriers, this will be required. Why? Simply put, the gas system delivers too much energy for our region to meet its climate goals without putting this existing infrastructure to use in new ways – there isn’t enough money or time to meet the goals any other way. This is a realization European countries have come to understand and why they have begun the transformation to achieve carbon neutrality in their gas system, which they now embrace rather than question.²</p> <p>Backed by studies by the Oregon Department of Energy and ICF International, the technical potential for renewable natural gas (RNG) production is significant: respectively, the reports conclude there is enough to supply RNG to every home using natural gas in Oregon today³ and there is enough national supply that can be produced at a competitive cost using known technologies to meet a 95% reduction in emissions associated with natural gas use from the national residential sector.⁴</p> <p>NW Natural is uniquely positioned to bring our state’s and country’s significant waste methane and waste power to market as renewables—and, with thanks for the City’s support, SB 98 is the groundbreaking law that positions NW Natural to do this faster than any other gas utility in the United States.^c</p> <p>While our region works to decarbonize, the gas system will play an ever-increasing role in facilitating a growing amount of renewable energy utilization. We recognize there are interdependencies in resource adequacy and peak capacity when considering how the electricity and natural gas systems work together to provide reliable energy for our region. Renewable sources like wind and solar are essential to our region’s decarbonization effort. Yet because they are variable and intermittent, they will produce excess power when it is not immediately needed.</p> <p>Hydroelectric power and the increasingly large build out of wind power, for example, will be prevalent in the spring – yet demand for electricity peaks in the winter. Excess renewable electricity can be stored for limited duration in batteries, but not seasonally. The natural gas system, however, offers a tremendous seasonal energy storage resource – already in place. Renewable electricity can be run through an electrolyzer, which splits water molecules into hydrogen and oxygen in a process called power-to-gas.</p> <p>This renewable hydrogen can then be blended into the existing pipeline network and used in homes and businesses or stored and used during the winter heating season, when it’s needed most. NW Natural is aiming to develop the first power-to-gas project in Oregon (it would be the fourth project in North America, but one of hundreds throughout the world). The renewable hydrogen opportunity is just one example of the kind of efficiency we gain when we leverage electric and gas systems together to drive down carbon emissions while also ensuring reliability.</p> <p>NW Natural’s Smart Energy program is another important tool to we can leverage right now for affordable carbon reductions. When customers enroll in</p>

DECLARATION SECTION	NW NATURAL FEEDBACK	BACKGROUND
	<i>How does the City of Portland plan on engaging its climate work within regional energy planning discussions regarding resource adequacy?</i>	<p>Smart Energy, the carbon emissions from their natural gas use are offset through projects that reduce or prevent the release of greenhouse gases. We wouldn't ask customers to do something that we aren't already doing, which is why NW Natural is offsetting emissions from the natural gas used to heat our own facilities throughout our service territory in Oregon and Southwest Washington. We continue to educate our customers about climate change and encourage all to participate in this voluntary program, including the City of Portland, as a lower cost, effective method to lower carbon emissions today.</p> <p>The Northwest Power and Conservation Council, the Northwest's Public Power Pool, and the Pacific Northwest Utilities Conference Committee have all identified near-term regional resource shortfalls for the electric system during peak times. During these same extreme cold weather events that pose a grave threat to Portland's vulnerable populations, the direct use natural gas sector delivers roughly twice the energy to Portlanders as the electricity system, keeping people warm and safe. Electrification of direct use natural gas^d would require this massive energy need to be served by the electric sector, even though analysis shows the Northwest will need large amounts of new capacity in the near term in order to maintain an acceptable level of resource adequacy on the electricity system <i>without accounting for any electrification of direct use natural gas</i>.⁵ A deep decarbonization study of the Pacific Northwest conducted by Energy + Environmental Economics (E3) focusing in detail on this issue shows that reliably meeting this energy need under electrification is probably not feasible without building 40 to 70 new, large natural gas power plants <i>in addition to lots of new battery storage</i> to serve this peak need.⁶ In 2021, the NW Power Planning and Conservation Council will be doing more extensive work to identify the added grid reliability risks posed under increased building electrification scenarios, as well as increased electric vehicle use.⁷ NW Natural welcomes a transparent conversation with the City of Portland about the severity of this issue and the implications of adding peak space heating associated with new buildings on an electric grid – both in terms of higher emissions and system reliability.</p>
Sections 12 and 13	While NW Natural has received verbal clarification from staff on section 12 of the declaration that “further prevent expansion of new fossil fuel infrastructure...” refers to “oil trains,” we would appreciate written clarification.	<p>Without clarification, this section could present conflicting messages and have unintended consequences in future policy discussions. Currently, NW Natural distributes only a fossil fuel in its pipeline, but this is rapidly changing. Soon, our infrastructure will carry fuel derived from both renewable <i>and</i> fossil-based sources, much like how the majority of electricity serving Portland is currently fossil-based but Oregon RPS requires the utilities serving the city to deliver 20% renewable energy to customers starting this year. We are willing to work with the City to establish a treatment that is more stringent than these state standards for direct use natural gas, much like the directive for electric sector in the declaration.</p> <p>Another reason for clarification on this is related to the transportation sector, the largest and fastest growing sector for greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs). While we hope much of this sector will electrify, some heavy haul vehicle applications such as concrete and aggregates, waste haulers, or bus fleets and Pursuit Rated Vehicles, are operating on (or are well positioned for) compressed natural gas and renewable natural gas. Natural gas vehicles (NGVs) run cleaner than gasoline or diesel, reducing GHGs by up to 30%, carbon monoxide by 70 to 90%, and nitrogen oxide (NO_x) emissions by 74 to 99%.⁸ According to NGVAmerica, running NGVs on renewable natural gas derived from organic methane from dairies, landfills, wastewater treatment plants and more, has the ability to reduce GHGs by 382% over diesel. While 100% renewable natural gas is not yet available in the pipeline, we still want to make sure that fueling infrastructure that offers a blend of compressed natural gas and renewable natural gas (or renewable hydrogen) can be put in place—this solution is similar to encouraging the electric vehicle infrastructure that derives its electricity from up to roughly half fossil resources in Oregon.</p> <p>As a company with large infrastructure that we are decarbonizing, anything that restricts our ability to bring in new customers places a disproportionate burden on existing customers including our low-income customers. Therefore, this section of the declaration may have unintended consequences for many community members, particularly our most vulnerable, if not clarified.</p>
Sections 10, 11, 13, and 15	In order to maintain affordability and economic prosperity while also reducing emissions and avoiding unintended consequences, we recommend that the declaration underscore	<p>NW Natural appreciates that the declaration emphasizes improved comfort and utility savings for renters and protections for low-income tenants. In fact, we couldn't agree more. With nearly one-third of NW Natural's customers being low income, we remain focused on providing affordable service, and will continue strengthening critical programs like bill assistance, low-income weatherization and energy efficiency as we move to decarbonize.</p> <p>For many residential customers, the cost of upgrading to more energy efficient equipment is out of reach. This year, thanks to approval from the Oregon Public Utility Commission, NW Natural is adding \$1.7 million (an increase of 50%) to its energy efficiency funds dedicated to low-income customers in Oregon.</p>

DECLARATION SECTION	NW NATURAL FEEDBACK	BACKGROUND
	<p>how the City will partner with frontline communities, utilities, the business community, large publicly-funded organizations, economists, and more to develop data-driven economic and customer affordability models that accompany decision making around energy policy and climate goals.</p>	<p>Funding will go toward weatherization projects and energy efficiency upgrades. Another program change allows funds to be used not just for single-family housing, but also multifamily properties, such as senior living or shorter-term affordable housing. These types of projects have the potential to reach a greater number of low-income households at one time.</p> <p>Thanks largely to energy efficiency, the average NW Natural residential customer has cut their emissions in half since 1970, but significant opportunity remains. With the Portland Clean Energy Fund, there is the ability to leverage this work in a community-led model.</p> <p>In discussions leading up to our feedback on the Climate Emergency Declaration, we found that many of our sales customers—including large publicly-funded institutions—want to participate with the City in reaching carbon reduction goals but lack the capital to make the sometimes small but necessary changes in energy efficiency, such as high-efficiency appliances and boilers.</p> <p>Again and again, we have heard from our customers: affordability is always the first focus, reliability is essential. And for manufacturing and industrial customers especially, the safety and quality of the high BTU molecule we provide is critical to their business operations. And, while they appreciate NW Natural’s decarbonization goals, the reality is many Portland businesses and large organizations do not yet have sustainability plans and commensurate funding of their own but would like to find ways to partner with the City on carbon reduction goals.</p> <p>Additionally, while calling this out in the declaration may not make sense, NW Natural would like to understand the Mayor’s office and BPS perspective on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NW Natural supporting and providing technical resources for community-led work with the Portland Clean Energy Fund. Resulting ideas might be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased information sharing and collaboration among frontline communities, non-profits, the Energy Trust of Oregon, Multnomah County, Portland Clean Energy Fund (PCEF) Board, and more so that PCEF grantees have high-quality data to create highly financially-leveraged opportunities around energy efficiency. Supporting community-based organizations as they examine how large energy users, especially publicly-funded facilities that support the community, can gain help in both lowering emissions as well as lowering operating costs through capital investment in energy efficiency. Brainstorming ways that NW Natural can help engage Portland customers in taking bold or small steps in setting carbon neutrality goals. The bold statements within the Climate Emergency Declaration makes it clear that our success relies on our community’s collective forward momentum. We have some ideas and would appreciate the opportunity to collaborate. <p>With decoupled rates and a commitment to carbon neutrality, NW Natural is on the same side of the table as our customers when it comes to helping them use less of our product in their homes and businesses—we are here to be a resource in increased collaboration around energy efficiency.</p>
Sections 6, 14, 15	<p>NW Natural requests the opportunity to discuss efforts to reach net-zero energy buildings and any proposed adjustments to codes (reach codes) or other building performance goals within the community-led process before proposals are presented.</p>	<p>To ensure that building codes drive to lower carbon emissions, it’s important that we consider the emissions from both grids (electric and gas) as they decarbonize. Said another way, building performance should not just consider the efficiency of the appliance but the energy systems emissions serving that appliance – and do so continually as both energy systems decarbonize.</p> <p>NW Natural understands that BPS is currently facilitating a community-led process regarding building performance. Gas grid decarbonization (through RNG, renewable hydrogen, and more) is a newer concept and many people are just now learning about it. NW Natural requests the opportunity to engage in that process before proposals are presented to the larger climate action governance structure and City Council.</p> <p>Building codes of the future should also allow for broader and more comprehensive new building solutions, such as the construction of district systems that can lower overall GHG emissions when compared to a building by building approach.</p>
Sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 15	<p>As key partners in lowering emissions, NW Natural asks that</p>	<p>As the electricity grid and gas system are central to leading the way on lowering carbon in the energy sector, we ask that each of Portland’s energy utilities (PGE, Pacific Power, NW Natural) have explicit seats in the Climate Action Plan governance structure.</p>

DECLARATION SECTION	NW NATURAL FEEDBACK	BACKGROUND
	<p>the City provide all utilities, as a critical part of the community and community-based work, a seat at the table within the governance structure for climate action alongside frontline communities, large publicly-funded institutions, business leaders, and more.</p> <p><i>What role will the State of Oregon have in the governance structure?</i></p>	<p>Regarding the State of Oregon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As the City moves forward with setting concrete plans, NW Natural requests engagement in partnership with the Oregon Public Utility Commission (OPUC) as well as the State of Oregon. As you know, NW Natural is regulated at the state level. The OPUC has technical expertise to bring to the table and is required to approve any actions that would affect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rates and service schedules, tariffs, and related policy discussions that may impact customer costs/rates. Integrated Resource Planning – and how we meet the needs of our customers through a “least-cost, least-risk” combination of energy and demand reduction. Recently, Governor Kate Brown signed an executive order which includes a directive to both the Oregon Environmental Quality Commission and Department of Environmental Quality to take certain legal actions within their current statutory authority specifically for greenhouse gas emissions. As agency actions evolve, we will want to work together to understand how the executive order and subsequent agency rulemaking will interact with the City and actions it proposes to the extent the order and City actions are within their respective authority.

Remaining questions/clarifications for the City of Portland:

What are next steps for continuing this dialogue and the process going forward?

DEFINITIONS:

^a Renewable Natural Gas, as defined by the Renewable Natural Gas Coalition. www.rngcoalition.com/about-rng

Renewable Natural Gas ('RNG') is an ultra-clean and ultra low-carbon natural gas alternative. As organic waste breaks down it emits methane gas, called biogas, that can be processed to meet natural gas pipeline quality specifications. Biogas is a mixture of carbon dioxide and hydrocarbons, primarily methane gas, from the biological decomposition of organic materials.

RNG is sometimes referred to as 'biomethane,' a related term. Biomethane is biogas-derived, high-BTU gas that is predominantly methane after the biogas is upgraded to remove most of the contaminants and majority of the carbon dioxide and nitrogen found in biogas.

Renewable natural gas is biomethane that is upgraded to natural gas pipeline quality standards such that it may blend with, or substitute for, geologic natural gas.

^b Renewable Hydrogen, as defined by Renewable Hydrogen Alliance with NWN addition of “hydroelectric.” www.renewableh2.org/

Electricity passing through water splits the water molecules into hydrogen and oxygen. Hydrogen produced from this process can be used as a fuel directly, or as a building block to make other energy- intensive products such as ammonia and methane. Using renewable electricity for this process can reduce dependence on fossil fuels and extend the reach of wind and solar [and hydroelectric] power beyond the confines of the electric grid.

^c SB 98, Oregon Legislature, 2019. <https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2019R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/SB98/Enrolled>

The first and most aggressive law of its kind in the country – to establish a clear direction for how natural gas utilities will take waste from food, animals, wood and wastewater that would otherwise result in emissions and turn it into renewable natural gas. SB 98 also includes cutting edge breakthroughs like renewable hydrogen which will allow NW Natural to take excess wind, solar, and hydroelectric and store it in the natural gas system for when we need it most.

^d Direct use natural gas is natural gas used directly in homes and businesses; it does not include natural gas used in electricity generation (which is a significant share of overall natural gas use in Oregon). For a visual illustration:

https://flowcharts.llnl.gov/content/assets/images/charts/Energy/Energy_2014_United-States_OR.png

SOURCES:

¹ Oregon DEQ In-Boundary GHG Inventory data (NOTE: NW Natural’s residential and commercial customer use accounts for about 5% of Oregon’s GHG emissions. Natural gas used by large industrial customers who purchase natural gas directly from other companies and transport it on NWN’s pipeline accounts for an additional 3% of the state’s GHG emissions).

² Fairley, Peter (2020, February): The H₂ Solution. Scientific American, 37-43. <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/solar-and-wind-power-could-ignite-a-hydrogen-energy-comeback/>

³ “Biogas and Renewable Natural Gas Inventory SB 337 (2017),” 2018. <https://www.oregon.gov/energy/Data-and-Reports/Documents/2018-RNG-Inventory-Report.pdf>

⁴ “Renewable Sources of Natural Gas,” 2019. www.gasfoundation.org/2019/12/18/renewable-sources-of-natural-gas/

⁵ “Resource Adequacy in the Pacific Northwest,” 2019 by E3 (Energy + Environmental Economics). www.ethree.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/E3_Resource_Adequacy_in_the_Pacific-Northwest_March_2019.pdf

⁶ “Pacific Northwest Pathways to 2050: Achieving an 80% reduction in economy-wide greenhouse gases by 2050,” 2018 by E3 (Energy + Environmental Economics). https://www.ethree.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/E3_Pacific_Northwest_Pathways_to_2050.pdf

⁷ Upcoming work outlined at <https://www.nwcouncil.org/2021-northwest-power-plan>. Preliminary “Analysis of load Impact of reducing reliance on natural Gas and other non-electric fuels,” 2018. NW Power Planning and Conservation Council.

www.nwcouncil.org/sites/default/files/2018_0213_p5.pdf

⁸ “Ultra-Low NOx Near-Zero Natural Gas Vehicle Evaluation ISX12N 400,” 2018. ucrtoday.ucr.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/CWI-LowNOx-12L-NG_v03.pdf



March 13, 2020

Mayor Ted Wheeler
1221 SW Fourth Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97204

RE: Climate Emergency Resolution

Honorable Mayor Wheeler,

We are writing on behalf of the thousands of workers and employers of the Portland Business Alliance, Home Builders Association of Metropolitan Portland, NAIOP, and Working Waterfront Coalition. Our organizations represent a broad diversity of employers of all sizes in our city, region, and throughout the state of Oregon.

We thank you for the opportunity to comment on the City's draft Climate Emergency Resolution. We collectively affirm that we recognize the urgent need for governments and elected leaders at all levels to adopt strong policies, in collaboration with the private sector, to reduce carbon emissions and the growing impacts of climate change. Our organizations are committed to working with the City of Portland and all stakeholders to develop real solutions to speed up our community's transition to cleaner fuels, reduce emissions, and promote energy efficiency while ensuring that we can meet the energy and economic needs of our city and state today and in the future.

While we applaud your strong leadership on climate change, we have several concerns with the draft resolution, and process used to develop this resolution.

The draft resolution sets some of the most ambitious emission reduction goals of any government in the nation. The resolution calls for the entire City of Portland to achieve net zero emissions by 2050. By comparison, HB 2020, which passed the house, but failed in the senate during Oregon's 2019 Legislative Session, set a target of reaching 80% of 1990 emissions by 2050 for the entire State of Oregon. While we can disagree with the necessity and practicality of such an ambitious target, we believe we can agree that this goal is not attainable without cooperation with and the tangible, voluntary contributions of the thousands of employers our organizations represent. Yet despite this needed collaboration, none of our organizations were consulted on the development of this draft resolution, nor was the business community named as a critical stakeholder in the development of plans to reach these goals, nor in the described governance structures that will be established to develop the action plans to reach these goals.

There are many laudable sections of this resolution. It calls for new housing connected to transit, energy efficiency upgrades in housing stock and existing buildings, and further collaboration with our investor owned utilities to meet their renewable energy goals. These are just a few examples of the tremendous opportunities for collaboration with business large and small presented by this resolution. With the development of the right incentives, this could unleash the creative entrepreneurial energy of the private sector to help Portland become the true climate leader it aspires to be.

Energy efficiency and housing provide a great example. In 2018, 10,420 units of housing were built in the City of Portland. These homes represent a mere 3.5% of the 294,678 permitted houses that exist. Additionally, homes built today are already approximately 40% more energy efficient than those built two decades ago. However, even incrementally increasing the energy efficiency requirements for new housing adds thousands of dollars to the price of a new home, which directly impacts Portlanders' ability to secure housing.

Portland is currently in a housing crisis. Based on the recent Value of Jobs report analysis by ECONorthwest, 46% of renters and 25% of homeowners are currently spending 30% or more of their monthly income on housing costs. This rising cost of housing and the overall cost of living is due almost entirely to the fact that we have under produced new housing stock by 23,000+ units in the past decade. This has prevented more Portlanders from benefiting from the current economic expansion and is the major driver of the rising number of Portlanders experiencing short- and long-term homelessness. Portland needs to be identifying ways to incentivize, streamline, and reduce the cost of building new housing, rather than increase the costs that will come with unnecessary requirements.

Instead of creating new costly regulations, the City should focus on the existing 96.5% of older homes and work with home and property owners to bring them up to modern energy efficiency standards. Doing so will directly align with Portland Clean Energy Fund principles, tap into existing public dollars, and benefit low-income Portlanders, producing a true win-win-win. Simply put, by focusing on incentivizing home and property owners to bring the existing housing stock up to the standards we demand of new construction, we can equitably increase energy efficiency without further cost burdening home buyers and renters.

There are similar opportunities for historic public-private partnerships throughout this resolution. However, we remain highly skeptical that the City will choose to take this approach.

The City of Portland, and the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, now have a clear track record of developing similarly well-intentioned proposals without any attempt at developing collaborative solutions with employers. As a result, the City Council has adopted legally deficient policies, which have led to costly litigation and ultimately hindered progress toward any of the goals outlined in this resolution. Most recently, the City Council adopted a fossil fuels terminal ordinance, which Bureau officials admitted was substantially the same as a previously remanded ordinance making it virtually certain to result in litigation, which it has.

The City could take this ideologically driven, regulatory approach to achieving these goals outlined in the draft resolution. We will remain optimistic that, under Mayor Wheeler's leadership, we will not go down this path as it will lead to more costly litigation, which will only delay any progress toward the goals expressed in the draft resolution.

Our understanding is that a broad stakeholder group will be convened to further develop this resolution and develop the innovative public-private partnerships that will be required to make real progress toward the climate and energy goals outlined in this resolution. We understand this stakeholder group will include organizations like ours which represent the broad-based employer community. If this is indeed the case, we look forward to working with you to identify the real solutions, which will create the opportunity to bring the entire community together to work toward a better climate future.

Sincerely,



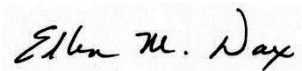
Andrew Hoan
President & CEO
Portland Business Alliance



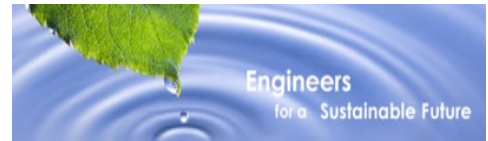
David Nielsen
CEO
Home Builders Association
of Metro Portland



Kelly Ross
Executive Director
NAIOP



Ellen M. Wax
Executive Director
Working Waterfront
Coalition



15 March 2020

City of Portland's Climate Emergency Declaration Comments Solicited from the Public at Large

Submittal from [Engineers for a Sustainable Future](#)

Version of the Declaration reviewed can be found here: <https://beta.portland.gov/sites/default/files/2020-02/public-comment-draft-climate-emergency-resolution-finalv2.pdf>

Summary

Best balance of climate action and frontline vulnerabilities we have seen. Has excellent attention to carbon fuels and transportation, summarized here.

Whereas's

- H. Equitable transition from fossil fuels
- I. Just transition to a low-carbon future
- J. Risks involving air quality and public health
- M. Emissions reductions stagnate for 26 years
- N. Transportation emissions increasing for the last 5 years

Declarations

- 8. Climate Test for purchases of fuel and vehicles
- 9. City Bureaus to set policies for carbon reduction
- 11. Need low-carbon transportation options
- 12. Prevent expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure, fossil fuel consumption
- 13. Manage decline in fossil fuel consumption
- 14. Invest to reduce carbon emissions from transportation, with path to reach net zero carbon (emissions) by 2050
- 16. Develop programs to accelerate the transition to clean renewable transportation fuels
- 18. Adopt a target for 50% reduction in carbon emissions in 1990 by 2030 to achieve net zero emissions by 2050

Comments about wording.

- “Fossil” There is plenty of carbon in non-fossil fuels: biodiesel, renewable natural gas (RNG), biogas. To cut carbon emissions to 50% by 2030, exclude these fuels by substituting “carbon” for “fossil” in all places. Otherwise they escape the climate test.
- “Renewable” The US DOE defines “renewable” to include carbon fuels like biogas, RNG and biodiesel. Replace “renewable” with “zero carbon” otherwise they escape the climate test.

These minor changes actually tie off serious loopholes that if left untended will open the door to more grief than Portland deserves.

Submitted by: Tracy Farwell, ESF Transportation Action, 503-477-8811



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503.290.8570 | info@verdenw.org

3/6/2020

Re: Emergency Climate Resolution

Verde is grateful for the opportunity to provide comments on Portland's proposed Emergency Climate Declaration, and grateful to the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability staff who worked hard to help make this document possible, as well as the staff who have helped to collaboratively develop previous climate legislation, including the Climate Action Plan and the 100% Renewables Resolution (Resolution 37289¹).

Verde serves communities by building environmental wealth through social enterprise, outreach, and advocacy. We have engaged proactively with the City around climate work through the 100% Renewables Resolution -- in particular the 2% and 10% community-based renewable energy goals -- and past climate-action-planning work. We are involved currently as a community partner in Zero Cities, American Cities Climate Challenge, and the City Energy Project, and we were also one of the organizations who helped to develop and now implement the Portland Clean Energy Benefits Fund.

We will evaluate the Emergency Climate Declaration through a lens of good environmental justice policy. To be successful and equitable, it must: ensure inclusive, accountable, and meaningful decision-making, prioritize environmental justice communities in receiving benefits, and prevent new burdens that oppress or marginalize communities who experience historic and current harms. This, in particular, means acknowledging that the communities who have experienced generational trauma through racism and colonialism are also communities who contribute least to the current climate crisis while feeling its impacts most detrimentally.

¹ <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/auditor/article/642811>

In general, the opening WHEREAS clauses of the Declaration carry this message and Verde is heartened to see this intentionality. We would remind the City however, that this cannot be merely talk and that in stating these values, the City is making a commitment to uphold them; we will hold our civic institutions accountable to centering environmental justice communities² in a reparative way. To this end, Verde would suggest several additions to the preamble. First, it is not enough to admit the burdens of the climate crisis; the City must name white supremacy as the cause. Second, while the WHEREAS statements renounce the extractive nature and impacts of the fossil fuel economy, conversations should be had with tribal nations about whether to include the extractive impacts of our large-scale hydropower system. Significant cultural and financial resources have been lost with little to no reparation in order to afford the Northwest with some of the cheapest and most accessible electricity in the nation.

Finally, the statement that environmental justice communities must be “the ones that benefit first from the transition to a renewable energy economy and be able to lead the planning and implementation efforts to address climate change,” must go further to commit that climate policy must be reparative in trust, power, and resources. Community cannot be merely included, we must remake systems to account for historical burdens with contemporary and future benefits. In that vein, the acceleration of emissions reductions must be paired with the acceleration of investment in communities to achieve community-based and community-benefiting, energy conservation and generation. The first BE IT RESOLVED would better read:

1. That the City Council declares that a human-made climate emergency, *that is the direct result of a history of white supremacy and colonialism*, threatens our city, our region, our state, our nation, humanity, and the natural world, and that such an emergency calls for an immediate mobilization effort initiating greater action, resources, and collaboration *that prioritizes frontline communities to create reparations for historical oppression and harm, and restore a safe climate*;

² We will use the terminology “environmental justice communities” in lieu of “frontline communities”.

And similarly, the third BE IT RESOLVED should read:

3. That Portland ~~will seek to support and~~ advance climate justice and climate action initiatives that are led by the community, especially frontline communities and youth from frontline communities *and accelerate investments in projects that benefit these communities in ways that are restorative, reparative, and build present and future power and wealth;* and

With regard to ensuring inclusive, accountable, and meaningful decision-making, Verde applauds the creation of a new, collaborative governance structure that is led by environmental justice communities. BE IT RESOLVED statements 4-6 are a step in the right direction -- at least nominally -- provided that the body has real decision-making power, and it includes only frontline community members or representatives and relegates industry, business, utilities, and traditional, white-led environmental and energy advocates to satellite tables or consultant roles. Governance may be further strengthened by including community members (who are resourced and valued for their time and expertise) in addition to “community-based organizations” to avoid creating power dynamics that separate organizational staff from community more broadly. And most importantly, community and community-based organizations must be fully resourced and valued for their time, expertise, and labor. It is not truly community-led work if community is not capacitated to lead. It is concerning that the City is moving forward with this resolution without any attached budget items or direct funding.

Fully supporting community might surface the kinds of action items that are missing from this draft. For example, here are two key elements that could be added to help address existing, but as yet unacknowledged burdens for environmental justice communities: access to technology, especially as it relates to and affects access to green/clean technology and community-led disaster and climate resiliency planning. Verde is deeply engaged in work on both these fronts respectively through the Suma program (to help reduce technology barriers by empowering affordable housing providers to be data brokers for infrastructure such as community solar or electric vehicle sharing) and Living

Cully and Latino Network's work to develop culturally specific NET training and resources. We recommend the inclusion of the following BE IT RESOLVED clauses:

- BE IT RESOLVED that all efforts to expand access to clean energy technology are paired with corresponding efforts to address technology barriers and privacy concerns in frontline communities; and
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in order to address the impacts of the climate crisis investments must not only be proactive but must address disaster and climate resiliency through community-led and culturally-specific planning; and

Additional comments about specific resolution items include the following changes:

- The ninth BE IT RESOLVED should include free transit days as a solution when air quality is bad or poor or there is extreme weather that results from climate change.³
- The thirteenth BE IT RESOLVED should read: "that Portland is committed to a just and managed decline of fossil-fuel consumption and equitable implementation of solutions that benefit affected workers, frontline communities and Portland residents broadly *and pairs the decline with an acceleration of investment in frontline community projects that pair emissions reductions with racial and environmental justice.*"
- The fourteenth BE IT RESOLVED should read: "that Portland will prioritize and advance policies and investments *through community-led participatory action research* to reduce carbon emissions from the building and transportation sectors – the two largest contributors to local carbon emissions – that put us on a path to reach net-zero carbon before 2050 *and focus on resourced, community-led planning with strong community benefits for all large developments.*"
- The fifteenth BE IT RESOLVED should read: "that any policy efforts to decarbonize the building sector will *be led by* frontline communities, *who are resourced for their time and expertise*, and will emphasize improved comfort, *safety*, and utility savings

³ The goal, however and ultimately, should be fareless transit on a broad scale.

for renters and protections for low-income tenants *that help reduce displacement and promote community stability.*”

- The nineteenth BE IT RESOLVED SHOULD READ: “that Portland is calling on investor-owned utilities, Portland General Electric and PacifiCorp, to deliver 100% clean, renewable energy *that includes a maximal amount of community-based and community-benefiting energy* to all Portland residents and businesses no later than 2030, and to prioritize efforts to protect low-income customers.”

Verde believes that the Emergency Climate Declaration delivers a strong statement and commitment to environmental and climate justice. It also sets the course as a north star for future climate work and we intend to hold the City accountable in all future policy and program decisions to the content of this resolution.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony DeFalco', with a stylized, cursive script.

Tony DeFalco

Executive Director