



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

December 4, 2019

710 NW WALL STREET  
PO BOX 431  
BEND, OR 97709  
(541) 388-5505 tel  
Relay Users Dial 7-1-1  
(541) 385-6676 fax  
bendoregon.gov

MAYOR  
Sally Russell

MAYOR PRO TEM  
Bruce Abernethy

CITY COUNCILORS  
Barb Campbell  
Sena Goodman-Campbell  
Justin Livingston  
Bill Moseley  
Chris Piper

CITY MANAGER  
Eric King

Dear City Councilors,

Since July, the Bend Economic Development Advisory Board (BEDAB) has discussed the proposed Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP) at length, raising questions and providing feedback on a number of strategies outlined in the plan. BEDAB member, Jamie Klopp, has also served as the BEDAB representative on the Climate Action Steering Committee, providing input throughout the CCAP's development.

At our meeting on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, the BEDAB voted unanimously to recommend City Council approval of the CCAP.

Many of BEDAB's questions were related to elements of not yet developed programs called for in the CCAP, notably the proposed Home Energy Score. A key factor behind BEDAB's support is the understanding that as strategies come forward for Council consideration, BEDAB, and the business community as a whole, will have the opportunity to participate in discussions involving program development.

Along with recommending approval of the plan, BEDAB outlined four points for consideration by Council as you prioritize climate action efforts:

1. Pursue voluntary programs as outlined in the original resolution. The new Home Energy Score language shows an intent to look at both voluntary and mandatory options; BEDAB looks forward to participating in these discussions.
2. Monitor state climate action policy and avoid overlapping programs or regulation. The State Legislature continues to signal an intent to bring forward climate legislation; staff should ensure that strategies implemented at the state level are not considered for duplicative efforts locally. Further,

3. Balance climate action efforts with other city needs. Continued investment in infrastructure and housing development are vital to maintain Bend's economic competitiveness.
4. Keep in mind the cost to businesses when implementing CCAP strategies. Bend businesses continue to feel the strain of costs associated with development and a tight labor market. Council should seek to quantify costs or other burdens to businesses when moving forward with specific strategies.

Preservation of Bend's environmental quality along with the pursuit of more efficient operations at the City level and in Bend as a whole both play an important role in the kind of economic growth that benefits the entire community. We look forward to continuing to work with Council, City of Bend staff, and advisory committees as work on the CCAP continues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith Dodge', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Keith Dodge, Vice-Chair  
Bend Economic Development Advisory Board