Greetings:

It is our pleasure to present to you the City of Portland’s “Popular Annual Financial Report” for the period ending June 30, 2017. We hope that this document, along with other financial information published by the City, will provide you with a fuller understanding of the City’s financial performance and fiscal health.

The fiscal year 2016-17 financial condition for the City remained strong as the local economy continued to expand. The City’s General Fund found itself with approximately $21.6 million in surplus ongoing funds and $32.1 million in one-time funds to allocate to new and existing programs. However, due to existing commitments related to housing services and labor contract settlements City bureaus were required to submit budget reduction packages in order to fund existing programs and increase investments in City Council priorities: homelessness, affordable housing, and infrastructure.

The City’s disciplined approach to budgeting, adherence to strong financial management principles and policies, and a track record of prudent financial decision-making helps to ensure both near and long-term fiscal health and sustainability. This is evidenced by the City’s exceptionally strong credit ratings, including a “Aaa” rating that it has earned and maintained for over 40 years.

The City continues to invest in its public infrastructure to serve a growing Portland. Under conventional accounting rules, however, the value of that infrastructure excludes “green” or other environmental benefits often associated with such improvements. This report discusses some of these other “benefits” that extend beyond the dollar values shown on the City’s financial statements. Increasingly, the City looks to build infrastructure with an eye towards resiliency and sustainability. By so doing the value of these investments exceeds its direct dollar cost and helps to create stronger long-term financial health, and a healthier and more resilient community.

Sincerely,

Kenneth L. Rust
Chief Financial Officer

Ken Rust
Chief Financial Officer

Profile

Ken Rust is the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for the City of Portland and Director of the Bureau of Revenue and Financial Services (BRFS). Ken has served the City in a variety of capacities over the past 20 years, in addition to private sector experience as a consultant and advisor to state and local governments. As CFO, Ken reports directly to both the City’s Chief Administrative Officer as well as the Mayor and City Council.

As the Director of BRFS, Ken oversees and directs the work of its six divisions: Accounting, Debt Management, Grants Management, Procurement Services, Revenue, and Treasury.
Message from the Controller -

Hello and thank you for your interest in this report!

Our Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017, was prepared by the Accounting Division of the Bureau of Revenue and Financial Services (BRFS) to provide you with important information about the City’s finances in a straightforward and easy to understand manner. The financial data was taken from our Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017, which is audited by an independent audit firm and provides a more detailed view of Portland’s finances. Both reports are available on the City of Portland BRFS website at: https://www.portlandoregon.gov/omf/26053

It is important to note that the financial data in this report is unaudited, includes information exclusively on the primary government, and is not presented according to generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). This means that it excludes the City’s component unit (i.e., Prosper Portland) and fiduciary fund information. The PAFR presents Portland’s financial condition in a highly condensed format, and does not include all the statements and note disclosures which are required by GAAP for a complete CAFR.

As you can see below, the June 30, 2016, PAFR, which was the first such report produced in Portland, was submitted to the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) and was recognized with an award for outstanding achievement.

We hope you enjoy reading this report, and find it interesting and useful for your understanding of the City’s finances. We welcome your questions, comments, and suggestions for improvement. You can contact the City of Portland, Office of Management and Finance at 503-823-5288.

Sincerely,

Michelle R. Kirby, CPA
Controller

Profile

Michelle Kirby joined the City of Portland as City Controller in March 2015.

She manages three accounting groups which perform financial reporting, operational, and financial systems & training functions.

Michelle has over 25 years of public service experience in the field of Accounting and Audit Services.
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City of Portland

The City comprises an area of approximately 145 square miles in Northwest Oregon. With a population estimate of 639,863, Portland is the 26th largest city in the United States.

Located astride the Willamette River at its confluence with the Columbia River, the City is the center of commerce, industry, transportation, finance, and services for a metropolitan area of more than two million people.

The City is the largest city in Oregon, the seat of Multnomah County, and the second largest city in the Pacific Northwest.

The climate of the area is marked by warm, dry summers and mild-to-chilly, rainy winters. This climate is ideal for growing roses and for more than a century, Portland has been known as the “City of Roses.”

City Government Structure

The City was incorporated in 1851 and is a home rule charter city. The City Charter is the basic law under which the City operates and can be amended only by a vote of the people.

In 1913 a modified commission form of government was created, which is rare for cities as large as Portland.

The Mayor and four Commissioners act as legislators and administrators. They are responsible for enacting City laws, enforcing City laws, and administering bureaus under their supervision. The Mayor assigns the bureaus to each Commissioner. They are elected at-large to four-year terms.

The City Auditor is also elected and required by Charter to be a Certified Public Accountant, Certified Internal Auditor, or Certified Management Accountant. The Auditor is accountable directly to the voters of Portland and is responsible for the management of the annual financial audit of the City, as required by City Charter.
Your City, Your Government

Portland's Elected Officials

Mayor Ted Wheeler
Commissioner Chloe Eudaly
Commissioner Nick Fish
Commissioner Amanda Fritz
Commissioner Dan Saltzman
Auditor Mary Hull Caballero

26 City Bureaus

Transportation & Parking
Planning & Community Development
Citizen & Community Services
Utilities
Parks & Recreation
Other Operations
Admin / Support Services
Public Safety
Condensed Statement of Net Position

It used to be called the Balance Sheet, and while the name of this report has changed to the “Statement of Net Position,” the accounting equation has also undergone a slight transformation: \( \text{Assets} + \text{Deferred Outflows} - \text{Liabilities} - \text{Deferred Inflows} = \text{Net Position} \). The statement reflects the overall financial position of the organization at a given moment in time, just like a snapshot; and may serve as a useful gauge of a government’s financial health.

In the case of the City, assets and deferred outflows of resources exceeded liabilities and deferred inflow of resources by $945.17 million (Net Position) at the close of the fiscal year (FY) 2017, an increase of $25.56 million or 2.8% over FY 2016. The increase in net position is largely attributable to approved rate increases in the City’s utility activities, as well as increased service demand.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For the Years Ended June 30, (In Thousands)</th>
<th>Total Primary Government</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FY 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current &amp; Other Assets</td>
<td>$1,649,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Assets</td>
<td>6,575,490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
<td>8,224,540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred Outflow of Resources</td>
<td>740,885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current &amp; Other Liabilities</td>
<td>454,494</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-term Liabilities</td>
<td>7,355,259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Liabilities</td>
<td>7,809,753</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred Inflow of Resources</td>
<td>210,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Net Position</td>
<td>$945,177</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Did You Know?

Deferred Outflows / Inflows of Resources - Deferrals are not assets or liabilities and are not revenues or expenses. Deferrals represent flows of resources into and out of a government during the current fiscal year but are related to future periods; such as pensions.
Condensed Statement of Activities

The Statement of Activities is one of the main financial statements of a government. This statement is issued instead of the income statement which is issued by a for-profit business. The Statement of Activities focuses on the total organization and reports revenues received, such as taxes, charges for services, grants and investment income. Expenses are reported for major functions such as public safety, transportation, community development along with many other City functions.

Operating results improved in FY 2017, by $174.7 million over the prior fiscal year. The increase was largely due to approved rate increases for water and environmental service operations, as well as increased property tax revenue. Economic expansion has contributed to increased property tax revenues as assessed value of real estate increased by $1.9 billion in FY 2017. Increased demand for construction also resulted in increased permit fees and assessments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For the Years Ended June 30, (In Thousands)</th>
<th>Total Primary Government FY 2017</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenues</td>
<td>$2,006,938</td>
<td>$1,844,731</td>
<td>$162,207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>1,981,376</td>
<td>1,993,889</td>
<td>(12,513)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changes in Net Position</td>
<td>25,562</td>
<td>(149,158)</td>
<td>174,720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Position - Beginning</td>
<td>919,615</td>
<td>1,068,773</td>
<td>(149,158)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Position - Ending</td>
<td>$945,177</td>
<td>$919,615</td>
<td>$25,562</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Carbon emissions from City operations have fallen 17 percent below 2006 levels, while serving a growing population and economy.
Revenues & Expenses

The City receives and collects revenue from a variety of sources. Program revenues derive either from the program itself or grants, and fund their respective programs and functions. General revenues primarily consist of taxes and investment earnings and are available for use for any program or function, unless they are restricted by law.

In FY 2017, total revenues were $2.01 billion. Program revenues increased by $111.92 million, with Charges for Services seeing the largest increase of $98.14 million over FY 2016. This increase is primarily due to approved rate increases for water and environmental service operations, along with increased demand. General revenues increased by $50.29 million, as a result of the economic boom in the Portland area. Increases in real estate values and new construction have combined to increase tax revenue for the City by $37.31 million in the fiscal year.

In FY 2017, expenses totaled $1.98 billion, a decrease from the prior year of $12.5 million. Business-type activities had a decrease of $28.17 million in expenses due to a reduction in salaries and wages in environmental and water services, and reflects the volatility of pension costs. Pension expenses saw a sharp spike in FY 2016, resulting from a court decision that increased the City’s pension liability and related expenses. The apparent decrease in FY 2017, is simply a result of the comparison to the FY 2016, spike. However, pension expenses continue to trend upwards, and is something the City is closely monitoring.

An offset to the decrease came from community development programs, which had an increase of $31.81 million in expenses. A city-wide housing emergency demanded the creation of solutions to meet the growing need for affordable housing and to address the rising homeless crisis.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For the Years Ended June 30, (In Thousands)</th>
<th>Total Primary Government</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FY 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenues:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Revenues:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charges for Services</td>
<td>$1,121,762</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating Grants &amp; Contributions</td>
<td>130,202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Grants &amp; Contributions</td>
<td>118,771</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Revenues:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property Taxes</td>
<td>537,143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lodging Taxes</td>
<td>50,783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>24,081</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Earnings</td>
<td>24,196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenues</td>
<td>2,006,938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governmental Activities:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Safety</td>
<td>662,030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks, Recreation &amp; Culture</td>
<td>107,883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Development</td>
<td>290,457</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>319,449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislative / Admin / Support Services</td>
<td>129,284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest on Long-Term Debt</td>
<td>47,225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business-type Activities:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Services</td>
<td>247,437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water</td>
<td>145,141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydroelectric Power</td>
<td>1,447</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking Facilities</td>
<td>8,333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf</td>
<td>9,486</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Sports</td>
<td>1,556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spectator Facilities</td>
<td>11,358</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>1,981,376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in Net Position</td>
<td>25,562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Position at Beginning of Year</td>
<td>919,615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Position at End of Year</td>
<td>$945,177</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What is the General Fund?

The General Fund is the primary operating fund of the City and it supports the day-to-day operations of many of core City core services. Public safety, community development, and parks and recreation are all examples of the services that are provided through General Fund resources.

The General Fund accounts for resources that have no specific restrictions and are available for operational expenditures not restricted to a specific fund. Since it accounts for general operations, it is the most essential governmental fund. Every governmental unit has a General Fund.

Revenues: The largest source of revenue for the General Fund comes from property taxes, which account for 50% of General Fund revenue. Licenses and fees are the second largest source and account for 29% of the total revenue. Both property taxes and licenses and fees saw significant increases in FY 2017, due to rising property values and strong growth in the construction industry.

Expenditures: Public safety is the largest program funded by the General Fund in terms of expenditures, it accounts for 66% of General Fund expenditures. These expenditures fund operations for Police, Fire and Emergency Communications to ensure the safety of the Portland community. Parks, Recreation and Culture is the second largest, but much smaller, program funded out of the General Fund; totaling 13% of expenditures. Both programs saw modest increases in FY 2017, due to normal operations.
Public-sector budgets, which must be approved by the legislative body, also function as a control on management and normally impose legal restraints on spending. The General Fund portion of the budget is comprised largely of discretionary funds, since the Mayor and City Council can allocate the funds to programs and services in any area. In other words, there are few restrictions on how these resources may be allocated.

Discretionary funds are dollars that can be used at the discretion of the governing body and can change from year to year. Much like your own checking account, any funds remaining in your checking account after required payments are made for a mortgage, rent or an electric bill, would be similar to General Fund discretionary dollars. You can use them, at your discretion, to pay for expenses as you choose. You may have obligations or plans for the discretionary dollars in your checking account, such as making a special purchase.

Similarly, the City Council may have ongoing programs such as police or parks programs that it wishes to fund, or special one-time purchases it wishes to make. But, like you, the Council can only do these things with General Fund discretionary dollars. General Fund dollars are used to support such City services as police, fire and parks, as well as planning, community development and administrative support services.
Capital Assets

The City owns and invests in capital assets to provide vital services and promote a high quality of life for its residents. The City’s net investment in capital assets, for the current FY 2017, was $6.58 billion.

The majority of the City’s capital asset portfolio is made up of infrastructure or “grey assets” with a net value of $4.81 billion.

Grey Assets

The simplest way to identify grey assets, in a very general sense, are constructed assets built above, below or on the land. This includes bridges, roads, water and sewer lines and street lights. Grey assets provide their highest level of service when they are brand new. Over time, these assets naturally deteriorate and require repair, rehabilitation, or replacement to continue to provide the same level of service.

Green Assets

The City of Portland has invested in green infrastructure – both natural and engineered assets – to provide services to Portland’s residents and businesses for over two decades. The simplest way to identify green infrastructure are natural assets that also occupy land. Green infrastructure uses natural processes, systems, or features to provide traditional infrastructure services.
The Bull Run watershed is Portland’s primary water supply source. It includes 102 square miles of protected land east of Portland in the Sandy River basin of the Mt. Hood National Forest. Water from rain and snowmelt in the watershed flows to the Bull Run River and its tributaries. The river drains into two reservoirs, where more than 17 billion gallons of water are stored.

They can be grouped into categories, much the same way as grey infrastructure. Parks and public gardens, wetlands, floodplains, grasslands, urban trees and community gardens are all examples of green infrastructure.

Green infrastructure assets are inherently different than grey infrastructure assets in that the municipal accounting framework does not allow the City to record the full value of green infrastructure assets. This gap results in an incomplete picture of the City’s assets and financial condition, and limits the City’s ability to finance investment in green infrastructure.

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) sets standard accounting practices for state and local governments. However, these standards do not include sufficient guidelines for green infrastructure assets. For example, GASB standards require municipal governments to value land based on its historic purchase price. This price does not reflect either current market value, or the values of that land asset in providing infrastructure or other services. In addition, the standards do not include methods to account for smaller, dispersed green infrastructure assets, such as swales or trees. Many of the benefits and services provided by green infrastructure are not captured by market transactions and therefore would have to be approximated using alternative methods.

Portland has an excellent example of this phenomenon in Forest Park. The market value of Forest Park lies in the value of the land and how much someone is willing to buy it for development purposes. However, the ecosystems’ beneficial values like carbon sequestration, air purification, biodiversity, along with recreational opportunities are not taken into account in this market valuation. Consequently, the total social and economic value of Forest Park is significantly underestimated.

Green infrastructure helps the City provide public services in a cost-effective and sustainable way. In some situations, green infrastructure increases overall system capacity, enabling the City to provide the desired level of service without building additional grey infrastructure. For example, green stormwater facilities – like green streets – manage stormwater and reduce the need for more and larger pipes.
Long-Term Liabilities

The City’s long-term liabilities outstanding at the end of FY 2017, were $7.36 billion. The chart below displays the breakdown for the major categories of those liabilities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liabilities</th>
<th>Amount (in thousands)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonds</td>
<td>$3,352,956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Bonds</td>
<td>$3,093,346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pension - FPDR</td>
<td>$554,847</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pension - PERS</td>
<td>$339,650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$14,460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL LIABILITIES (IN THOUSANDS)</td>
<td>$7,360,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2015, the Portland Bureau of Transportation began the City’s largest ever energy efficiency project, replacing 45,000 of the City’s 55,000 street lights to LEDs. Once the project is complete, the City can expect to save $1.5 million a year in maintenance and energy costs.

Future years’ savings will be used as a sustainable revenue stream for street light maintenance, purchasing green energy, and to finance the next round of upgrades about 20 years from now.

The new LED street lights are easily identifiable: they cast a crisp light similar to moonlight, unlike the yellow-tinged light from high-pressure sodium bulbs. They provide the same coverage to illuminate city streets as the old fixtures while also using half the energy of the high-pressure sodium bulbs. They also prevent about 10,500 tons of carbon pollution each year.

Green Bonds

State and local governments issue bonds to pay for large, expensive, and long-lived capital projects, such as the construction of bridges, hospitals, schools and water treatment facilities. Although states and localities can, and sometimes do, pay for capital investments with current revenues, borrowing allows them to spread the costs across multiple generations. Future infrastructure users bear some of that future debt cost through higher taxes, fees or tolls.

Increasingly, investors are looking to invest in projects with environmental or “green” benefits. In addition to more conventional bond issues, the City issued its first “Green Bonds” in FY 2016. The bonds were used to repay the balance on a line of credit and to provide new money to directly pay the costs of converting the City’s street lights and other outdoor lighting systems to Light-Emitting Diodes (“LEDs”.)
Pensions

In 2015, GASB required that governments report net pension liability on the financial statements. In general terms, “net pension liability” is the sum of all potential pension payments expected to be paid over the life of the retiree, less investments held by the retirement system, to pay those costs.

The City is unique in that one of the pension plans reported on the Statement of Net Position, is funded by a special tax levy. The Fire and Police Disability, Retirement and Death Benefit (FPDR) Plan, was established for the benefit of the sworn employees and retirees of the Portland Police Bureau and Portland Fire & Rescue.

In 2006, the plan was closed to new members, and all newly hired sworn employees now are covered under the Oregon PERS retirement plan, along with all other non-sworn employees of the City. For more information on PERS please visit the website at: http://www.oregon.gov/pers/

FPDR was set up in 1942, and is funded on a pay-as-you-go basis, with revenues from a dedicated property tax levy. The current tax levy is $1.10* per $1,000 of taxable real market value. The maximum allowed tax levy is $2.80. As indicated in the graph, based on an independent actuarial analysis, the tax levy could fully cover future benefits and plan expenses under a wide range of circumstances.

The liability for FPDR has a significant impact on the Net Position for two reasons. First, the funding structure is pay-as-you-go, meaning the City only levies taxes for retirement and disability benefits when they become due. However the employees continue to earn benefits each month.

Second, due to GASB accounting rules, the City is required to report the full amount of the benefits that have been earned as a liability, but is not similarly allowed to account for the dedicated tax levy as an asset. If you think of the balance sheet as a seesaw, the goal of the organization is to have assets greater than liabilities. With a large pension liability sitting on the liability side and no tax levy asset sitting on the asset side to balance it out, that liability eats into the available net position.

*Imposed rate is different from the actual rate used in the actuarial calculation due to tax discounts and delinquencies.
There are 352 miles of bikeways to ride within the City of Portland.

There are 52 community gardens located throughout the city, developed and operated by volunteers and Portland Parks & Recreation staff, offering a variety of activities.

Portland Parks & Recreation’s Washington Park International Rose Test Garden has over 500 unique variety of roses.

Portland has 70 brewing facilities. Roughly 31,000 Oregonians are directly or in-directly employed by the brewing industry, contributing $4.49 billion to the State’s economy.

Portland is one of two cities in Oregon to have an extinct volcano (Mt. Tabor) within its city limits, and only one of four cities within the United States.

Portland has 12 bridges that span the Willamette River, built over the course of more than a century from 1908-2016. The St. Johns Bridge above was built in 1931.

9 Sister Cities

Suzhou, China
Ashkelon, Israel
Bologna, Italy
Sapporo, Japan
Guadalajara, Mexico
Khabarovsk, Russia
Ulsan, South Korea
Kaohsiung Municipality, Taiwan
Mutare, Zimbabwe

For more info on our Sister Cities, please visit: www.portlandoregon.gov/sistercities
Sustainable City Government

“In 2015, Portland City Council unanimously reaffirmed its commitment to a set of Sustainability Principles and Objectives by updating a policy framework first created in 1994.”

2030 Objectives

**Reduce Carbon Emissions From City Operations 53% Below FY 2006-07 Levels**
- As of FY 2014-15, emissions from City operations are **32%** below FY 2006-07 levels.

**Generate or Purchase 100% of All Electricity for City Operations From Renewable Resources**
- In FY 2015-16, **100%** of the electricity used by City operations came from renewable resources.

**Reduce Energy Use in City Operations 2% Annually**
- In FY 2015-16, the City’s overall energy use increased **4.6%** from the prior year.

**Recover 90% of Waste From City Operations by 2030**
- In FY 2015-16, the City’s waste recovery rate was **74%**.

**Reduce Fleet Vehicle Carbon Emissions 10% From FY 2006-07 Levels**
- Over the last few fiscal years, emissions from the City’s vehicle fleet have increased **2%** over FY 2006-07 levels.

**Water Use is the Same or Less Than FY 2006-07 Levels**
- In FY 2006-07, City operations used approximately 550 million gallons of water. Since then, water use has dropped by one-half, to approximately **260** million gallons per year.
A Path Forward

While the challenge of climate change is more urgent than ever, Portland’s response is not new. Portland was the first city in the U.S. to adopt a climate action plan back in 1993. In 2015, Portland adopted its fourth climate action plan and reaffirmed the goal of reducing total local carbon emissions 80% below 1990 levels by 2050.

The investments that have helped reduce carbon emissions are the same things that make people want to live here: creating walkable neighborhoods with shopping, restaurants and parks; investing in transit, sidewalks and bikeways; protecting and restoring natural areas; and making our homes and buildings more efficient and comfortable.

The Climate Action Plan identifies over 170 actions to be completed or significantly underway by 2020. The City of Portland and Multnomah County have been working systematically to implement these actions since adoption. Nearly all of the actions in the 2015 plan are already underway, with 142 (or 83%) of those actions on track for completion by 2020. Nine actions have already been completed, while 20 have not yet started, or are facing obstacles to implementation.

Since 1990, Portland has welcomed 33% more people and 24% more jobs while carbon emissions have fallen 41% on a per person basis. This trajectory demonstrates that it is possible to achieve significant carbon emission reductions while growing the economy and population as shown below.
Portland homes use 14 percent less energy per person today than in 1990. Solar energy system in Portland increased from a dozen in 2003 to nearly 4,000 today. Portland is home to more than 180 certified LEED green buildings.

Over three million new trees and shrubs have been planted in Portland’s natural areas since 1996 through the City’s revegetation work, improving the air quality, the health of local watersheds and helping cool the urban environment.

Even with a 35 percent increase in population, 28 fewer gallons of gasoline per person were sold in Multnomah County in 2016 than in 1990.

With the addition of weekly food scrap composting service and shift to every-other-week garbage collection in 2011, household garbage taken to the landfill has dropped by a third (33 percent) and collection of compostable materials has more than doubled.

“Any vision for the future of our city needs to acknowledge that climate change is one of the most pressing policy issues of our time, and the most pressing global issue we face. It isn’t just our planet that’s at stake, it’s our very existence.”

- Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler