



Commissioner Chloe Eudaly
City of Portland

September 19, 2019

Dear PBOT Bureau and Budget Advisory Committee Members,

Thank you for your time and attention as you begin the process of providing PBOT leadership feedback on the proposed FY 20-21 budget. This is a vital service for leadership and a daunting task, so I hope you know how much your time and efforts are appreciated.

As you know, PBOT has recently adopted a new strategic plan called “Moving to Our Future”—within the guidance of this document are two fundamental questions we must ask as we allocate our finite resources and do the work that Portlanders expect of us. Will it advance equity and address structural racism? And will it reduce carbon emissions? While we keep these two questions at the forefront of our thinking, we need to make our roads safer for all Portlanders, manage transportation options for our growing city, and do this all in a way that allows us to maintain our investments. This must be our focus as we create our budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

This July was 1.71 degrees Fahrenheit warmer than average worldwide. Hurricane Dorian devastated The Bahamas and we have yet to see the final death toll. The climate crisis is here, and we all need to work together to limit carbon emissions in every aspect of our lives. While the federal government is unwilling to act, just yesterday calling to rescind California’s landmark emissions regulations, we can and will act locally. Transportation is a huge factor in managing carbon emissions—as you examine individual PBOT programs and evaluate service level priorities, I ask that you keep the climate emergency front and center in your decision making.

Thank you again for taking on this challenging work and providing your leaders in transportation the feedback and input needed to make the difficult decisions ahead. We couldn’t do it without you.

Sincerely,

Chloe Eudaly
Commissioner, City of Portland