



*Advocating for a liveable and sustainable
Rogue Valley through responsible land use.*

March 30, 2022

To: Land Conservation and Development Commission
From: Devin Kesner, Land Use Program Manager, Rogue Advocates
Re: Letter of Support for Climate-Friendly & Equitable Communities (March 31–April 1, 2022 Meeting, Agenda Item 3)

Dear Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft set of rules published on March 18, 2022. Rogue Advocates (RA) is a land use advocacy organization dedicated to cultivating livable and sustainable communities in southern Oregon's Rogue Valley. We work to preserve productive rural lands and promote vibrant urban centers.

We are writing to express our general support for the goals of the Climate-Friendly and Equitable Communities rule. We appreciate DLCD's efforts to plan for a sustainable future by directly considering how land use decisions will impact emissions for decades. We reiterate, however, the points made in [our December 14, 2021 comments](#) before the Rules Advisory Committee that the urgency of the climate crisis and Oregon's historic failure to meet its emission reduction targets necessitate higher percentages and tighter deadlines for Climate Friendly Areas (CFAs) in the rules. We are supportive of changes suggested by 1000 Friends and associated advocates to make the proposed rules stronger and more effective.

These rules present the opportunity to shape the future of Oregon's cities to incorporate climate concerns into the myriad transportation and land use changes associated with addressing forecasted population growth and the affordable housing crisis. With transportation being the single largest contributor to Oregon's total GHG emissions and global consensus that we have very little time to act, we need to start incorporating CFAs and other measures into our land use planning as soon as possible rather than locking in unwise development for decades.

Thank you,

Devin Kesner
Land Use Program Manager
Rogue Advocates