



December 8, 2018

RE: Proposed Diesel Contracting Provisions

Dear Mayor and Commissioners,

Clean air is an issue that resonates strongly with and the residents of our neighborhood. Accordingly, the HAND Board voted unanimously to support the proposed contracting provisions requiring the use of cleaner diesel equipment on city projects. We understand that this is only one of many steps needed to improve Portland's air quality, but it is important that the city show it will act where it can, and demonstrate leadership over an issue we've long been told we have no way to influence.

Unfortunately, the proposal, as it stands, falls well short of its potential. The HAND Board therefore asks that the final version be strengthened in four important ways:

1. The seven-year phase in period is far too long. Given the urgency of the issue, we want the phase in of full Tier 4 requirements be complete by the end of 2022 (four years from now).
2. The proposal should include site inspections to ensure the contracting provisions are followed, and set annual benchmarks to ensure continuous progress in achieving the program goals.
3. To reduce the burden on disadvantaged/minority/women/emerging small businesses, we ask that funds be made available to assist them in their transition to cleaner equipment.
4. The program itself needs to be adequately funded to ensure there are resources available for enforcement, verification, evaluation, and reporting on progress.

Overall, we are very happy that you have recognized there are steps we can take at the local level to work towards cleaner air, and to help Portland better live up to its reputation as a green city. We hope taking this first step is a signal that Portland will no longer be content with the status quo.

Thank you,

Chris Eykamp
Chair, Hosford-Abernethy Neighborhood District