



LWV Corvallis

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January 5, 2018

To: Mayor Traber and Corvallis City Council Members

From: League of Women Voters of Corvallis, Laura Lahm Evenson, President

Re: Support for strong Cleaner Air Oregon rules

The League of Women Voters of Corvallis (LWVC) supports the work done by our state League organization (LWVOR) since 2016 on the Cleaner Air Oregon Initiative to enact new air quality rules for Oregon's toxic substances.

The Corvallis League strongly urges you to express support for the new Cleaner Air Oregon draft rules by writing your own comments or supporting testimony that has already been submitted. You received the LWVOR's final comments electronically along with comments from the City of Portland on January 2, 2018. Both comments support strong regulations based on health and grounded in science. They offer suggestions for changes in the Draft regulations that are critical to improving health for all Oregon residents.

The LWVC believes testimony from the City of Corvallis is important because the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) chose Corvallis as one of eight cities statewide to hold a public hearing on the new rules. The Corvallis hearing was held on November 20, 2017. Also, the Environmental Protection Agency chose Corvallis along with only Portland and The Dalles to hold three workshops on effective testimony to the DEQ. The Corvallis workshop was held October 7, 2017. It is also important for Corvallis to request of the Oregon Legislature ample funding for the Department of Environmental Quality not only for the backlog of unfunded mandates for permit writing and enforcement, but also for Cleaner Air Oregon rules enactment process.

The deadline for sending comments about the new air quality regulations is January 22, 2018. They should be sent to <inahara.jill@deq.state.or.us> and <westersund.joe@deq.state.or.us>.

The League of Women Voters believes that the new rules are critical to increasing the health and economic vitality of both residents and business. We support strict enforcement of established rules and regulations and reduction of pollution from stationary sources and from ambient toxic-air pollutants. We also support the right of states to set more stringent standards than the federal government.

We thank you for your consideration of this request.