January 30, 2015

RE: SB 324 Clean Fuels Legislation

Dear Chair Edwards, Members of the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee:

The Oregon Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA) represents over 800 professional and citizen planners in the State of Oregon and supports the Clean Fuels Program. Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this important issue for Oregonians.

We understand that, when adopted, these rules will determine the next phase of this important program, which seeks to cut greenhouse gases by lowering the carbon content in Oregon transportation fuels.

Planners are concerned about this issue from a global warming and greenhouse gas reduction perspective. We are working with state agencies, private parties, non-profit organizations and others to help Oregon meet our greenhouse gas reduction targets.

The Clean Fuels helps implement Oregon’s adopted Statewide Transportation Strategy, produced by the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) with the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) and many community partners. It also implements our state’s Oregon Global Warming Commission Roadmap to 2020 to address Climate Change in Oregon and is an essential tool in our box as we work together to reach our climate reduction goals. Please let us know how we can help advance this program and associated transition strategy – which is so important for current and future generations of Oregonians.

Please let our Program and Policy Manager Becky Steckler know how we can continue to support this work. She can be reached via email at becky@oregonapa.org or by phone at 503.889.6536.

Sincerely,

Jason Franklin, AICP, President
American Planning Association, Oregon Chapter