

October 19, 2016

To whom it may concern:

My name is Braunwynn Franklin; I am a single African American woman. I work as program manager for a nonprofit mental health agency in Multnomah County. I have worked there for over 4 years, however two years ago I moved to Vancouver because I wasn't able to afford the rent on my two bedroom apartment in NE Portland. My income is around \$48,000 a year, I am paid bi-monthly and now my whole first check covers only my rent (with more people moving to Vancouver rent is up there). The stress of the commute and the reality of possible homelessness had started to affect my attendance and overall health. I was fortunate enough that my boss allowed me to change my hours from 8:30 to 5 to 10:00 to 6:30 because the traffic turns an 8 mile drive into 40 minutes, up to 90 minutes one way. To use public transportation I would need two buses, one max and a 10 minute walk about 2 hours plus to get to work.

I see so many of the people I work with become homeless because we can't afford the rent. The stress of becoming homeless is frightening. I moved to the PNW to live and work in Portland, my understanding of the Portland's inclusive housing policy proposal would be directed to new construction. The impact of this policy would afford me and others to live and work in Portland with fewer worries. I would ask that you please consider the impact that the Planning and Sustainability Commission's recommendation has in ensuring that Portland has inclusive housing for people like me.

Sincerely,

Braunwynn Franklin

4114 Gibbons St

Vancouver, WA 98661

360-842-7400

Braunwynn Franklin

Peer Wellness Program Manager II | Traditional Health Worker | Peer and Wellness Services | Cascadia Behavioral HealthCare | Portland, Oregon | 503-963-7773 Direct | 503-935-9102 Cell | 503-746-9042 Fax