

October 24, 2016

Dear Planning and Sustainability Commission,

Through our community organizing and advocacy work with hundreds of Asians and Pacific Islanders (APIs) in Portland, APANO has heard hundreds of stories from our members about families who are having to move, outside of Portland, even outside the state, in order to find affordable housing.

**Therefore, we are writing to express our strong support for the inclusionary housing proposal that is before you in its current form, and we urge the Planning and Sustainability Commission to recommend its adoption to the Portland City Council.**

The shortage of affordable housing (both public and privately owned) is reaching a crisis point, and it is seriously hurting the health and well-being of children and families as they struggle to find stable and safe housing.

In working with API families, many of whom are recent immigrants, we see how they face numerous obstacles, including lack of multilingual housing support services and a housing landscape that favors landlords with very few tenant protections.

We recognize that developers and landlords' groups will no doubt be expressing their opposition and finding ways to raise doubts and fears about the impacts of this inclusionary housing approach. We urge you to listen to the thousands of families and prioritize the needs of families and communities.

Building a city that welcomes and protects all of its residents requires a comprehensive approach, and inclusionary zoning is one piece of this comprehensive strategy.

Sincerely,

Khanh Pham  
Manager, Programs and Strategy