

**HOUSING STATE OF EMERGENCY EXTENSION**

IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO CITY COUNCIL, **PRINT** YOUR NAME.

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February 21, 2019

Dear City Council

Habitat for Humanity Portland/Metro East urges City Council to extend the state of housing emergency for twenty-four months and waive portions of the Portland Zoning Code.

While we have seen some softening of the housing market, here at Habitat we continue to see an increasing number of households, especially families with children and households of color, coming to us for help who are at risk of losing their housing. Many are paying upwards of 50% of their income on housing and are at risk of being displaced from our City and becoming houseless.

Habitat for Humanity also encourages Council to recommend a review of Ordinance 187616 that helps accelerate the production of regulated affordable housing units. Habitat has used the current ordinance and can attest to its successful implementation, but requests that the Ordinance be extended to affordable housing projects beyond those that are City funded. This change would further leverage the City's investments in affordable housing and provide an additional boost to the schedules and affordability of project that are able to be produced without City investments.

Thank you for all your consideration and for all you do to help ensure our City is affordable for all its residents.

In partnership,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Messinetti".

Steve Messinetti

President and CEO