

Joe Hovey

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Testimony to **Portland City Council** on the **Design Overlay Zone Amendments, Recommended Draft**

While overall I agree with the DOZA Amendments, it fails to address specific design standards. My fear is the outcome, as currently outlined in the DOZA documents, will create a city of "cookie-cutter" designed buildings that fail to retain the personality and characteristics of existing structures that make Portland unique. One can already see Division Street between SE 20th and SE 40th becoming a "tunnel" of ugly gray buildings that numb the senses and look out of place with the existing homes and other buildings! I would urge Council to push for adding design standards to the current DOZA guidelines that call for designs that honor and reflect the aesthetics of neighboring buildings. Please take a look at what "PDX Main Streets" has published with regard to these standards. They have worked with various neighborhoods throughout the city to define standards that enhance and build upon the current structures in a holistic manner. It's not just a matter of getting buildings "up" but requires some thought and study. Again, I'm sure you will receive testimony from those who worked with PDX Main Streets on this very issue and it behooves Council to take this into consideration. Thank you for your time.

Testimony is presented without formatting.