John Reesman

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

I live and work in Sellwood and I love my neighborhood. Nearly everything I need for day-to-day living is a short walk away. I also recognize the necessity of updating DOZA standards to reflect changing times and needs. But as we're updating standards, we should want the new to harmonize with the built environment. Sellwood is liveable for many reasons, but among them is that it's commercial buildings "fit" with their neighbors. (We don't need another Meetinghouse Apartments.) It's for these reasons that I strong encourage City Council to include the Sellwood-Moreland design standards recommended by the Sellwood-Moreland Improvement League (SMILE) in the latest DOZA standard. Adopting the SMILE standards will help ensure that new commercial and residential apartment buildings can be built while maintaining the unique character of Sellwood-Moreland's architecture. Thank you.

Testimony is presented without formatting.