

Anthony Gallardo

#299581 | May 9, 2021

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

My name is Anthony Gallardo. I live and work in the Sellwood neighborhood. I am a letter carrier, so my job is to walk from building to building delivering mail. During the last 6 years, I have seen many small homes on my routes torn down and replaced by residential apartments and mixed use buildings. I appreciate that more people are coming to Portland to live, just like me and my family did 6 years ago. This, of course means that more construction is needed to accommodate these newcomers. I believe that we can and should accommodate these new Portlanders while preserving the look and feel of the neighborhoods which are attracting them. As a homeowner, I am deeply invested in the look and feel of my own neighborhood, Sellwood. My family rented for a while when we first got to Portland, while we had a chance to look around and find our place in a neighborhood that most appealed to us. We chose to live and purchase homes in Sellwood specifically because of the look and feel of the neighborhood as well as the diverse passionate and involved neighbors that this neighborhood attracted and continues to attract. A lot of this look and feel has to do with some of the buildings in the neighborhood. The building that houses the Sellwood Public Library is a perfect example of the kind of designs I find impressive. These kinds of designs should be encouraged. I am familiar with the design standards recommended by SMILE and I would definitely want them added to the DOZA. Our neighborhood deserves to have these kinds of building designs to be included in the new construction that we are all experiencing here and elsewhere in Portland. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important issue. Anthony Gallardo

Testimony is presented without formatting.