

From: Tony Jordan
Re: DOZA
Date: 5/11/2021

Members of the Portland City Council,

Please accept this testimony in **support** of DOZA. I further urge you to **support changes** to make DOZA better as presented by Portland: Neighbors Welcome including expanding Type II reviews to **ALL** affordable housing projects and new buildings under 75 feet which include below market homes, ensuring the Design Commission includes a member of the affordable housing community, and not doubling Design Standard points for mid-size buildings.

I am also writing to ask you to oppose the inclusion of privately developed guidelines, such as those proposed by PDX Main Streets. These guidelines serve people living near wealthier neighborhoods with access to transit and bike/ped networks. We should not make it harder to add housing, particularly below-market housing, in these areas.

From 2011-2017 I was a board member and President of the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association. I have watched this process from it's genesis, and followed the efforts of some activists to impose their aesthetic preferences and design standards on the corridors in inner SE Portland for many years. I do not believe that the regular opponents to housing and density will be mollified by pretty buildings and adornments.

Opposition to new housing, particularly multi-family housing and affordable housing is truly driven by xenophobia, racism, classism, and concerns about parking. The subjective "quality" of the design is a red herring and efforts to placate those concerns are often made at great expense and in vain. One need only look at examples all over the city of developers who have attempted to work with reactionary neighborhoods only to be appealed and opposed at every step along the way.

Let's remove barriers to building the housing our city needs and deserves. Pass DOZA with a few tweaks to make it easier to build affordable housing and keep it simple, don't adopt privately developed guidelines or require detailed "Character Statements."

Sincerely,
Tony Jordan
Sunnyside, Portland