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

In 2018 and 2019 I participated in a number of PDX Main Street (pdxmainstreet.org) events examining the features that make for livable neighborhoods at a human scale. I have lived in southeast Portland since 1974 and have been impacted by the changes taking place in our city. From 1977 to 2019 I lived in two old homes (1907/1912) – one at 32nd Place and Stephens and then moved to another at 23rd and Market. I understand what it takes to preserve and update old properties. It takes a commitment to honor the neighborhood and to continually care for the property and its characteristics. We need to preserve many of the old buildings that provide charm and integrity neighborhoods and avoid future disasters like the one that occurred on southeast Division between 30th and 39th. There are better ways to foster density while preserving the livability that made our city a mecca for many from around the country. I support the PDX Main Street's recommendations and encourage the City Council to do the same. We can grow as a city and respect our history.

Testimony is presented without formatting.