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

I am the project designer for the Baldwin Affordable Housing in the North Portland Kenton Neighborhood. The project could not meet all the community design standards and had to go through the Type II staff review. The Type II staff review is a discretionary review that looks at the design holistically. My team had a great experience working through the Type II process and working with the Design Review Planner Megan Walker. We had certain time constraints as all projects do. We were very transparent about the time constraint and the site constraints with Megan. Megan was very helpful in making sure we navigated the Type II process in the most efficient manner to get our design approved and for us to submit for permit. Since a lot of the development codes are being updated, along with other changes coming from the "better housing by design" there were some code ambiguities and Megan worked with us to clarify those and help the project maintain design and program elements that were essential for the project. We support the design review process and we feel that the process makes for the richer city.

Testimony is presented without formatting.