

# Kurt Schultz

**#309656 | May 12, 2021**

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

I am Kurt Schultz, a design principal with SERA Architects in Portland. I frequently am an applicant for Type III Design Reviews in the Central City for a wide variety of projects, ranging from multi-family housing to office buildings and hotels. I am very supportive of the design review process city wide as it leads to a much higher quality of projects and a better built environment for our citizens. I do not support weakening design review overlays throughout the City of Portland. I do support expanding design overlay zones where warranted. Also, I wanted to show my sincere appreciation for the design review staff at BDS as well as to members of the design commission. The design review process has improved tremendously over the last few years and I believe that is due to the commitment of design commission members and staff to make the process run smoother for applicants while still upholding strong and clear standards for new construction. I work in many jurisdictions across the west coast and the City of Portland's design review process is the most well run and predictable for applicants that I encounter. I hope our Design Review process will continue to be a point of pride for our City. Thank you.

Testimony is presented without formatting.