



600 NE Grand Ave.
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oregonmetro.gov

Councilor Duncan Hwang, District 6

March 7, 2022

Steve Routh, Chair
Planning and Sustainability Commission
Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability

Chair Routh and members of the Committee:

I write today in support of PBOT's request to vacate rights of public right of way on NE 42nd Avenue. As the Metro Councilor for District 6, my district borders the Hollywood neighborhood to the south, with the boundary running along the I-84 freeway. My constituents frequently access the 42nd Avenue transit center to get to work, school, and for shopping and recreation.

As a Metro Councilor, continuing to support Affordable Housing Bond projects is a top priority, especially when they are planned in areas that might otherwise be inaccessible to people with low incomes. Allowing the hollywoodHUB project to move forward will help mitigate our region's housing crisis by offering over 200 affordable homes in a high-rent neighborhood. Importantly, a large portion of these homes will provide much-needed family-sized units. The influx of residents and planned community space will also increase economic activity and could provide new opportunities for emerging small businesses.

Additionally, as the Metro Councilor serving on the Transit-Oriented Development Committee, I strongly support development next to this transit center. One strength of TOD projects is the way that planners work directly with community members to design needed, desired, and culturally-appropriate investments. With ADA access, affordable units, and ample opportunity for community engagement, this is a sterling example of the type of equitable TOD project that our region should be investing in.

We must also commemorate the cultural and historic importance of this site. In remembrance of the victims of the MAX murders, it is imperative that we work with residents to create a space for healing and gathering in community. The planned paseo will allow groups and residents to come together to design a meaningful space.

Thank you for your consideration of moving forward this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Duncan Hwang".

Duncan Hwang
Metro Councilor, District 6