

Tammy Spencer

#332054 | September 22, 2022

Testimony to the Planning and Sustainability Commission on the Floodplain Resilience Plan, Proposed Draft

Hi There, This Tuesday the Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission has a tremendous opportunity to ensure we have healthy floodplains, which are essential to our community, to fish and wildlife habitats, and to continue tactics to fight climate change. Please listen carefully to the testimony and please move this plan forward in it's entirety. By adopting the entire Floodplain Resilience Plan, we will protect our communities against the impacts of climate change and extreme weather events, protect water quality, and provide fish and wildlife habitat. Please be responsible and consistent with the City's Climate Action Plan and Climate Emergency Work Plan to not adequately protect floodplains by moving this forward. The plan does not stop all floodplain development but it does increase protections for floodplains and requires real mitigation when floodplains are developed to compensate for the impacts. This puts the costs where they belong, which is on developers rather than on the community. The City must adopt the whole plan. Removal of Title 24 Amendments which require that when developers fill floodplains, they also create an equal amount of new floodplain nearby is not acceptable. It guts one of the most important parts of the plan. Title 24 protections must be restored. The City postponed addressing some industrial lands along the river and Columbia River to a later phase of the process. As soon as this plan is adopted it must expedite developing floodplain protections on all industrial lands. These lands include some of our most important floodplains. We have known for decades that floodplain development puts our communities and environment in harm's way. We have seen city after city in the United States suffer catastrophic floods and we have seen flooding in our own communities. The choice is clear. The City is right on the edge of real progress on this issue, please listen to from the community and please live up to your commitments to climate leadership. Thank You, Tammy Spencer Portland Audubon Past Board Member Portland Audubon New Wildlife Care Center Co-Chair

Testimony is presented without formatting.