

October 6, 2023

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Commissioner Michael Alexander
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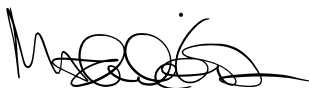
Dear Members of the Portland Planning Commission,

I am writing on behalf of the Portland Metropolitan Association of Realtors® (PMAR) to express our support for the Housing Needs Analysis Report and the crucial work conducted by the city staff in assessing and addressing the housing needs in our beloved city.

As representatives of the real estate community in Portland, we understand the significance of housing in shaping the future of our city and the lives of its residents. We appreciate the inclusion of well laid out data on current homeownership opportunities and affordability beginning on Page 67. We look forward to equally comprehensive data related to homeownership opportunities for future production as part of the Housing Production Strategy that is currently underway. Homeownership plays a critical role in stabilizing communities, building generational wealth, and providing a sense of security for families. By addressing both rental and homeownership needs, we can create a more holistic and sustainable housing ecosystem.

We support the goal of building 120,560 units over the next 20 years and hope that we start by making a dent in the 9,385 households needed to fill the underproduction and 4,604 homes needed to house the houseless. Achieving these targets will not only address the immediate housing crisis but also contribute to the long-term sustainability and growth of our city. We hope that the work the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability is currently undertaking to reduce the impediments to housing will continue to complement and align with the need set forth in the HNA. The challenges facing housing development in our city are multifaceted, and the collaborative efforts of various stakeholders are essential to achieving the ambitious goals outlined in the report.

We encourage the Planning Commission to vote to recommend the HNA to City Council and move us closer to meeting Governor Kotek's ambitious housing production goals. The alignment of our efforts with these goals is crucial in ensuring the continued growth and prosperity of our city, region, and state.



Michele Gila
Director of Realtor® Advocacy