

Victoria Via

#333028 | December 5, 2023

Testimony to **Portland City Council** on the **2045 Portland Housing Needs Analysis, Recommended Draft**

Over the last 6 months, I've spent countless hours searching for affordable housing in Portland for my elderly relative, who will lose her housing at the end of this month. It has been extremely difficult to find safe housing that meets the needs of a senior who is low-income, unable to drive, and has mobility issues. Many of the existing housing options I've found have long waitlists, some extending upwards of 8 years. I want safe, stable housing for my loved ones, which is why I support the Inner Eastside for All campaign by Portland: Neighbors Welcome. As a Portland homeowner, architect, and a leader of Strong Towns PDX (a civic advocacy group of community members working to make a difference in Portland), I believe that upzoning will allow Portland's Inner Eastside to incrementally and naturally grow. It will expand the affordability, accessibility, and availability of housing choices across all scales. I appreciate the city's work so far in addressing our housing crisis, but more work urgently needs to be done. Ensuring that we can build more housing in the Inner Eastside is crucial to ensuring bright futures for all Portlanders. I urge the city to include the Inner Eastside for All Upzoning as a Housing Production Strategy.

Testimony is presented without formatting.