



December 6, 2023

To: Portland City Council

Re: Item 1015 SUPPORT Housing Needs Analysis

Dear Mayor and City Commissioners:

Walkable, bikeable, transit-rich neighborhoods are only as useful as the number of people able to access them. Even as Portland works to improve walking, biking and transit in more neighborhoods, it could increase access to these efficient, healthy transportation options by letting more people live in neighborhoods where these options are already pretty good.

That's why The Street Trust joins Portland: Neighbors Welcome and others in calling for the city's upcoming Housing Production Strategy to include a zoning project that would re-legalize "four floors and corner stores" throughout the east side's inner neighborhoods, not just along the busy streets.

Transit-oriented development does not mean ban apartments everywhere except facing the main streets. People will be eager to walk four blocks to a frequent bus line if they're allowed to live somewhere this is possible. Allowing apartment buildings on any lot in these inner neighborhoods would be consistent with Portland's Comprehensive Plan, its transportation goals, and its shared values.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sarah Iannarone
Executive Director, The Street Trust

The Street Trust is a membership advocacy organization representing street users from across Greater Portland regardless of mode. We work to break political gridlock and win policy and investments that save lives, reduce barriers, and expand mobility and opportunities to the people and neighborhoods our current system neglects.