

Gaby Burkard

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

Hello! My name is Gaby Burkard. I'm writing to encourage you to take the Inner Eastside For All initiative into consideration in the Housing Production Strategy. I'm a current resident of Inner Southeast Portland, and before that, I rented in the Southeast Buckman neighborhood for several years. I loved living there because it felt incredibly vibrant and alive as a community. I believe this is in large part because a relatively large proportion of young people and young families are able to live there due to the rentable homes and small apartments. One of the best parts of living there was the ability to walk around the tree-lined streets and explore the nooks and crannies of my neighborhood without having to deal with constant car traffic running alongside me. There is always something going on at local coffee shops, bars, and parks. It's a shame that only a very limited number of Portland residents are able to enjoy neighborhoods like this. I think that upzoning Inner Eastside to allow building of neighborhood apartments with corner stores would only amplify the positive aspects of neighborhoods like Buckman, while at the same time ameliorating the issues it has with homelessness. I'm afraid that unless the city takes measures to create more affordable housing in Inner Southeast, it will continue to get less diverse and more expensive. I want more people to be able to afford the walkable, beautiful, busy inner Eastside neighborhoods I love. Thank you so much for your time! Gaby Burkard

Testimony is presented without formatting.