

Sacha Gripman

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

Portland City Council Members, I urge you to consider adopting the proposed Inner Eastside for All Upzoning plan as a Housing Production Strategy. Portland's lack of housing is a very apparent and tangible strain on our city. Community members are being priced out of their homes, new development is getting pushed into suburban areas, and the region is struggling with congestion. Upzoning Central Eastside would prove numerous opportunities for new development in an area where current land uses do not take full advantage of surrounding amenities, transportation opportunities, and proximity to downtown. Portland's own Bureau of Planning and Sustainability recognizes this, and has made it a goal to center development in these denser areas. Creating opportunities for new development in the area would be positive for current and future residents alike. As our region grows in both population and jobs, more people will need access to major employment centers and services within our city. Central Eastside is one of the last under-developed areas in our city center, and represents a massive opportunity to allow further densification and development. Central Eastside's industrial character can be celebrated, while giving way to better land-use, more housing, and a stronger community. Again, I urge you to adopt the Inner Eastside for All Upzoning as a Housing Production Strategy to ensure Portland's prosperity for generations to come. Thank you for your time and consideration. Sacha Gripman Student of Urban and Public Affairs at PSU Customer Service and Community Engagement at Portland Streetcar

Testimony is presented without formatting.