

Jonathan Greenwood

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Testimony to the Planning and Sustainability Commission on the 2045 Portland Housing Needs Analysis, Proposed Draft

Hello Council, The vision for Portland's close-in neighborhoods, centered on constructing four-floor buildings with corner stores, is a brilliant and forward-looking proposal that deserves wholehearted support. It aligns with the principles of creating vibrant, accessible, and diverse urban communities. The idea of allowing street-scale apartment buildings on residential lots within the 12th to 60th, Fremont to Powell area is a fantastic way to promote mixed-income and mixed-use neighborhoods. The call to address racial inequities and promote fair housing is not just essential; it's a moral imperative. The Housing Needs Analysis underscores the glaring disparities, where no neighborhood is currently affordable for Black households and access is limited for Latine and Native American households. It's crucial for the commission to consider the geographical distribution of zoned capacity for new homes and make adjustments to ensure that housing opportunities are distributed fairly, with minimal displacement risk, job access, and sustainable transit options. Moreover, supporting a minimum housing density of four stories is a wise decision. Adequate density is key to addressing Portland's housing shortage effectively while maintaining the character and accessibility of these neighborhoods. This initiative, driven by the community's aspirations for a more inclusive and equitable city, is a testament to the collective vision for Portland's future. By focusing on walkable, transit-rich, and mixed-use neighborhoods, we can create spaces that cater to the needs of all residents and enhance the city's overall quality of life. In conclusion, this vision embodies the spirit of progress, equity, and responsible urban development. It is a step towards ensuring that Portland remains a place where everyone, regardless of their background, can find a home and thrive. This proposal deserves widespread support and a commitment to making it a reality. Thank you, Jonathan Greenwood

Testimony is presented without formatting.