



**Bureau of Planning and Sustainability**  
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## Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission

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March 19, 2013

Portland City Council  
Portland City Hall  
1211 SW 4th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97204

Dear Mayor Hales and City Council Members:

On February 26, 2013 the Planning and Sustainability Commission (PSC) voted unanimously to forward the *Draft Barbur Concept Plan* to City Council for adoption by resolution.

This concept plan sets forth a land use strategy to leverage regional investment in High Capacity Transit to achieve community aspirations for a more walkable, vibrant Barbur.

At the hearing, the PSC heard strong support from the community for both the process and the content of the concept plan. Chris Smith was the Commission's representative on the concept plan's Community working Group and helped community members shaping the contents of the plan in a meaningful way. Specifically, Chris worked with the leadership of the SW Neighborhoods Inc. board to propose minor language changes related to the Crossroads Town Center that are now incorporated into the recommended draft plan.

While the Commission understands that this is an important plan in terms of influencing the current regional discussions about high capacity transit, we believe any significant public investment would benefit from further Council discussion about citywide investment priorities and how an investment in transit fits within those priorities. In the meantime, it is imperative that the City continue to identify and commit funding for critical safety improvements on and near Barbur (e.g. filling gaps in sidewalks and bike lanes, and improving crossings).

Thank you for your consideration of our recommendations.

Sincerely,

André Baugh  
Chair  
Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission



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