

Hi I'm a resident of Sabin and live in a house that was built in 1908. I bought my house because I love older homes and I believe in reusing structures that are sound, not tearing them down. I'm very distressed about developers buying up old houses, tearing them down and building monstrous new houses on the lots. These new houses are out of scale with the neighborhood, and too big for the lots. They are made if the cheapest materials and are changing the character of our historic neighborhoods and not for the better. This trend is also contributing to a loss of affordable housing and a loss if diversity, because the smaller older homes being torn down are much more affordable than the huge ones being built.

Please change city policy to stop incentivizing builders to tear down old houses and replace them with new ones. Please revise codes to reflect that more than 50% demolition is a tear down, not a remodel, and property taxes should be adjusted accordingly.

Also stop allowing huge houses to be built in historic neighborhoods, where most of the homes are small.

If I wanted to live amongst big cheap ugly boxes, I would have bought a house in Beaverton or Vancouver.

Also please stop promoting the lie that the big new houses increase density. Typically the families buying these homes are relatively wealthy, highly educated white folks with 1.2 kids. There is more square footage in the house, but not more people.

Thanks,

Diane Benson
1st Vice President
Sabin Community Association
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