

Tom Kelly
Chair

November 26, 2014

Aneshka Dieksen
Commissioner

Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission
1900 SW Fourth Avenue, Suite 7100
Portland, Oregon 97201

Mark Edlen
Commissioner

John C. Mohlis
Commissioner

Subject: North Macadam and Central Eastside Urban Renewal Area Plans

Charles A. Wilhoite
Commissioner

Members of the Planning and Sustainability Commission:

Charlie Hales
Mayor

Patrick Quinlan
Executive Director

As you know, in May of 2014, City Council through resolution directed City and PDC staff to pursue a series of amendments to six urban renewal areas (URAs) that would accomplish three objectives: 1. Reduce the impact from urban renewal on taxing jurisdictions, 2. Maintain the City's commitment to Portland State University, and 3. Provide resources for public investments in economic development, redevelopment, and affordable housing. While the package of proposed changes would affect six URAs, there are only two (North Macadam and Central Eastside) that constitute a substantial amendment through state law. As such, PDC staff has worked very collaboratively with staff from Bureau of Planning and Sustainability (BPS) to present to you findings of these two URA's plan conformance for your review.

These proposed changes are essential to realizing the potential for job growth and redevelopment in the neighborhoods adjacent to the new Portland Milwaukie Light Rail Orange Line and complement the important work that BPS staff and the Planning & Sustainability Commission has been doing on the SE and West Quadrant Plans.

Staff has managed an extensive public participation process that has included five URA Amendment Advisory Committee meetings, a public open house, and over 25 meetings with business associations, neighborhood associations, and other interested parties. The Board is scheduled to vote on the package on December 11, 2014.

The PDC Board is proud of the proposed amendments and hereby forwards the North Macadam and Central Eastside Urban Renewal Plans and Reports to the Planning and Sustainability Commission for review and recommendation. A City Council public hearing on ordinances approving these documents is scheduled for December 17, 2014.

Sincerely,



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