

Hello City of Portland,

I am writing to comment on the Comprehensive Plan. I've observed, along with other Portlanders, the disturbing rise in demolitions of historic properties approved quickly by the City of Portland. It's clear that developers are chomping at the bit to buy up properties to destroy them in the name of density. In the end, they're just looking to profit. And we Portlanders suffer with an ugly skyline and an erased architectural past.

As a wildlife advocate and someone who believes in historic preservation of architecture, I believe that increasing density is not always a good thing. Densification destroys wildlife habitat in the city. Many species survive in the neglected nooks and crannies of old properties and "vacant" lots.

Densification also ruins the historic character of neighborhoods (I know this personally as my neighborhood, lacking a historic designation, has some unsightly infill.)

Densification also contributes to landfill. Sometimes the most green strategy is to restore rather than destroy and rebuild.

It's my strong opinion that the Comprehensive Plan should safeguard historic properties as well as green spaces (even tiny ones that exist solely because of those historic properties). Portland is not just about Homo sapiens. Other species have a right to live here, too. If we push building sizes out to the edge of their lot boundaries, where do other species live?

1) PLEASE PUT DELAYS INTO THE PLANNING PROCESS REGARDING DEMOLITIONS.

2) PLEASE RECONSIDER THE CONCEPT THAT ALL INFILL/DENSIFICATION IS GOOD FOR THE CITY.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,
Christine Colasurdo
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