



East Portland Action Plan

January 30, 2015

Re: Request for Planning and Sustainability Commission Timeline Changes to Comprehensive Plan Review

Dear Mayor Hales, Planning and Sustainability Commission Chair Baugh, and Bureau of Planning and Sustainability Director Anderson:

The East Portland Action Plan (EPAP) joins the Multnomah Neighborhood Association and the Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc. in requesting an adjustment to the Planning and Sustainability Commission's timeline for the 2035 Comprehensive Plan update process. An adjusted timeline will allow more community members (including our local small business community) to have an opportunity to be informed, evaluate, and comment on the complete 2035 Comprehensive Plan. The timeline adjustment will allow inclusion of the currently-in-process Mixed Use Zoning project, the Campus Institutional project, and the Transportation System Plan Update portion that is part of the Comprehensive Plan. Each of these elements has major impact on East Portland, particularly with the completed draft to be released in late January of 2015 for a very limited review and comment period.

The East Portland Action Plan (Action Plan) was adopted by the City of Portland (2009) and Multnomah County (2010) to provide leadership and guidance to public agencies and other entities on how to strategically address community-identified issues and allocate resources to improve livability for neighborhoods and prevent displacement in the East Portland Neighborhood Office (EPNO) coalition area. The Action Plan strategies and items that support this request include:

- CB.2** Empower and engage East Portland residents and businesses in civic decision-making.
- CB.2.4** Develop an ongoing program to assess and improve East Portland's participation in City and County policy making and budget setting activities.
- HD.6** Review and assess Comprehensive Plan Map and implementation in East Portland.
- HD.6.2** Evaluate location and intensity of current residential zoning including density bonuses.

- CM.1** Provide commercial and mixed use development opportunities throughout East Portland.
- CM.1.1** Review commercial and mixed use zoning throughout East Portland; consider adding to deficient areas to provide neighborhood services; consider access and walkability equitably throughout area.
- CM.1.3** Support commercial revitalization in business and mixed use districts.
- CM.2** Promote vital and healthy mixed-use commercial areas.
- CM.2.8** Re-examine development regulations and fees for key East Portland business districts (i.e. Gateway, Lents, Division and Parkrose); reduce barriers to quality development and job creation.
- T.2** Increase safety and convenience of walking throughout East Portland.
- T.2.3** Review policies and procedures to ensure pedestrian improvements concurrent with all new development

An adjusted timeline will also better address the City's stated efforts for equity and inclusion. Many East Portland community members are unclear on how all of these projects and plans integrate with or change existing regulations. Additionally, outreach to East Portland's community members for whom English is NOT a first language remains woefully incomplete, particularly with local small businesses.

Therefore, the East Portland Action Plan requests that the City of Portland modify the timeline and request an extension from the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development. It is our understanding that this would be a reasonable request, since the process to adopt the 2035 Comprehensive Plan would then be consistent with the provisions of Goal 1 Citizen Involvement of Oregon's Statewide Planning Goals and Policies.

Respectfully,

Arlene Kimura

On behalf of the East Portland Action Plan

Jeremy O'Leary

Cc: Karen Fisher Gray

EAST PORTLAND ACTION PLAN

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