

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a resident of the Argay neighborhood in East Portland and am among those residents who are requesting that all the vacant or undeveloped R-3 zoned land in the Argay neighborhood be reclassified to R-5 or R-7 single-family residential, and the proposed Mixed Employment areas (Change numbers 287, 288, 289, located at the SE corner of NE 122nd and Shaver and 290, located at the SW corner of NE 147th and Sandy Blvd.) also be reclassified to R-5 and R-7 single family. Also, I support the city's similar change #688 along NE 148th Avenue north of I-84.

The Argay neighborhood was originally made up of only single-family residences. Since the original development was completed, nearly all new development has been in the form of high density apartment complexes. As a result, our area contains some of the highest proportion of apartments to single family residences in Portland. This pendulum swing has created an imbalance in our neighborhood's composition and I believe the above proposal is needed in order to bring a more equitable level of proportion between high density and low density housing.

In addition, I am very concerned about the Comprehensive Plan's reliance on the "connectivity" directive. The idea behind connectivity is fine. Providing easier and safer access to drivers, riders, walkers and bicyclists is admirable. However, when connectivity is used to provide shortcuts for drivers to cut through single-family residential areas in order to avoid main arterials and speed their commutes, I object. Although I believe that there are situations in which connectivity creates positive results, using connectivity as a standard for every situation is short-sided and often-times counterproductive. Like most people, I am concerned when strangers who have no connection to my community, have access to it. I do not see a single advantage to having shortcut routes through my neighborhood. I only visualize heavy traffic, cars in a hurry and children and adults alike, not being safe on their neighborhood streets.

Please consider adding "when feasible and supported by the community," to all references to connectivity.

Sincerely,

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