

Dear Mayor and Commissioners,

I am a resident of over 20 years on NE 27th Ave, 2 doors down from NE Jarrett St. In the past 5 years I have watched a myriad of skinny houses, ill suited to the nature and character of the neighborhood proliferate. These houses all too often do not add much to the density of the neighborhood although they certainly do detract from its once neighborly character. Drive down the streets where these houses have artificially inflated property values and see how it feels to have them looming over their neighbors, all out of proportion to both Concordia and the nature of the neighborhood.

I have observed with genuine dismay as literally dozens of century old fir trees, so appealing and climate change friendly, have been cut down, altering the forest like character of the neighborhood that drew me there in the first place. The loss of these trees is putting more and more of the remaining trees at risk to potential wind damage as there was once safety in numbers because they helped to protect one another.

While I support increased density it should not be at the cost of changing the character and a neighborhood forever. We desperately need to protect and preserve what is important in our Concordia, a sense of well being, of being part of a larger community. There is value in history. The greater the number of these skinny houses with no connection to Concordia and its history the more that is lost. I wonder if you would change this zoning in more affluent neighborhoods like Laurelhurst or Irvington.

This rezoning will only encourage predatory builders and real estate agents to prey on older or less affluent citizens. For once, let us not make decisions based on money, rather on what is really important in our lives. Family, community and a neighborhood that not only allows neighbors to know one another, but encourages it.

I urge you to vote NO on rezoning this stretch of Concordia. It does little in the way of good and **MUCH** in the way of harm.

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