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Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 12:16 PM
To: 'psc@portlandoregon.gov'
Cc: 'mnachair@gmail.com'
Subject: SW Portland resident - comments on draft 2035 Comp Plan

Hello Planning and Sustainability Commissioners,

I urge you to look carefully at what you are proposing in a plan that will guide Portland for 20 years. From volunteer work and business projects I have been involved in, we have a very clumsy and onerous process in the City of Portland. The public needs to be alerted and aware and we also need to balance this effort with opportunities for elected officials to take action.

I would like to see the neighborhoods represented on the PSC – all neighborhoods via the existing ONI identified areas. I support Carol McCarthy's opinion articles that have been in local papers. She understands what we want and need and is taking action to ensure neighbors stay informed. How do we ensure we get seats at your table?

In case you haven't felt the overwhelming amount of information that we see and hear about, let me remind you of the bits and pieces of data in the news or what we talk about when we meet for coffee with neighbors. We have a City TSP, Metro SW Corridor, 2013 Barbur Concept and the current Comprehensive Plan info passing by and simultaneously we have TriMet service enhancements to consider and taxes, including arts and possibly street fees. So many different plans and competing organizations, such as the County and Metro vying for support and work. It is confusing to residents, such as my family who stay active. I can only imagine what it is like for those who do not take the time to search the websites or attend meetings.

Allow us to keep the NA infrastructure in place going forward. And, provide technologies, such as video conferencing and Go To Meeting types of services so we can include younger residents and newcomers who may not be able to leave work to attend work hour meetings or who may not be able to pay for childcare to attend evening meetings. 2035 is a long way off – hone the Portland system to work in this new era and style of civic involvement. Provide the equity that is needed to make it easy for residents to participate in a timely fashion.

You have an opportunity to help all of us to get our hearts and minds around all of these plans and allow us to embrace a few things that we can actually implement in a timely fashion before the next set of plans are started.

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Cc: Carol McCarthy, Multnomah Neighborhood Association