

Greetings,

Re-development and increased height and density are good for the urban area, even if they change the character of existing neighborhoods. They remove old, blighted properties, limit urban sprawl and create more affordable housing. Neighborhoods change over time, just as the original development changed the “neighborhood.” There is nothing magical about “existing character.” Often it is simply the random byproduct of previous socio-economic distributions and architectural preferences. Nothing says it is the pinnacle of urban design for a particular area. In most places, changes to “existing character” are not a bad thing. They make neighborhoods nicer, more vibrant and more interesting, and allow us to accommodate more people in a given area. The changes may seem overwhelming now, but the markets will likely slow change on their own, without further government intervention, as the past eight years of monetary easing are unwound.

So please resist the over-reaction to demolitions, no-parking apartments and new construction that doesn’t look just like what’s already there. The changes advocated by some “neighborhood activists” would throw out the baby with the bathwater and prevent the natural, beneficial evolution of our neighborhoods.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Brian Posewitz
8508 SE 11th Ave.
Portland, OR 97202
Brian Posewitz <brianposewitz@comcast.net>