

My name is Adam Brunelle. I'm a planning student at PSU who does research & community engagement, as well as a climate organizer with 350PDX.

I am here today to talk about the linkages between climate change & displacement. Last week, the city passed a resolution banning **all new** fossil fuel infrastructure—a landmark step on the road to a sustainable future. From Pembina to Shell NO to the Climate Action Plan & fossil fuel export policy, the people have been heard loud & clear. Thank you all for your leadership on that issue.

Meanwhile, we are in the midst of a housing emergency. Home prices and rents have been rising steadily & pushing Eastward from inner Portland at a surprising rate. Already, communities in East Portland and beyond are finding themselves increasingly susceptible to displacement pressures.

Take Lents, for example, where I have been helping a community organization, Livable Lents, expand its outreach and understand past efforts undertaken by the city. In the last year, Lents has seen the average rent for a 2-bedroom unit increase more than 14%. Increasing economic development—fueled by PDC's urban renewal—has raised concerns over how Lents will change in the future. The community is amongst the state's most vulnerable to the health effects of climate change, while already facing the acute risk of flooding, the rising cost of flood insurance, & the so-called "double vulnerability" of climate change.

To understand the planning processes in the neighborhood, I have read more than a thousand of pages of public records, spent countless hours working, interviewing, surveying, mapping & engaging with hundreds of people in the Lents community. During this process, I have found little to no evidence that the city's public process to guide development in Lents was even remotely inclusive or representative of the neighborhood's diversity. Lents is one of the city's most culturally diverse and affordable neighborhoods—with large populations of immigrants, many of whom are low-income & speak languages other than English. The neighborhood's affordability & diversity, however, are increasingly threatened by market forces & planning decisions which have so far failed to account for them. For Portland, a just transition requires that the city fights to end displacement & preserve affordability in its neighborhoods. Failing to do so is a clear violation of the equity principles set forth in the Climate Action Plan.

This brings me to 350PDX. In addition to supporting the city's approach to industrial lands in the Comprehensive Plan, we are increasingly concerned with displacement & recognize it as a climate justice issue. The city must prioritize healthy, affordable neighborhoods with stable housing that have a high degree of opportunity & empower existing residents. This means changing how we develop for "density" & "sustainability" so that existing residents are not displaced. The displacement crisis, like the climate crisis, requires extraordinary & urgent action. We believe there are ample opportunities to ensure that the city's "green" climate action strategies fully incorporate anti-displacement measures every step of the way—in particular in the Comprehensive Plan.

This summer, Anti-Displacement PDX saw its 11 anti-displacement recommendations incorporated into the Draft Comprehensive Plan. Last month, 350PDX became the 30th organization to endorse the measures. We feel strongly that the city council should heed the voices of the people once again by showing the same bold leadership we saw last week. Just say yes & adopt all 28 anti-displacement measures in the Final Comprehensive Plan. 350PDX will continue to support Anti-Displacement PDX as it confronts this crisis.

Thank you.

Adam Brunelle

843-333-6696

Moore-Love, Karla

From: Adam Brunelle <brunelleadam@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 11:17 AM
To: Moore-Love, Karla
Subject: communications November 18

Hi Karla,

I would like to sign up for testimony on November 18th in the morning council session to discuss climate change & displacement.

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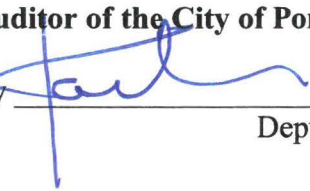
Request of Adam Brunelle to address Council regarding climate change and displacement (Communication)

NOV 18 2015

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Filed NOV 10 2015

MARY HULL CABALLERO
Auditor of the City of Portland

By  Deputy

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
	YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz		
2. Fish		
3. Saltzman		
4. Novick		
Hales		