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Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2016 3:47 PM
To: Planning and Sustainability Commission <psc@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Comprehensive Plan Testimony

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing as a homeowner within the proposed zoning change area in the Overlook Neighborhood as outlined in the Residential and Open Space Zoning Map - Proposed Draft, March 2016.

My family and I have serious concerns over the proposed zoning change from R5 to R2.5. Such a change would encourage destruction of homes in order to make space for higher density housing, and would result in increased traffic, noise and pollution. This section of North Willamette Boulevard is a Shared Roadway as designated by the Portland Bureau of Transportation and is a heavily traveled bike and pedestrian route. We fear that the increased housing density and resulting traffic would adversely affect the safe passage for the biking and hiking community for which Portland is well known.

North Willamette Boulevard is regarded throughout the city for its accessibility, safety and eclectic mix of new and historic homes. Many young families with small children and pets live in the area, and safety around road and automobile traffic is of utmost concern. We chose to live in this neighborhood for these reasons and we feel it would be a detriment to the community to increase the density at such a high cost.

Furthermore, we find it perplexing that the city has proposed to *down-designate* some Eastmoreland neighborhoods (R5 to R7 and R2.5 to R5, Amendments #74 and #75 on Mayor Hales List dated 3/11/16) in order to *decrease* the density in these communities. These areas are arguably better suited to withstand a higher population density than other communities being considered for re-zoning, given the new light rail, abundant facilities and quality schools. It is well known that the City of Portland is in the midst of an affordable housing shortage; it seems a strange proposition to reduce capacity in this established neighborhood and put further pressure on the city's housing market as a whole. It makes more sense once one realizes that Eastmoreland is the home of Mayor Hales himself.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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