

Central City 2035 Plan Testimony

Walter Weyler 7/25/2016

Walter Weyler, resident of the West End and Past Chair of the Oregon Symphony.

My comments are directed at Central City 2035 Auto Parking policies 3.12 and 9.52 both of which declare the intent to "...limit the growth of the overall parking supply.....". Other policies have declared the intention to ".....pinch the supply of parking.....".

A centerpiece of Portland's desirability is its arts community. Preserving the arts is an integral part of preserving Portland's quality of life. We must not stifle Portland's arts community by "pinching" the parking spaces that their audiences need to attend performances. To balance their budgets, our precious arts institutions require attendance growth.

Growth ?? For example, the Oregon Symphony requires a fixed number of staff and musicians to present its amazing performances. Fixed numbers of employees whose compensation and benefits increase over time, requiring increases in ticket sales.....increases in ticket sales and attendance require increases in parking. Our precious arts institutions require increases in attendance and parking to balance their budgets.

I recommend that a review which includes resident and arts input of Central City Parking Proposals to determine the net gain or loss of parking which impacts arts and culture venues.....all to provide increased parking for the arts.