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To: Planning and Sustainability Commission <psc@portlandoregon.gov>; Catherine Adinolfi <cadinolfi@japanesegarden.com>

Subject: Testimony: Planning and Sustainability Commission

RE: CC2035 Testimony

For years guided tours of the Portland Japanese Garden have concluded on the terrace behind the Garden Pavillion. There guests are awed by the amazing panoramic view of Portland hedged in greenery with great clouds and the amazing Mount Hood rising majestically beyond. We guides remind them of the connection between our great volcanic mountain and the sacred Mount Fuji. It is a beautiful moment, one that for years created a mental photograph of Portland and its famous garden that people remember for years. But the green "hedge" of trees has now eclipsed Portland. The garden could be anywhere---rising from a green forest perhaps.

Is having Portland in the view worth reclaiming? Of course we know that trees grow, buildings are added and lost to the city scape, the weather changes.....but there is the possibility of preserving the aesthetic and city pride impact of this view. The gardeners of the Japanese Garden deal with nature's changes with skill and good taste...pruning, removing trees and yet preserving the design and the aesthetic of traditional garden. Preserving the view that so impressively connects the Japanese garden to its city and the city to Japan can be and should be a priority for the City of Portland.

Although I have recently relocated to Bend, OR I remain active as a guide and donor and serve whenever I am in Portland. Barbara Bell: 1805 NE Berg Way, Bend, OR 97701.