

August 8, 2016
Vista St. Clair Apartments #807
1000 SW Vista Avenue
Goose Hollow
Portland, OR 97205-1138

Dear Commissioners:

RE: The importance of preserving the view of Mt. Hood from Salmon Springs Fountain.

There are two major reasons for preserving the view from Salmon Springs Fountain to Mt. Hood. The first is sentimental. When I was a physics graduate student in 1965, over 50 years ago, I saw Mt. Fuji in Japan while investigating the emerging electronics industry. My Japanese colleagues and friends always pointed the beauty and social impact that Mt. Fuji has on the Japanese culture. In the same way, Mt. Hood always reminds me of my wonderful experiences in Japan after more than 50 years.

In the same way, by preserving the view of Mt. Hood, many tourists and professional people will have a similar experience enjoying the beauty and positive social impact that Mt. Hood has on the people and society of Portland that will last decades. Such preservation will reinforce what Portland has done to encourage and modernize the Japanese Garden and continue the development of the Sister Cities program with Sapporo, the mountainous capital on the northern island of Hokkaido.

The second reason for preserving the view of Mt. Hood from Salmon Springs Fountain is for its economic boost to tourism jobs. All other currently protected views of Mt. Hood are lost in this draft of the Central City 2035 plan. Salmon Springs Fountain will be the last place that tourists and residents will be able to see Mt. Hood from the banks of the Willamette River. Salmon Springs Fountain is an incredibly important tourist location and brings many thousands of tourist jobs to the region. Not only do tourists view Mt. Hood from the Salmon Springs, they view Mt. Hood from the Vista Bridge and Rose Garden. Taking away these iconic views is a heavy financial blow to tourism and a blow to the jobs produced by tourists. Tourists come to such iconic places because of the amazing views of Mt. Hood. Not protecting the views that define Portland will have a heavy economic impact on Portland.

Sincerely,
Stephen Neal Salomon