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Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission

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March 12, 2019

Mayor Ted Wheeler and Members of Portland City Council
Portland City Hall
1221 SW Fourth Avenue
Portland, OR 97204

Dear Mayor Wheeler and City Commissioners:

The Planning and Sustainability Commission (PSC) strongly supports the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability's proposed budget add package for the Anti-Displacement Implementation Plan in the 2019-2020 fiscal year budget.

Our support is informed by our recent work on the Residential Infill and Better Housing by Design projects. These projects will "reboot" the zoning rules for residential zones and will better position Portland to allow for housing that our changing demographic will need.

In our deliberations, we have been mindful of the Comprehensive Plan anti-displacement policies, which call for an analysis of the displacement risk and mitigation from City actions around planning and development.

What has become evident is that Portland already has too many people at risk of displacement and that market pressures continue to threaten many vulnerable households regardless of zoning rules. Preventing or redressing displacement requires many tools, employed intentionally to match the specific needs of different areas, communities and individuals.

That is why we urge you to fund BPS's add package for a citywide anti-displacement plan. This work is an instrumental component to lead with equity, reduce disparities for our most vulnerable populations and helping people as Portland becomes less affordable.

Sincerely,

Katherine Schultz
Chair



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