

# Casey McCullough

**#329808 | June 9, 2021**

Testimony to **Portland City Council** on the **Design Overlay Zone Amendments, Recommended Draft**

Please vote yes to include the proposed amendment for ground floor active use in Arbor Lodge! As a business owner who moved into their current office space in the Arbor Lodge neighborhood during COVID, I can tell you that there is definitely still a need for mixed use spaces along the Interstate Corridor. These spaces don't stay vacant for long, and before we moved into our current office, we were keeping a close eye on available spaces in the area for months before anything opened up. Additionally, changing the zoning code would further increase pedestrian traffic and engender walk-ability in Arbor Lodge. Our business is rapidly growing, and I can tell you most of our new business is from foot traffic walking by. This will only increase with the recession of the pandemic. Looking towards the future, my business partner and I hope to foster a diverse community of businesses in the Arbor Lodge neighborhood, and this can only happen if the zoning is amended. Business owners as well as residents of the neighborhood want a vibrant environment where all their basic amenities can be reached by foot or transit, a truly car-less community, and this will only happen with the proposed amendments.

Testimony is presented without formatting.