

James Harries

#331606 | April 7, 2022

Testimony to **Portland City Council** on the **Environmental Overlay Zone Map Correction Project, Recommended Draft**

Honorable Council members: Agricultural resources must be recognized and exempted from Ezones. Our property was cleared in 1911 and subsequently planted for agriculture. In our case, both a holly and a fruit tree orchard were planted. We had an improved subdivision before the 1990 comprehensive plan changed our zoning from R-10 to R-20, precluding the planned development. (Of course we were told there would be no change in zoning.) We appealed the 2035 plan continuance to no avail. No one would listen. No one would visit. E-mails and phone calls were not returned. This has led to continuing to farm the property, and both neighbors and people of lesser means appreciate the fresh produce. Now the Ezone designations make this use in danger of being illegal. The staff seems have done a thorough job of recognizing the presence of trees, unfortunately the criteria they work with makes no difference for agriculture. The trees need to be pruned and dead or diseased plants need to be removed each year. You must admit it seems silly to have to call the City Forester every time a six inch branch or tree needs to be trimmed. In addition, holly trees are invasive, and someone in the City must wish them to be removed entirely. Please revise the criteria to exempt agriculture, and also remove the conservation zone from our property. Sincerely James R Harries 503-709-9123

Testimony is presented without formatting.