Matt Kelly

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Testimony to Portland City Council on the 2045 Portland Housing Needs Analysis, Recommended Draft

I strongly support having more housing in our Inner Eastside neighborhoods. Please include the Inner Eastside for All Upzoning as a Housing Production Strategy so that more people can access this wonderful part of Portland. I live in Buckman where I own a home with my wife. We have a 10-month-old daughter named Alma. For us, more neighbors would mean more neighborhood kids for Alma to hang out with as she grows older. It would mean more kids for Alma to walk or bike to school with. It would mean more opportunities for Alma to meet more kinds of people, people with backgrounds and experiences she may not otherwise encounter. More housing in the Inner Eastside would help meet Portland's goals for some big issues – climate, affordability, environmental sustainability, and so on. I care about those things. But I also just want Alma to have lots of folks around to help her learn about the world and maybe make the hard work of parenting a little easier, if not for us than for future parents.

Testimony is presented without formatting.