



City Council to hold a public hearing on a new land use and transportation plan for Lower Southeast Portland on Thursday, April 25 at 2 p.m.

Community members can testify about the Lower Southeast Rising Plan in person or virtually at the hearing or online.

Lower Southeast Portland is about to get a new plan. In response to community concerns and advocacy, the bureaus of Planning and Sustainability (BPS) and Transportation (PBOT) worked with residents over the past two years to develop the [Lower Southeast Rising Area Plan](#).

The land use and transportation plan addresses issues in areas of Southeast Portland that lack transportation infrastructure, such as sidewalks and safe street crossings, and as well as commercial services. The plan focuses on the Brentwood-Darlington neighborhood and nearby areas, including parts of the Woodstock, Mt. Scott-Arleta, and Lents neighborhoods.

After considering public testimony on Nov. 14, 2023, the Portland Planning Commission voted to forward the long-range plan to City Council with their recommendation.

The [Recommended Draft](#) of the Lower Southeast Rising Area Plan is now available for review. City Council will hold a public hearing on the Recommended Draft on Thursday, April 25 at 2 p.m. Community members are invited to testify on the plan at the hearing or in writing.

What's in the Lower SE Rising Area Plan Recommended Draft?

The LSER Plan recommends zone changes to expand opportunities for more neighborhood businesses and affordable housing, along with transportation improvements to make it easier for people to meet their daily needs close by. The Plan changes include:

- **Designation of a Brentwood-Darlington neighborhood center**, with zone changes to allow for a neighborhood business district to serve as a hub for commercial services, along

with expanded multi-dwelling zoning nearby to allow for more people to live close to services.

- **Zone changes along transit corridors** to allow more small businesses and a greater range of housing, including more affordable options. Note that proposed zone changes do not require any changes to existing houses and other development; rather they allow more options for future property uses.
- **Transportation improvements** to make it safer and easier to walk, bike and take transit in the area. The plan includes recommendations for transportation safety projects along major corridors, such as adding pedestrian crossings and filling in sidewalk gaps. The plan also includes neighborhood greenway projects on quieter streets to provide safer ways for people to walk and bike to parks, schools and other community destinations.
- **Community stabilization approaches** that support continuation of the area's existing low-cost apartments and manufactured home parks.

Tell City Council what you think

Community members can review the [Recommended Draft](#) Plan and testify in writing or in person to the City Council.

Testify in writing

Community members are encouraged to testify in writing on the Recommended Draft via the [Map App](#). Submitting testimony through the Map App is as easy as sending an email (be sure to click the "testify" button). Written testimony must be received by the time of the hearing.

Testify verbally

The hearing on April 25 at 2 p.m. will be a hybrid format with options to participate in person at 1900 SW Fourth Avenue, Room 2500, or virtually using a computer, mobile device or telephone. You must sign up to testify in advance. The Council Clerk will post the agenda with the public testimony registration links on Friday, April 19 at 9 a.m. To testify before City Council in person or virtually:

- Visit the Council Agenda at www.portland.gov/council/agenda
- Visit the Auditor's Office on the first floor of City Hall, Room 130 or
- Call 311 to sign up over the phone

Registration for **virtual** testimony closes one hour before the Council meeting. A Zoom meeting invitation will be sent by email at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the meeting with information about providing virtual testimony. **In-person** testifiers must sign up before the agenda item is called. Individuals have three minutes to testify unless stated otherwise at the hearing. Email the Council Clerk at councilclerk@portlandoregon.gov with questions or text **CLERK** to 855-625-2050 with questions during the meeting.