

May 25, 2024

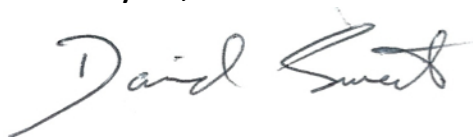
Commissioners,

My name is David Sweet and I live in the Cully Neighborhood, where we are trying to hold on to the rich diversity we love. I'm writing today to advocate for strengthening strategy C-1 of the Draft HPS, "Study Multi-dwelling Zoning Changes in Inner Centers and Corridors."

For the last 53 years I have lived mostly in the inner east side of Portland, in the Buckman, Irvington, Sabin and Alameda neighborhoods. I have watched rents and real estate prices in those areas grow exponentially and the former economic and ethnic diversity disappear as a result. For the last 11 years I have lived in Cully, Portland's most diverse neighborhood, where rising prices are also becoming a threat. A house near me that cost \$400,000 10 years ago sold recently for \$1.1M.

The engine driving displacement in Portland is the lack of abundant housing, and particularly not enough housing in desirable, walkable high-opportunity areas like the inner east side. Building a lot more housing there will reduce the price escalation pressure on neighborhoods like Cully and East Portland. I urge the Commission to recommend that the City not only study inner east side zone changes, but provide the resources needed to stand up a project to rezone the inner east side.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Sweet". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

David Sweet