

## Urban Heat Islands Better Housing by Design

#### **City of Portland**

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## 2030 Objective:

Reduce risks and impacts from heat, drought, wildfire by preparing for hotter, drier summers with increased incidence of extreme heat days.

#### Actions to be completed by 2020: 14A – Decrease Urban Heat Islands

14B – Urban Heat Island Maps

## 2035 Growth Strategy:

80% of growth focused in and around centers and corridors.





# **Portland's Primary Risk** — Hotter, drier summer with more high-heat days.

"... temperatures around the city can vary by as much as 20 degrees, depending on tree canopy, surface types and colors of buildings."



## **Industrial Areas**





## **Urban and Neighborhood Centers**





## **Civic + Neighborhood Corridors**





## **Portland's Vulnerability to Heat**





## **Cluster Analysis: Urban Land Cover Types**







High Canopy (HCN)



Hardscape Industrial (HI)

Urban Districts & Corridors (UD)



#### Vegetated Urban (VU)

+ Hillside Forest (HF)

Medium Canopy Neighborhood (MCN)



Semi-Rural (SR)



# ENVI-met 4: High resolution microclimate modelling system

- Fluid mechanics,
- Thermodynamics, and
- Atmospheric physics



## **Does Design Matter?**

Question: Can we increase housing density, while maintaining (or reducing) pre-development temperatures?

Selected 'Medium Canopy Neighborhood (MCN)' that will increase in density

- Increase the numbers of housing units from 16 to 64
- Varying open parking spaces (asphalt)





Base case	Prototype A	Prototype B	Prototype C
Existing conditions of a typical neighborhood block, with parking (white) and roads (black), vegetation (green), soil (brown) and buildings (gray).	Multifamily buildings (gray) with large amounts of asphalt paving and surface parking (black), and small amounts of vegetation (green).	Multifamily buildings (gray) with smaller amounts of surface parking (white) and increased vegetation (green).	Multifamily buildings (gray) with surface parking eliminated and vegetation maximized (green). Also, increased reflectivity (albedo) of roadway paving by use of concrete (blue gray).
Temperature:	Temperature: Increased	Temperature: Increased	Temperature: Decreased
represents base case	5.57 degrees Fahrenheit	1.26 degrees Fahrenheit	3.15 degrees Fahrenheit below the base case
tor companioniti			Selow the base case.









## **Better Housing by Design** An Update to Portland's Multi-Dwelling Zoning Code





#### Concept 1: Require Residential Outdoor Space in the RH Zone



Require 48 square feet per unit.

Shared outdoor space is allowed.

#### **Concept 2: Require Shared Outdoor Space for Larger Sites**

Requirement for sites 20,000 feet or larger.

Percentage of site area for shared outdoor space could be 5 - 10 percent of site area.





#### **Concept 3: Allow Alternatives to Conventional Landscaping**

Allow Ecoroofs, raised courtyards, and raised stormwater planters to be used to meet a portion of the landscaping requirement.



#### Concept 4: Limit Large Surface Parking Lots

Limit the amount of ground level area that can be devoted to impervious surfaces, such as surface parking lots and driveways.





### Rosewood

Glendoveer Apts – 29%



#### Jenna's Place – 36%



#### Stacey Lee Apts – 39%



## Jade District

Tabor View Court – 34%



Len's Oak – 39%



Parkland Apts – 37%



## **Division-Midway**

#### Leander Court– 20%



#### Svaboda Court – 7.7%



## **Design Options**



















MCN: Simulation Plans: Average temperature (F) at H=1.5m(difference to the base case)





■ Plan1 (base) ■ Plan2 ■ Plan3 ■ Plan4 ■ Plan5 ■ Plan5b ■ Plan6 ■ Plan6b ■ Plan6\_super





Today Los Angeles became the first place in California to install a cool pavement treatment on a public street! Ten deg cooler on summer aft





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## Questions