

Amanda Fritz, Commissioner Michael Stuhr, P.E., Administrator

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August 27, 2019

City of Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability

Attn:

Bill Cunningham

Project Manager

Bill:

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the development of the Better Housing by Design (BHD) project. The Portland Water Bureau (PWB) recognizes the challenges the City of Portland is facing with expected growth and housing demands over the next twenty years and the important role that the project will have in helping Portland meet these demands in a sustainable manner. We offer the following comments on the project, as it relates to the City's water system.

PWB is responsible for over 2200 miles of pipe, and over 180,000 water services in the City of Portland. Our supply and water distribution system is sized to meet City fire suppression needs which surpass the day-to day demand from residential customers. The demand from higher density in Portland's multi-dwelling residential zones proposed by the project is unlikely to significantly affect the water system. While it is possible that the additional densities allowed could impact existing local capacity issues in isolated areas, we do not anticipate the project to cause significant problems for current water users or the overall system. However, there may be some infrastructure improvements required to meet local capacity issues.

Additional coordination between the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, the Bureau of Development Services, and PWB may be required to address the water meter standards for some future developments. It is expected that these details can be worked out as the project is implemented.

Sincerely,

Michael Saling, P.E. Principal Engineer

CC:

Mike Stuhr, PE, Administrator

Teresa Elliott, Chief Engineer

David O'Longaigh, PE Erin Mick, AICP