

From: Laura Feldman [<mailto:lfeldman32101@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Monday, September 29, 2014 7:24 PM

To: BPS Mailbox

Subject: re: Feedback on Portland Comprehensive Plan

- Jobs for 55 +
- Actual Mass Transit System
- Affordable Housing
- Green industry, climate jobs - Superfund cleanup

Jobs for 55 +

City and State government need to support access to employment for Boomers. Other states like New York understand that this demographic needs assistance in finding employment. There are various programs for aging meaningfully in Portland, but nothing that I know of that helps seniors who will never be able to retire--to survive financially. It would a travesty to waste the experience and wisdom of this huge demographic at such at this critical time of climate change and other global challenges.

Actual Mass Transit System

Tri-met needs to either come to the 21st century or dissolve. This is one of the most expensive and inefficient systems in the country. Given climate change and growing traffic problems in Portland, we need a system that moves people efficiently, making it easier and cheaper for commuters to get out of their cars and take mass transit. Why do only 27% of commuters brave the bus system? Because for most of us, a two hour journey to get across the city simply isn't viable. Vancouver is allowing the Uber system. Portland should also be exploring a cheaper, decentralized and more efficient version of mass transit.

Affordable Housing

Everyone I talk to despairs over the disappearing housing stock and non-affordable, ugly infill housing development currently transforming Portland into some version of Sao Paulo. I am a 60 year old native who struggles to stay in the city. I can't even get on gov. subsidized housing lists--and I can't find a job. Diversity makes for a healthy ecosystem, and city. City zoning should support healthy diversity; this is not accomplished by building high rises any and everywhere that many of us can afford to rent. A monoculture is unhealthy in nature and in cities.

Green Industry, Climate Jobs - Superfund Cleanup

The Portland Plan's number one priority should be to address Climate Change. It should move towards development of Green and Sustainable Industry through the creating of Climate Jobs.

55+ workers would love to lend their expertise to creating climate jobs for themselves and others which could include: Creating a functional mass transit system; Affordable and sustainable housing, another wonderful field for climate jobs; and finally Challenges like the Portland Harbor Superfund Cleanup--an example of much of what the 21st century will be about, cleaning up our industrial and nuclear wastes from past decades and learning how to restore nature that sustains life.

This plan should be a plan for the 21st century, not business as usual, the old industrial growth model. The plan mentions the superfund in terms of the city leading its prompt resolution and cleanup That is so unrealistic it makes me weep. That cleanup will take generations of restoration and stewardship--filled with wonderful and plentiful climate jobs, green industry opportunities.

Let this plan really be a plan that really leads us into a sane, just, livable and sustainable future.

Thanks for listening,

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