To the Planning and Sustainability Commission:

It was extremely disappointing to discover in the updated Draft Comprehensive Plan the "surprise" Industrial re-zoning of 300 acres on West Hayden Island, which would make it a key part of the City's industrial strategy. West Hayden Island is irreplaceable open space and wildlife habitat, and provides essential ecosystem functions. This is particularly distressing, given that there are other industrial location options.

If Portland wants to sustain its claim to be "green" and "sustainable," it should NOT be looking to convert the last few remnants of relatively close-in greenspaces into industrial uses. There are 900 acres of brownfields that could be made available for industrial uses; cleaning up those areas would have the additional benefit of greatly improving the neighborhoods where they now sit, unused.

Last year the Port declared itself unwilling to support the kind of mitigation for impacts to the environment and the local community (based on legitimate community concerns) that your Commission recommended as a requirement for any support for industrial rezoning (and annexation) of West Hayden Island. That demonstrated that the Port has no intention of providing adequate environmental mitigation (for industrial conversion) on West Hayden Island.

Please keep faith with the public by maintaining your past determination that West Hayden Island is too valuable to be paved over, and reject the West Hayden Island industrial designations in the draft Comprehensive Plan. West Hayden Island should not be considered for industrial conversion now or in the future, but rather be zoned as Open Space.

Please enter this as part of the record of your public hearing on Sept. 23, 2014.

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