Testamony to City Planners Regarding the Comprehensive Plan Octoer 28, 2014

I'm Joan Coates and I live at 6428 SE 15th Ave. in Portland, OR

I am a neighbor of the QFC Grocery Store located at 6411 SE Milwaukie Ave. in Portland.

Portland is a great city and is known for the character of it's neighborhoods. Ours is an old and terrific neighborhood. Our neighbors have invested in our neighborhood, we care about our neighbors, we help each other out if someone is having hard times, we have created a neighborhood that is friendly and safe. We have a disaster plan, we celebrate when a family has good news to share. We know our more vulnerable neighbors and watch out for them.

Our neighborhood appreciates having a grocery store in our midst. For many years there was a Kienows on the QFC site and we understand that a grocery business comes with necessary noise. Kienows was a good neighbor. As a bit of history - when the Taggesell family sold the lots for commercial use (Kienow's grocery) they stipulated that the parking lot remain R5 zoning to protect the neighborhood from noise, litter, traffic problems, vibration, etc. Their homes were adjacent to the parking lot.

Also, as background, the QFC built their store knowing the parking lot has it's current zoning and that they would be required to build and use a loading dock.

## We neighbors have been adversely affected by the QFC's use of their parking lot.

Until this summer, the QFC used it's parking lot in violation of the existing nonconforming use code. As a result, the daily life for us, the neighbors, was seriously impacted. The store used it's loading dock for storage, not truck unloading. QFC essentially used the entire parking lot as a loading dock with many semi-trucks at a time filling the lot, idling and unloading next to residences. We suffered excessive noise, fumes, vibrations, glare. Trucks also blocked the sidewalk while doing their deliveries, creating safety issues.

After receiving complaints about the parking lot usage, this summer the BDS enforced the current zoning. The quality of our lives has dramatically improved as the QFC made many of the required compliance changes. Specific sections of the current non-conforming code – specifically sections 33.258.050.A and 33.258.050.C are vital to the quality of life of our neighbors. Under current non-conforming use



zoning, the parking lot is closed from 11pm to 6am and store business is conducted on the Milwaukie Ave. side of the store during the time of the lot closure.

Trucks no longer use the lot as a loading zone, but for the most part, park in designated areas. We are still negotiating a Good Neighbor Agreement with the QFC, although they seemed to have slowed that process. We hope to be able to live comfortably with one another. Lot is used for parking as designated.

If the parking lot zoning changes to commercial or mixed use, we will again have the

issues that impact our quality of life, only worse - on a 24 hour basis.

We have lived with the way the QFC does business when the zoning wasn't enforced and it isn't fair to neighbors to allow this reality to continue and worsen with a zoning change.

The Comprehensive Plan should take into account circumstances that allow protection of neighborhoods that have no buffer between intense commercial use and residential.

We ask for your support to protect the existing zoning and therefore improve the quality of life for store neighbors and protect an old neighborhood with lots to offer the city.

Thank you.































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Photographic evidence showing problems when the zoning isn't enforced for QFC parking lot.

Submitted by Joan Coates, 6428 SE 15th Ave. Portland, OR 97202

I am hoping that the current zoning of the QFC parking lot, R5 non- conforming use be retained.

The QFC is located at 6411 SE Milwaukie Ave. in Portland. It is between SE Henry and SE Duke streets. SE Henry to the west of Milwaukie Ave. is narrow, with parking allowed on both sides of the street until Henry street is interrupted by Llewellyn School. There is only room for 1 car at a time to travel on that section of the street.

SE Duke street to the west of the store allows street parking only on 1 side of the street. Only 1 car can use the open part of the street at a time.

Llewellyn school is at the western rectangle of this configuration. We get traffic morning, noon and after school time during the school year.

In the future, as you create a plan for future years, please consider the neighbors who live in this section of the neighborhood. We hope you will choose to support the present zoning of the QFC parking lot so that the neighbors of the store will not have a diminished life. We hope you don't take away the livability of the neighborhood we have worked hard to create.

A grocery store, valued by the neighborhood for decades, seems likely to be a future use of this property. Both stores, Kienows and the QFC, have been very successful in this location and with this zoning. Leaving the zoning as is instead of changing it to mixed use, allows a buffer between the neighbors and heavy commercial use.

Thank you.

