



**Bureau of Planning and Sustainability**  
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## Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission

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March 25, 2013

Portland City Council  
Portland City Hall  
1211 SW 4th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97204

Dear Mayor Hales and City Council Members:

On March 12, 2013 the Planning and Sustainability Commission (PSC) voted 7-1 to forward the *New Apartments and Parking: Proposed Zoning Code Amendments* to City Council for approval with some minor changes.

The hearing was a direct follow-up from our work session on November 12, 2012 where staff provided background research on the recent growth in new apartments built without vehicle parking. At the hearing, the PSC heard passionate testimony from a broad spectrum of interests. While sympathetic to many of the concerns raised, the PSC understands that this project could not address all concerns and shortcomings associated with neighborhood parking issues. There are many components of the process beyond the scope of this project; however, we view this package of amendments as an initial approach to address an immediate concern while a more holistic and long-term policy direction is developed through the Comprehensive Plan rewrite and implementation projects.

The PSC has requested that the code align more tightly with TriMet's frequent service and high capacity transit lines to support the Portland Plan's centers strategy and ensure that neighborhoods with no/low parking buildings have high quality transit service. We also included developing alternatives like bike-share in the measures to reduce parking demand.

In addition to the Zoning Code amendments, the PSC requests that the City Council direct the Bureau of Transportation to continue exploring neighborhood parking permit programs and review their policy recommendations with us to allow development of a comprehensive approach to parking management in neighborhoods. Any potential parking permit program would operate as a piece of a greater Transportation Demand Management strategy for areas that have been impacted by the recent multi-dwelling development projects.

Thank you for your consideration of our recommendations.

Sincerely,

*Michelle Rudd*

Michele Rudd  
Vice Chair  
Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission



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