

From: Stephanie and John Saven [mailto:sjsaven@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, April 10, 2016 5:21 PM
To: Planning and Sustainability Commission <psc@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: PSC Residential Zones Testimony

To: Planning and Sustainability Commission

From: John and Stephanie Saven
1719 S.E. 38th Ave
Portland, OR 97214

Re: Proposed Zoning Map Changes from R 5 to R 2.5

Date: April 10, 2016

We would like to voice our strong opposition to the proposal to change the zoning in our neighborhood from R 5 to R 2.5. We have reviewed the March 7th materials from the City of Portland relating to this change and have printed out the map of the areas designated for this change.

Our biggest problem in living here is parking. We are only two blocks away from the Hawthorne Theater on the corner of Cesar Chavez and Hawthorne, and three blocks from the Bagdad Theater. In the evenings and on weekends we already have to park sometimes blocks away from our house. This is in addition to the general congestion associated with the activities along Hawthorne.

Allowing two residents on a 5,000 sq ft lot will only exacerbate the parking congestion, meaning more people will be fighting for a place to park. We are frankly concerned that these increases in zoning density will lead to the further deterioration of urban living, as witnessed by what has happened along SE Division immediately south of us.

We understand Portland's interest in creating more housing opportunities. If this is a priority it should apply to the whole City, rather than in limited corridors. This will only prompt developers to zero in on our neighborhood, while the rest of the City maintains a status quo, or in the case of East Moreland, actions are being proposed that would prohibit increased density allowable under existing code.

Hopefully this proposal can be modified to keep our immediate neighborhood in the R 5 zoning classification, We will be following this issue very closely.