

**From:** Deborah Wessell [mailto:wessell@live.com]  
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**To:** Planning and Sustainability Commission <psc@portlandoregon.gov>  
**Subject:** PSC Mixed Use Zones Testimony  
**Importance:** High

I'm writing to support the idea of a design overlay for Sellwood/Westmoreland, a unique Portland neighborhood that's currently attracting development and is bound to attract more in future. The nature of this development will be crucial to the future of the area.

Since the 1840s – almost two centuries! – SE Milwaukie near Bybee has been a walkable community center. And SE 13<sup>th</sup> has been the lifeline of Sellwood since 1883. These two neighborhood centers are charming and historic, providing exactly the qualities that draw people to SE Portland. Without a design overlay, they're in danger of being sliced up into soulless pieces by cookie cutter development that destroys those qualities.

St. Johns, Kenton and Mississippi, among other neighborhoods, enjoy the protection of a design overlay. Sellwood/Westmoreland deserve the same protection, before it's too late.

Thank you.  
Deborah Wessell  
7667 SE 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Portland OR 97202