



CITY OF
PORTLAND, OREGON

OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD INVOLVEMENT

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Enhancing the quality of Portland's Neighborhoods through community participation

June 14, 2016

Planning and Sustainability Commission
City of Portland
1900 SW 4th Avenue, Suite 7100
Portland, OR 97201

Subject: Comprehensive Plan Testimony from ONI

Dear Commissioners:

The City of Portland Office of Neighborhood Involvement (ONI) formally supports the adoption of the proposed Community Involvement Program (CIP) of the 2035 Comprehensive Plan.

ONI strongly supports the implementation of the proposed CIP as an essential step in the implementation of "Chapter Two: Community Involvement" of the Comprehensive Plan. The goals and policies of Chapter Two, if implemented effectively, will lead to significant improvements in the involvement of neighborhood associations and community organizations and community members in planning processes and decisions in Portland.

Successful implementation of Chapter Two and the CIP also will help Portland more fully comply with Oregon State Planning Goal 1, the Portland Plan, and the City of Portland Public Involvement Principles.

ONI also supports the recommendations of the City of Portland Public Involvement Advisory Council (PIAC), including:

- The commitment of adequate resources for the community involvement and oversight/evaluation role of the proposed Community Involvement Committee (CIC);
- The development of a manual to guide staff in the implementation of Chapter Two;
- The proposed authority of the CIC to update the manual directly;

- Inclusion in the CIC's charge of all the CIC responsibilities identified in state planning Goal 1;
- Inclusion in the CIC's charge the oversight and evaluation of both ongoing and project-specific public involvement efforts; and the establishment of the resources, both financial and staff, that are necessary and adequate to implement Chapter Two and the CIP;
- The establishment of a CIC liaison to PIAC;
- The clear definition of the CIC's formal role to include both serving the needs and interests of the community as well as those of City staff; and
- That evaluation be a key role of the CIC.

ONI stands ready to support the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability (BPS) in the development and implementation of the CIP, and looks forward to working with BPS to clarify and fully define ONI's formal role in that process.

ONI encourages you to support the adoption of the proposed CIP and to support the PIAC recommendations listed above.

Sincerely,



Amalia Alarcón de Morris
ONI Director