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**Sent:** Thursday, August 04, 2016 5:18 PM  
**To:** Planning and Sustainability Commission <psc@portlandoregon.gov>  
**Subject:** [User Approved] CC2035 Testimony

Planning and Sustainability Commission,

I am writing to you today to request that the Portland Japanese Garden's 1963 panoramic view be added to the Central City Scenic Resources Inventory of protected views. The Portland Japanese Garden should be allowed to restore and then protect its original panoramic view. The Garden is designed specifically around an expansive panoramic view encompassing the rose gardens in the foreground, the downtown skyline in the middle-ground and the Cascades in the far-ground. This view is critical to the healing experience of beauty and tranquility that is at the heart of the Garden's value to our community.

I have been a member/volunteer of the Portland Japanese Garden since 2010 when I moved from the Chicago area. I felt the need to be part of keeping up the important connection the garden portrayed of the Japanese culture from the first time I visited the garden. It moved me to appreciate the Japanese culture more than I had ever felt when I was living in Japan. I was born in Tokyo, Japan and have been living in both countries, Japan and America, all my life. I believe I know first hand how valuable this Garden is to the community and to this country. Now, Portland is my home and I am proud to live in a place with such a treasure such as the Japanese Garden that exists in its midst. You may be surprised to hear that it is one of the first places I take when I have visitors from Japan!

The Portland Japanese Garden is the best Japanese garden outside of Japan! It is a world-class treasure for our community. Our community is currently making a \$33,500,000 investment to make sure it continues to serve future generations as a world-class garden and cultural center. Please protect the view that is so essential to its beauty and tranquility.

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