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**To:** Planning and Sustainability Commission <psc@portlandoregon.gov>  
**Subject:** CC2035 Plan Testimony

To the Planning and Sustainability Commission --

Can you even imagine Center City Portland without the South Park Blocks? Can you imagine how much any other city would desire to own such a treasure? These blocks need to be protected by historic designation. And they need to be protected by historic designation within the next 5 years, before any historic building is demolished.

Some of the proposals in the draft of CC2035 threaten the South Park Blocks. Maximum building heights must be kept under 100 feet on both the west side and the east side of the South Park Blocks. The history of our city is contained in the churches, early apartment buildings, and cultural institutions that line this corridor. The Central City Plan must be written to require preservation of this history and to require preservation of sunlight and human scale development in this public space.

Please stabilize maximum building height at 100 feet or 75 feet on both sides of the South Park Blocks. This will insure a step down transition from the tall corporate and business Downtown district to the cultural center with our great institutions, diverse architecture, irreplaceable open space, irreplaceable magnificent trees, and irreplaceable public art.

Please remove from your proposed plan the designation "area eligible for height increases." Sunlight for trees and people must be preserved. Please require that building heights and building forms preserve sunlight on the South Park Blocks and on all parks and open spaces in the city.

If Portland is to retain its unique character and remain a livable city, CC2035 must preserve the human scale, natural beauty, sunlight, and historic buildings of the South Park Blocks at its core.

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