

From: Carol Kast
To: [JWMNR Exhibits](#)
Subject: Please Amend or Oppose HB2007
Date: Wednesday, June 21, 2017 2:11:09 PM

Dear Representatives and Senators,

I understand that we need more affordable housing across the state. I do not think HB2007 is a good way to achieve this.

I endorse Restore Oregon's opposition to HB2007 as it is written, as well as its ideas for amending it. Here are the proposed amendments.

Restore Oregon's amendments to FIX HB 2007:

1. Focus incentives on the creation of **affordable** housing, not market-rate housing.
2. Stop tear downs of good modest-priced homes, unless they're being replaced with multiple affordable units.
3. Enable the internal conversion of existing houses into as many as four units without triggering the cost-prohibitive commercial building code. This adds density while retaining character.
4. Leave in place baseline protections for new historic districts, while providing incentives for ADUs, internal conversions, and compatible infill.

And their arguments against HB2007 as it is written.

As it stands, HB 2007 is based on FALSE PREMISES:

1. That simply building more housing – even if it's at high market rates – will have the trickle-down effect of creating more affordability.
 1. There is NO EVIDENCE this has worked in other cities. One need only look at San Francisco and Vancouver.
2. That we have a shortage of market rate housing in Portland and other major metro areas.
 1. Market rate housing is doing fine – there's even an over-supply at the higher end.
 2. We do not have enough AFFORDABLE housing. Building more high-end homes will not help that.
3. That there is insufficient buildable land inside the UGB.
 1. Nope. The central city is already dense, but outer neighborhoods have lots of opportunities for development and deserve investment.
4. That designation of historic districts is being used as a mechanism for blocking density and affordable housing.
 1. Historic designation does NOT prohibit accessory dwelling units (ADUs) or infill development. Some historic districts require design review for compatibility. Recently revised Goal 5 rules provide that the only automatic protection for new historic districts is demolition review.
 2. Historic districts comprise just 1% – 3% of residential zoning. They are not the problem and provide significant community benefits worthy of good stewardship

I urge you either to adopt the proposed amendments as a package, or to

vote **NO** on the bill.

Thank you for your attention.

Carol Kast
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