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To: [JWMNR Exhibits](#)
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I have been fortunate to live in Multnomah Village, which we chose for its large mature trees, small affordable houses with yards and wildlife. Here our landscape provides shelter for animals migrating from the coast range to the Willamette through the headwaters of Stevens Creek. There are long time residents whose families can no longer buy homes near their parents, grandparents and siblings because the houses are bought immediately by developers and their "scouts". This results in REMOVAL of the "missing middle housing" and replacements with huge attached houses which are sold for 640.000 (current asking price a block from us by Dreambuilder) each. This horrid development resulted in removing an old homestead with 5 old growth Douglas Firs. The new attached housing tries to handle stormwater with what are essentially concrete bathtubs that breed mosquitos and each house has 20 sq feet of yard left. The house that was there was affordable - these monstrosities are not.

Against our will, our neighborhood is disappearing with no benefit for anyone except possibly the ability to raise more property taxes. The Planning Commission has broken faith with our neighborhood in so many ways - starting with approving projects that are harmful to the environment, and now ignoring the old agreements about the comprehensive plan and rewriting it. We feel like we had a treaty that has been violated over and over. The Village attracts tourists with its historic center but we are told it is NOT qualified for any protection and neither is our neighborhood.

Density is not the solution to global warming and pollution. Instead, it is creating huge heat islands and eliminating the native tree communities. They are more than beautiful - they have proven mental health benefits, they filter fine particulates from the air, they hold water, they cool, they reduce heavy winds. Once these old trees are gone, they can never be replaced. They are a common good like clean water and clean air that belongs to the community of people and animals who depend on them.

As you can tell, I strongly oppose this epidemic of demolitions with their deceptive tactics marketed as affordability. If people want affordable places to live, let the old small houses survive and supply apartments in some of the failing retail spaces. Even today the old Stohecker/ Thiftway on Vista near the elementary school stands open. That would be great affordable housing for families as would the empty Safeway at the corner to BHH and Scholls Ferry.



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