

**From:** Roberta Altstadt  
**To:** [JWMNR Exhibits](#)  
**Subject:** Support for HB 2007 - Support for affordable housing and fixing the National Historic District loophole  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 21, 2017 9:56:53 PM

---

To: The Natural Resources Subcommittee of the Joint Ways & Means Committee

My name is Roberta Altstadt, and I ask you to please join me in support for HB2007A-6.

The Portland area, like many others, struggles in the midst of a homeless epidemic. This bill will speed up the building of affordable housing to get people, families off the streets. That increases the livability of our communities, and saves lives.

I'm lucky. I have a home. It's in a very nice neighborhood. You may have heard of it – Eastmoreland. In fact, I am a native, third-generation Eastmoreland resident. I own the house my grandparents had built in 1931. It has only been an Altstadt house. My parents inherited it after grandpa died and then I bought it from them. Every room, every corner is filled with memories - happy ones, funny ones and sad ones. It's where my mom, my siblings and I nursed Dad through his final weeks of life; and then six years later, it's where mom too took her last breath. This is more than a house, it is my home and my family. While I love this home and what my grandparents designed, I want to do some remodeling –in the character of the house. But we are on the eve of Eastmoreland being designated a National Historic District. Because local land-use restrictions are linked to what should be an honorary designation, my rights as a homeowner – and the rights of my neighbors – will be impeded. The undemocratic process that requires those opposed to the designation to collect 50% plus one of notarized signatures from the homeowners in the proposed district is stunning, frustrating and unacceptable.

My neighborhood has been ripped apart by this. As HB2007 disconnects a National Historic District from local land-use restrictions, it is vitally important to me and more than 1,000 neighbors who have signed notarized letters of objections. It also is important to other neighborhoods throughout Oregon who have yet to experience the divisive nature of a National Historic District nomination process.

Thank you for your support of HB2007 bill to bring homes - and peace - to neighborhoods throughout Oregon.

Sincerely,  
Roberta Altstadt  
2774 SE Bybee Blvd  
Portland, OR 97202  
503-705-6697