

**From:** Anna Beaty  
**To:** [JWMNR Exhibits](#)  
**Subject:** HB 2007  
**Date:** Thursday, June 22, 2017 9:24:44 AM

---

Dear Committee,

I am a voting native Portlander and I want to register my opposition to HB2007. This bill is nothing short of disastrous for both Portland and Oregon. As a Southeast Portland resident surrounded by the ravages of poor infill planning, I can personally tell you why.

**This bill will destroy our state and city heritage and do nothing to create affordable housing.** This bill removes already fragile protection for our historic buildings and neighborhoods in an effort to “remove barriers” for real estate developers. I can personally assure you there are NO such barriers at present. I live on SE Division and SE 51<sup>st</sup> in the Mount Tabor/97206 neighborhood. 1,500 historic homes have been demolished in Portland in the last five years, many in my own neighborhood, including a 1901 historic farmhouse and heritage tree next to my apartment building demolished in April of 2016. What is going in its place? High rise luxury studio apartments which at \$1800/month are not affordable to the average Oregonian. A few streets over on SE Belmont and SE 33<sup>rd</sup>, a building **that was on the historic register was “unregistered” and demolished.** The character of our neighborhoods is lost and native residents are displaced because of rising costs. This is clear evidence that Portland **already** has lax laws for protecting our historic places and neighborhoods and the residents that live in them. **Why enact a bill which would further rob Oregonians of their historic neighborhoods, urban canopy, and communities?**

**This bill would remove the ability of cities to review designs for new buildings and rubber stamp bad plans without reference to thoughtful urban planning.** There is already an urban planning disaster at-large in Portland. On my intersection on 52<sup>nd</sup> and SE Division, the poorly planned infill of 200+ luxury apartments have brought more traffic accidents in 2 years than I have seen in my entire four decades in Portland, which the Portland police data backs up. All along SE Division, 6-story high-rises loom above small turn of the century bungalows and mom n’ pop stores, creating congestion chaos. Likewise, these new luxury apartment buildings reflect nothing of the character of the neighborhood and a huge part of our historical and cultural heritage is lost. This bill would further exacerbate what is already an urban planning nightmare.

**HB2007 is not for Oregonians, it’s for developers.** Regardless of the changes that have been or will be made to HB2007, I think it's important to keep a few things in mind. Though the degree might be adjusted, the underlying aim of deregulating development and under-cutting city planning autonomy has not nor will it be changed. Why? The bill is also predominantly authored and supported by the Home Builder's Association, whose gains from the passage of this bill are clear. While the bill may be tweaked as such to make it seem palatable on paper, I assure you that the everyday experience of Portlanders and Oregonians has not and will not be improved with the passage of this bill. Whether it is the increase in traffic/parking/pedestrian & biking accidents and congestion due to poor infill planning, the demolition/loss of heritage homes, trees, and historic neighborhoods (to say nothing of displaced residents) due to further deregulation of development, **Oregonians are not the winners in this bill. Why would they be? It was not authored with them in mind.**

We need more protection for historic homes, neighborhoods, and trees, measures which create affordable housing while ALSO protecting our vibrant communities, and thoughtful urban planning which promotes not demotes live-ability. **Vote for Oregon's future, not the pocketbook of the Homebuilder's Association members.**

Sincerely,  
Anna Beaty  
5110 SE Division  
Portland, OR 97206