

Dear Alissa Keny-Guyer,

I am testifying on behalf of my neighbors who are having their neighborhoods ruined by this new growth infilling.

We are having small streets, some without paved roads, infilled with large multi-unit buildings that have no parking. These streets are narrow with just enough parking for the current land owners. The buildings are large and out of place, ruining the livability of the current land owners. It is ruining the livability and neighborhood feel that the established home owners moved into the area for.

We are given no rights to what is being done around us and how it is impacting how we enjoy where we live. There was a time when Portland cared about the livability of their neighborhoods and cared about their citizen's way of life. This infilling is ruining our neighborhoods and Oregon doesn't seem to care.

I have read the testimonies of those in favor of this bill, there is evidence that infilling will not lower prices and will in fact lower the home values of neighborhoods. I realize that this is the hot new thing to do all over the country. I also realize that my point of ruining the livability of neighborhoods is the most common complaint. A complaint that is being ignored all over the country. That does not mean it is the right thing to do. I watched this happen to my grandparents home in Glendale, CA. This was an upscale neighborhood with tree lined streets, nice homes with manicured lawns. Little by little the homes were bought up by developers and large multi-unit buildings were built. You could not back out of my grandparents driveway without waiting a long time for the traffic to pass from the neighborhood apartment buildings. The feel of the street was ruined and the noise tipped. I could hear crickets as a child, now only cars.

Don't do this to your citizens or your neighborhoods. This is more about money than it is about what we want, the people who live in the neighborhoods you are destroying. I say, be different than the rest of the country and care about what is being built and care about who already lives in the neighborhoods. Let the people in the neighborhoods have a say in what happens to where they live. Don't take away our rights to have a say on what happens next door to us or make us move because we hate where we live.

Don't give an open policy to developers, let the residence weigh in before infilling happens in the neighborhood.

Do you know that as a home base business, I must mail a form letter to all neighbors who connect with my property or are directly across from my property stating my hours, what I do and where they can call the City if they have a complaint? That I have to have a limited number of clients. I cannot have large equipment and my signage on my property can only be a certain size. All of these rules because the City wants to insure the livability of Portland neighborhoods. But, the City will allow a developer to put up a multi-unit building in the middle of a narrow unpaved street without parking and I and my other neighbors have no say?

Once you ruin a beautiful neighborhood, it's too late. These neighborhoods took centuries to build and are what makes Portland unique. Don't destroy them.

Sincerely,

Diane Foster

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