

From: [JoAnne Knowles](mailto:JoAnne.Knowles)
To: [JWMTR Exhibits](#)
Subject: Re: HB 2001
Date: Saturday, June 8, 2019 8:55:04 AM

On Jun 3, 2019, at 9:03 AM, JoAnne Knowles <jknowles@iinet.com> wrote:

I am writing to urge you to stop this terrible bill in its tracks! Infill and re-zoning in Portland are ruining Portland. Mayor Wheeler and the city commissioners have pushed density as a solution to affordable housing—but it's a scam. The only people profiting from demolition and development are developers. They have demolished older homes and apartment buildings that lower income people could afford, and replaced them with ridiculously expensive new apartments and houses. Finally, one commissioner, Amanda Fritz, has come out against “infill.” She says, “The fact is, we don't need more capacity in Portland...Rip would lead to demolition of affordable single family homes, with evidence showing replacements will be more expensive than the house demolished.” (SE Examiner, May 2019). The current plan that demolishes affordable housing and replaces it with fancy new expensive apartments simply draws more outsiders to Portland because, although these apartments are expensive, they are still cheaper than housing in Seattle, San Jose, San Diego or San Francisco. Retirees looking for a cooler city or young people drawn to tech jobs can afford these apartments, but real Portlanders— low and middle income individuals and families, the elderly and disabled, vets, and college students can afford nothing, and this has contributed to more homelessness in Portland. Right now, thousands of new apartments are sitting empty in Portland because few people can afford them! Community college enrollment is down because students cannot afford a room to live in. Not only is “infill” and “re-zoning” displacing Portland renters, but developers are demolishing attractive Vintage homes and replacing them with ugly shoe boxes with roofs like bird houses. They rip out mature trees, which diminishes our cooling canopy. And new buildings are taller and taller to accommodate more people, which blocks sunlight for the gardens of neighboring homes. Portland increasingly does not look like Portland. Worst of all, HB 2001 would force the whole state to adhere to this ill-conceived plan, which means that local citizens, businesses, and governments would have nothing to say about the shape of their own city or town. Portland citizens still have a chance to modify this failed vision—but not if the state sticks its nose in.

Please do not assign this bad plan to a subcommittee! Stop it now! No on HB 2001!

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