

**From:** [Judy Posey](#)  
**To:** [JWMTR Exhibits](#)  
**Subject:** HB 2001  
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To: The Joint Committee on Ways and Means/Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development:

I strongly oppose HB 2001 because of its draconian and punitive imposition. First of all, this is a life changing event, both emotionally and fiscally for homeowners, in that it affects the most important part of their/our lives: where we live, where we regroup, where we find our sustenance, where we hold one of our largest, if not the largest, equity we have.

Why can we not test these theories, especially the act of creating narrow lots and cramming them with as many units and as much square footage as possible? The city of Tacoma is doing just that, taking a designated area, building it out and testing it for 5 years to get some empirical evidence that it works before imposing these radical and non-reversible mandates to our property. Once the damage is done, it is done, and all is lost.

Why are we responsible for providing housing to the hundreds of young people who move here without jobs, or work in low paying jobs? That is their choice. Why do I, after all these years of paying exorbitant property taxes, have to give up the life I have chosen, which is to live in an old neighborhood of well kept single family homes?

A study done by the state of Oregon a few years ago determined that there was enough land to take care of our needs for the next 30 years. It may not be in the center of town but what is light rail for? How much has the city and tri county paid to build light rail, which is discouragingly underused? Why not build where one can take advantage of that and help sustain it?

It is said there are 100k people who are slated to be moving here in the next 30 years? If it is indeed 30 years, why the rush to push this through? I read in the Oregonian that people are actually moving out, in this case, to Washington, where the taxes are not so budget breaking.

We need to address our failing infrastructure, not stress it. We need to support programs the city has spent years, and who knows how much money, putting into place to benefit our environment.

For the last several years the city pushed their Urban Forestry Program to preserve canopy. We currently pay to be told we can cut down a dead tree. A permit is required to prune any branch over ¼" of a tree on our parking strip. Now developers will be allowed to tear out trees, crush tree roots, and without a doubt kill the majority, if not all, of our mature trees.

What happened to the zeal of protecting and providing canopy? With so little open ground projected where will replacement trees go? Have you seen the lack of tree canopy when flying over San Francisco? Have you seen the lack of tree canopy when flying over much of Seattle? Have you compared that to the lush canopy in Portland as you fly over the city?

For the last several years the city has badgered us and bribed us to disconnect our downspouts to keep rainwater out of the sewer system. Almost no one has enough permeable ground to absorb the rainwater there is. Where is this water going to go when 90% of that ground is gone? The joke on the city, and I see this constantly on my neighborhood walks, is that many people let their disconnected downspouts drain onto the sidewalk, or into their driveway, and into the street where it goes into the sewer, exactly where it should not go, carrying road oils and debris with it. But with HB 2001 quadrupling the amount of roof, flooding will result because clay soil cannot absorb the amount of rain Portland experiences.

Please look ahead to the consequences of a move such as HB 2001. Everyone is being short sighted in this drastic paradigm shift.

Thank you.

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