

From: [Tina Ricks](#)
To: [JWMTR Exhibits](#)
Subject: Yes on HB 2001 to break down walls in Beaverton
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I'm going to say something shocking.

Elementary schools in the Beaverton School District are just as segregated as the Jim Crow south, but by income, not color. My kids benefited from this system, but it's still wrong.

These invisible walls are caused by zoning--making anything but a single-family house illegal. Please support HB2001 to break down the walls.

I live in Bethany in a Big Suburban House. My kids attended Oak Hills Elementary. Oak Hills is legendary for its many, many years of top marks from the Oregon Department of Education school rankings. Parents move here just for that school.

What I didn't realize until years later is that Oak Hills's rankings are because of economic segregation, largely because of single-family zoning.

There are exactly TWO apartment complexes within the boundary of Oak Hills. There are TWO small areas of row houses.

Every other house within that elementary school boundary is a detached, single-family house with a yard and a garage. And many (including my own) are now over \$500,000. Half a million for an ordinary 20+ year old suburban tract house. Guess what? The kids do well in school here because their parents are well-off and can afford lessons, tutors, flash cards, time to volunteer, and time to have one parent stay home. The kids who don't have the means for these things are at other schools with multi-family housing inside the boundaries.

Please support HB2001. Help us de-segregate the Beaverton School District by allowing homeowners to divide houses into duplexes if they want to and by allowing duplexes, triplexes, and quads in what currently are high-income walled communities.

The walls are invisible. But they are very much there.

Tina Ricks
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