Greetings,

I am opposed to HB 2001A as it opens the door to yet more of what we're seeing here in Portland: old-growth affordable housing razed for expensive new development.

I've seen it happen multiple times in my neighborhood as the city smiles on the teardowns that result in even less affordable housing, at a time when we most need it. (Now we have some thousands of vacant units in Portland—see Craigslist for the bounty on offer--but all these housing "choices" mean nothing when the vast majority are out of reach of most people.)

Please don't fall for arguments for this bill (and others) that are pushed, lobbied for, and backed by those who only stand to profit and whose outsize impacts affect all us of at the ground level. Clyde Holland—Washington State's no. 1 Trumper and a billionaire developer—bankrolls 1000 Friends of Oregon, Portland for Everyone, and Up with Growth to push his business mission of "trophy communities with a high barrier to entry" (quote from homepage of his company website). In short, they lobby for luxe housing, at the expense of almost everyone else.

Once erased, you will never get these overwhelmingly modestly sized and priced well-built homes back, nor their typically attendant mature tree cover. (Also consider the hazmat dispersal involved in demolition—unconscionable for all people in the vicinity and any unlucky, uninformed residents of the replacement housing.) If HB 2001A passes _at all_ it should ONLY apply to HISTORIC vacant land. Otherwise, it will create even more economic redlining already running rampant in Portland.

Neighborhoods lose a lot in teardown development; the land use zoning and planning in place for decades should not be dispensed with, nor should local determination that works best for those who live where they do. Self-determination is key to a community's success--Americans had a party in Boston Harbor to make this very point.

Historic resources and old-growth housing all should be protected, which HB 2001A also will not do. If you lose your history, you lose part of your soul. It may be too late for Portland anyway (in many places already turned into Anytown, as teardown builders erase quality, unique construction that's stood the test of time), but at least give other Oregon cities and towns a chance to own their own land use planning, preserve their character, and give their residents a voice in how they grow.

Thank you for listening!

Margaret Davis, Northeast Portland

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Margaret Davis Ma Nao Books manaobooks.com