

February 28, 2015

Chair Pamela Marsh

Members of the House Committee on Housing and Houselessness

Re: Comments on HB2138 Middle Housing

Dear Chair Marsh and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the City of Oregon City, please accept this written testimony providing comments on a portion of HB 2138. More specifically, Section 22, subsection(1) (f), as presented in the draft for your committee hearing on March 3, 2025 , provides that “the Land Conservation Development Commission [LCDC] shall adopt rules that must include:”

“Repealing requirements for demolition review for houses listed in the National Register of Historic Places.”

This mandate will eliminate demolition review - whether required by the Goal 5 rule or through local government regulations - allowing for unconstrained destruction of homes within the Canemah National Register Historic District – one of the few remaining intact former riverboat towns. Contributing structures within this District tell the story of the hierarchy of life for a riverboat building and trade destination from 1850s through 1870s. Here are some examples:



507 3rd Avenue WILEY B. MAY RESIDENCE c.1867

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816 3rd Avenue (Previously 816 S McLoughlin Blvd) ISAAC BEALS HOUSE c.1865

If Section 22(1)(f) of HB 2138 remains in place and becomes law, Oregon City's National Register District could be at risk of losing important cultural heritage that not only contributed to the establishment of Oregon City.

In summary, the City of Oregon City, along with the thousands of property owners and Oregonians, who love to live, work, shop, dine and play in areas rich with cultural significance, emphatically urge you to remove Section 22 (1)(f).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Aquilla Hurd-Ravich".

Aquilla Hurd-Ravich, AICP
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