

From: Bob Glascock
To: [JWMNR Exhibits](#)
Subject: HB 2007--Support National Register Constraints
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2017 9:06:25 AM

June 22, 2017

Natural Resources Subcommittee of the Joint Ways & Means Committee,

My wife and I are 28-year residents of the Laurelhurst neighborhood, in NE Portland. Our two children attended local public schools. Now retired, we both volunteer with Laurelhurst projects (care of Laurelhurst Park and emergency preparedness).

As you may know, the LNA Board (our neighborhood association) has taken initial steps to pursue nominating Laurelhurst for the National Register Historic District Listing. I have found the LNA process rushed, and lacking a variety of perspectives. LNA's exploratory report fails to discuss alternatives to National Registry--less onerous rules for young families (who need to affordably remodel), for residents to add solar panels visible from the street, and for residents to select materials to replace windows and garages.

Laurelhurst should not follow the footsteps of the Eastmoreland Neighborhood Association, which voted to advance National Register Historic District despite strong opposition among its residents (in a mail-in ballot). ENA disrupted and disrespected a democratic process.

I believe the heritage value of our housing stock can be protected with local historic districts/conservation districts, in combination with reduced bulk (with the Residential Infill Project). I welcome the City's offer to update local historic districts and local conservation districts, to better meet the evolving needs of our neighborhoods and community. Those local rules can strike a balance between creating more housing opportunities (through "middle housing" infill) and preserving key period design features of our older housing stock.

With HB 2007's final bill, I support amendments to: 1) require affirmative consent from a majority of homeowners before design review is applied to any form of historic/conservation district (be it local or national), and 2) require demolition review in local historic districts and local conservation districts (for any city with a population of at least 500,000).

Thanks for your hard work, and for your consideration.

Best regards,
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