

Dear Co-Chair Helm, Co-Chair Owens, Vice-Chair Finger McDonald, and members of the committee:

My name is Sienna Fitzpatrick and I am writing to testify in support of HB 2950, which would modernize Statewide Planning Goal 1 through a comprehensive advisory committee process. I support this legislation as a graduate student in the University of Oregon's Master of Community and Regional Planning Program, and I am excited that your committee is taking up this very important issue this session.

As an emerging planning professional, I understand the significance of our state's land use goals for making well-guided and publicly beneficial planning decisions, and I strongly support the concept of amending Goal 1 for a number of reasons.

Public participation is essential to the success of our state's land use planning program and should be implemented in ways that are equitable, achievable and standardized across the state – HB 2950 will help make that happen. Moreover, Goal 1 was adopted in 1975, but it has never had any updates or administrative rules applied like other goals have.

HB 2950 will give the direction and the resources necessary for DLCD and LCDC to modernize Goal 1, which has remained unchanged since it was first adopted 50 years ago. In that time, participation technology has evolved, outreach techniques have changed, inclusivity practices have improved, and barriers to public participation have been studied and identified by land use experts across the state – it is long overdue for our public engagement goal to reflect these advancements.

For these reasons, **I urge your support for HB 2950!**

Thank you,

Sienna Fitzpatrick, MCRP 2025