

Submitter: John Giacoppe

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3062

Dear Chair Tran, Vice-Chair Grayber, Vice-Chair Lewis, and members of the House Committee on Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans,

Good day. My name is John Giacoppe, and I am a musician living in Southeast Portland.

I am writing you urging your support of House Bill 3062. I am close friends with a couple who lives in the Parkrose Argay neighborhood of Northeast Portland, and have been a witness to their struggle to prevent the construction of a large logistics warehouse in their neighborhood. The city of Portland has approved the construction of this massive warehouse directly across the street from a public school on Sandy and 122nd Avenue. The city required almost no mitigation from the developer before approving their siting application, meaning that the impacts of increased truck traffic, diesel emissions, and noise will be borne full-force by the neighborhood's residents. No analysis was made of potential public health impacts, property value impacts or even long-term traffic impacts, and the public was not given an opportunity to put information into the public record. That this development was taking place in one of Portland's most historically disadvantaged and most polluted neighborhoods was totally ignored by the city when evaluating the project, and because the city hastened to approve the project, there is now little recourse for those adversely affected to seek mitigation or redress.

We cannot undo our mistakes, but we should learn from them. This bill establishes a clear responsibility for cities to protect their most vulnerable populations, and puts the cost of mitigating harm to communities where it belongs - on the developers. It does not overly restrict development or demand arbitrary concessions from developers; it obligates only what mitigations are necessary to protect the surrounding community. Further, it gives the public the opportunity to decide for themselves if the applicant's proposals are adequate and make their voices heard in a hearing, something sorely lacking from the Parkrose-Argay decision and something all Oregonians deserve.

Please bring this bill to the statehouse floor to protect Oregonians and their communities.

Sincerely, John Giacoppe