

Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission
1900 SW 4th Avenue, Suite 7100
Portland, OR 97201

RE: Manufactured Dwelling Park Project

Dear Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission,

I am writing to encourage you to adopt the Manufactured Dwelling Park Project. This new zoning designation will contribute to the stability and longevity of 56 manufactured housing parks citywide, which provide affordable homes for over 3,000 Portland households.

My congregation, Fremont United Methodist Church, is a member of the Interfaith Alliance on Poverty, a group of thirteen Portland-based faith communities working together to understand and to alleviate poverty in our city. I am on the Alliance's Advocacy Action Team and serve as the Team's liaison between Living Cully and the Alliance congregations. As liaison, I participate in Living Cully meetings and activities and notify the Alliance on the ways our congregations can support Cully residents' efforts for affordable, safe housing. Among Alliance efforts, congregational volunteers performed repair and maintenance tasks at manufactured park homes and walked with Cully moms who bimonthly do litter control in their neighborhood and report health and safety hazards to the appropriate city offices. The Alliance now has a team working with Oak Leaf residents to help them transition to greater stability in their lives.

My childhood was one of poverty. Nevertheless, the trajectory of my life changed dramatically because of the care and concern of the community who provided us with food and school personnel who encouraged me to pursue my education. It is through these supports that I pursued and earned my doctorate as a research psychologist and had a fulfilling career.

As liaison to Living Cully, I have come to know the seniors who live in dignity in their manufactured homes and witnessed the love and hard work of Cully parents who want the very best for their children. The Commission and the City Council's decisions regarding a new base zone for manufactured dwelling parks will determine the future of many seniors, parents and children in our Portland community. On behalf of them, I urge your support for the zoning change.

Sincerely,

Marilyn C. Mauch

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