

From: [Mike Westling](#)
To: [JWMTR Exhibits](#)
Subject: Fwd: Please Support HB 2001 to Create More Affordable Housing Options
Date: Wednesday, June 5, 2019 10:31:50 AM

Please see my written testimony below regarding HB 2001.

Thanks,

Mike

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Mike Westling** <mwestling@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Jun 4, 2019 at 8:50 PM
Subject: Please Support HB 2001 to Create More Affordable Housing Options
To: <Sen.LewFrederick@oregonlegislature.gov>

Dear Senator Frederick,

As a constituent, I am writing to ask that you support HB 2001.

When I was born, my parents took me home from the hospital to the duplex they were renting. At the time, my mother was working as a bank teller and my father was worked a job at a slaughterhouse to pay his way through college. Living in a duplex in a walkable neighborhood gave my family an economic opportunity that helped to set up me and my siblings for success. Since then, I've lived in duplexes and triplexes in Madison, Wisconsin, Ann Arbor, Michigan, and Washington, D.C. -- each time the availability of this housing type allowed me to live in a neighborhood I never would have otherwise been able to afford.

Now, as a homeowner and a father of two young kids, I look around at my neighborhood in Northeast Portland and I see space for more people to take advantage of the parks, the playgrounds, the grocery store, the small businesses, the university, and the brand new K-8 school that are all within walking distance of our home. The problem is that the only housing type allowed on my block is a single family home -- and that's not affordable for most people. An ad in my neighborhood newspaper just listed the median home price in my neighborhood at over a half-million dollars.

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What's Selling in Concordia?

179 Homes sold in RMLS in last 12 months as of Feb. 13

1.4% Increase in Average Sale Price since 2018

Avg. Sale Price in 2018: \$523,453
 Avg. Sale Price currently: \$530,739
 Avg. Days on market: 32

This information provided by
 Mark Charlesworth, Concordia resident & Broker
 Keller Williams, Portland Central.
 charlesworthhomes@gmail.com · 503.807.9911

In many ways, proximity has become the equivalent of opportunity in Portland and other communities around the state. The location of housing options is just as important as how many options are available. It's past time that we open up our residential neighborhoods to more people than just those who can afford the skyrocketing costs of single-family homes.

I'm currently 34 years old and my wife and I have two sons, age 2 and age 4. We plan to live in our home for the next 30 years -- and we welcome new neighbors living in single-family homes -- and in ADUs, duplexes, triplexes, and fourplexes. That's the kind of community I want to be a part of for the long term -- one that has the housing options to accommodate families of all sizes, types, and incomes.

Thank you for being such an outstanding advocate for the people of your district. We really appreciate your hard work.

All my best,

Mike Westling
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