



September 27th, 2023

TO: Governor Tina Kotek + Housing Production Advisory Council

RE: Support for HPAC Recommendations to boost housing production and affordability in Oregon

Dear Governor Kotek, HPAC Co-Chairs Tovey, Hall and Council Members,

My name is Preston Korst and I'm the Director of Government Affairs at the Home Building Association of Greater Portland. HBA is dedicated to maximizing housing choice for all who reside in our region by shaping an environment in which industry professionals can meet the diverse needs of our communities.

We're writing to express our industry's strong support for the work of HPAC and the 70+ proposed draft recommendations. These could have a significant and positive impact on our industry's ability to meet the Governor's housing production target of 36,000 units annually.

There is no limit to the number of barriers that can delay or prohibit housing starts, however we're excited to see and review the many impressive and thoughtful recommendations flowing from the HPAC membership and work groups. We all know that Oregon is staring down a current housing deficit of 140,000+ units, and will need 443,000 new homes over the next 20 years. This means we must not only prioritize the development of new housing now, but also plan to encourage and manage growth for the future as well. This is why we're supportive of the tools being outlined by the council and urge its members to approve recommendations that will increase our constrained land supply, mitigate and reduce costly impacts of tree removal fees, speed up permitting and the approval of housing applications, and help address rising costs of to build and install residential infrastructure.

The Home Building Association of Greater Portland, on behalf of the more than 1,200 members, believes that this council's exhaustive and impressive work will provide the homebuilding industry (both affordable and market rate) with the tools needed to meet the Governor's ambitious production goals. The results of which will translate to more homes being built for families who've been locked out of the benefit of stable housing for too long. To generate affordability and overall supply of housing, these recommendations are an undeniably smart path that merits the community's support and your vote.

Thank you for your consideration,

Preston Korst

Director of Public Policy and Government Affairs
Home Building Association of Greater Portland