

Submitter: Dan Volkmer
On Behalf Of: Myself
Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB974
Senate Committee On Housing and Development
Bill 974

I strongly oppose eliminating "design review" in downtown Portland as well as the historic neighborhoods that circle the city center on all sides.
As a long time neighborhood advocate, historic preservationist, city volunteer, and local real estate professional practicing for 50 years in the inner city, I appreciate the diversity, vitality, and liveability of our inner city neighborhoods. I have led several walking tours for our friends visiting from other states and countries. They all comment how lucky we are to have retained so many intact walkable neighborhoods that reflect the history of the city's development in time and tell the story of who, what, and when Portland evolved into such a unique and beautiful place to live. We have been the envy of residents of many mid western and eastern cities who have had their core living areas hollowed out by urban renewal lacking any design review whatsoever. We are having enough struggles today as it is - please keep in place this modest measure of design review to protect the qualities that make Portland Portland.

Dan Volkmer