

Submitter: Maya Foty
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB974

Dear Senate Committee:

I oppose the elimination of Design Review as proposed in the SB974 –1 Amendment “Section 12 (5)” on page 10 and “Section 13 (5)” on page 11. Design Review in Portland complies with current State law that requires a clear and objective standards approach. When Design Review is pursued, per Zoning Ordinance, Design Review is not able to require the applicant to reduce or increase the total floor area or height. Design Review in Portland is administered by experienced staff and the Design Commission who both support all housing types, high density, and a streamlined process. The Design Commission is composed of design professionals, including housing and commercial developers, who are passionate about Portland’s growth and resurgence. Design Review in Portland supports development that builds on context, contributes to the public realm, and provides high quality and resilient buildings and public spaces. Design review is critical to keeping Portland livable and vibrant!

Sincerely,
Maya Foty