



City of

PORTLAND, OREGON

Development Review Advisory Committee

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May 15, 2014

Dear Mayor Hales and City Commissioners:

On behalf of the Development Review Advisory Committee, I am writing in support of the Portland Bureau of Transportation's request for funding for consulting services regarding the possible development of a fee structure for infill development on streets without pavement and sidewalks.

Infill development is crucial to meeting the City's Land Use goals of creating vibrant neighborhoods throughout Portland. Much too often the City's complicated system inhibits some developments and at times does not produce the desired pedestrian amenities neighborhoods and businesses need.

The City depends on new development to pay-its-way for street infrastructure improvements. However, it is not uncommon for single-family homes built on unimproved streets to be granted waivers of remonstrance. In most situations the waivers are granted because, by virtue of the existing street being (all or mostly) unimproved, the new infrastructure would not provide a useful connection.

We understand the City is in a difficult position. City policy supports both infill development and complete streets. Currently, in many situations, neither of these policy objectives is met.

A consultant looking at reasonable solutions to fund infrastructure improvements in conjunction with infill development is clearly needed. We urge you to allocate funds to provide reasonable alternatives to implement this process.

The City should fund programs that ultimately contribute to the General Fund, provide for cost effective and reasonable means to pay for infrastructure development, and resolve a complicated issue in infill development.

We support the Bureau of Transportation's efforts to conduct a thoughtful process to understand this issue and address multiple needs in the development of infrastructure in the City. This Portland Bureau of Transportation request is both appropriate and much needed.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jeffrey Paul Fish
Fish Construction NW, Inc.
Development Review Advisory Committee Chair