



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Land Conservation and Development

635 Capitol Street NE, Suite 150

Salem, Oregon 97301-2540

Phone: (503) 373-0050

Fax: (503) 378-5518

[www.oregon.gov/LCD](http://www.oregon.gov/LCD)

## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 5, 2017

CONTACT: Sadie Carney (503) 934-0036, [sadie.carney@state.or.us](mailto:sadie.carney@state.or.us)  
Anne Debbaut (503) 725-2182, [anne.debbaut@state.or.us](mailto:anne.debbaut@state.or.us)



### **Portland Land Use Plan Approved**

Today, the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) approved Portland's 2035 Comprehensive Plan and changes to the city's zoning regulations through a process called "periodic review." The city adopted major changes to its comprehensive land use plan for the first time since 1980. The new plan addresses long-term needs around the city for housing, employment, and necessary facilities such as streets and water systems that will support forecasted growth.

Portland's plan also includes a focus on equitable decision making. A new section of the plan includes a commitment to more fully engage both conventional and less traditional communities within the city when considering land use and investment choices.

Portland is predicted to attract considerable population and job growth during the next 20 years, and the city has little opportunity to grow anywhere but up. The approved plan significantly increases the amount of growth the city can accommodate within its boundaries.

The plan update generated concerns from some city residents and neighborhood associations. The opposition mostly stemmed from potential changes in neighborhood character brought about by increased development density, and from individual property owners who disagreed with the zoning on their property.

"Portland is an attractive city with lots of people moving there each year. The city council had to make difficult choices about how to best accommodate the expected growth," said Jim Rue, the agency director. "Our review found the plan to be consistent with the state's requirements for efficient, managed use of land," he said.

State agency review of local comprehensive plans assess whether the plan complies with broadly worded state law. Decisions on the best way to meet the standards set in law are for each individual city to make. Unless appealed to the Land Conservation and Development Commission, the City of Portland approval is final.

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**Oregon's statewide land use planning program** — originated in 1973 under Senate Bill 100 — protects farm and forest lands, conserves natural resources, promotes livable communities, facilitates orderly and efficient development, helps coordination among local governments, and enables citizen involvement.

The program affords all Oregonians predictability and sustainability to the development process by

allocating land for industrial, commercial and housing development, as well as transportation and agriculture.

The Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) administers the program. A seven-member volunteer citizen board known as the [Land Conservation and Development Commission \(LCDC\)](#) guides DLCD.

Under the program, all cities and counties have adopted comprehensive plans that meet mandatory state standards. The standards are 19 Statewide Planning Goals that deal with land use, development, housing, transportation, and conservation of natural resources. Periodic review of plans and technical assistance in the form of grants to local jurisdictions are key elements of the program.