



February 21, 2018

City of Corvallis Planning Commission
c/o Liz Olmstead

liz.olmstead@corvallisoregon.gov

Re: File # LDT16-00004 removal of application requirements from code

Dear Commissioners:

This letter is submitted jointly by Housing Land Advocates (HLA) and the Fair Housing Council of Oregon (FHCO). Both HLA and FHCO are non-profit organizations that advocate for land use policies and practices that ensure an adequate and appropriate supply of affordable housing for all Oregonians. FHCO's interests relate to a jurisdiction's obligation to affirmatively further fair housing. Please include these comments in the record for the above-referenced proposed amendment.

HLA and FHCO are concerned that removal of the application requirements for needed housing applications could result in the failure of the City to maintain clear and objective standards for consideration of those applications. In addition, reliance on handouts instead of code language for application requirements could result in the failure of treating applicants on an even playing field. Application requirements should be specific and found in the Code so that there is no massaging of the proposed handout for particular applicants. Further, this proposal could result in unnecessary hurdles to obtaining completeness determinations when the proposed handout is not adopted by the City Council, and has not been tested for unintended consequences.

HLA and FHCO urge the Commission to defer adoption of the proposed amendment until the City staff drafts updated code requirements that set forth application requirements. Thank you for your consideration. Please provide written notice of your decision to, FHCO, c/o Louise Dix, at 1221 SW Yamhill Street, #305, Portland, OR 97205 and HLA, c/o Jennifer Bragar, at 121 SW Morrison Street, Suite 1850, Portland, OR 97204. Please feel free to email Louise Dix at ldix@fhco.org or reach her by phone at (541) 951-0667.



Thank you for your consideration.

Louise Dix
AFFH Specialist
Fair Housing Council of Oregon

Jennifer Bragar
President
Housing Land Advocates

cc: Gordon Howard (gordon.howard@state.or.us)