



SE Uplift
3534 SE Main St.
Portland, OR 97214
p: 503 232-0010
www.seuplift.org

December 2, 2019

To: Mayor Ted Wheeler
Commissioner Chloe Eudaly, Civic Life
Commissioner Nick Fish
Commissioner Amanda Fritz
Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty

From: SE Uplift Board of Directors

Re: **Agreement with Aspirations & Unable to Support Proposed 8/30/19 Language for 3.96**

Dear Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners Eudaly, Fish, Fritz, & Hardesty,

The SE Uplift Board of Directors would like to thank Commissioner Eudaly and the 3.96 Code Change Committee members for engaging in the challenging work of dismantling racial and spatial inequality in our city. This work is not easy nor simple. As members of the city, we must commit to helping each other and giving the benefit of the doubt that we are doing our best to make Portland the best it can be. Thank you for your courage and willingness to listen.

As you can imagine the recent proposed updates to 3.96 City Code have caused many conversations within our coalition board. SE Uplift supports the work to reduce barriers to participation and increase civic engagement for all Portlanders. Our Board of Directors are in full agreement that the proposed language for the 3.96 City Code Change is aligned with both our values and goals. Towards this end we strongly urge you adequately fund the city mandate for diversity, equity, and inclusion in civic life citywide for historically marginalized groups. This commitment is not yet evident and **per constituent bylaws of our representatives' organizations, SE Uplift Board of Directors are unable to support the proposed 8/30/2019 language provided by the 3.96 Code Change Project Committee as currently written.**

SE Uplift would like it clearly stated how changes to 3.96 City Code interact with the charter review process convening in 2021 to consider changes to the form of city governance. SE Uplift is an important part of the SE Portland community. Our board includes representatives from Community Organizations, Business Districts, and Neighborhood Associations as well as At-Large members from our geographic area. We appreciate your consideration of extending the current contract through July 2023 and look forward to continued collaboration within the SE Portland community to build informed, inclusive, and participatory neighborhoods that support our social and ecological well-being.

On behalf of the SE Uplift Board of Directors,

Tina Kimmey, Chair

Matchu Williams, Vice Chair

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The signature on the left is for Tina Kimmey, written in a cursive style. The signature on the right is for Matchu Williams, also in a cursive style.