
Fwd: Munjoy Hill Historic District - NO

Jeff Levine <jlevine@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Jennifer Munson <jmy@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Apr 26, 2018 at 11:58 AM

For the Munjoy Hill file.

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jocelyn Olsen** <jocelynolsen@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Apr 23, 2018 at 8:07 PM
Subject: Munjoy Hill Historic District - NO
To: jlevine@portlandmaine.gov, estrimling@portlandmaine.gov, sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov, bbatson@portlandmaine.gov, jcosta@portlandmaine.gov, kcook@portlandmaine.gov, pali@portlandmaine.gov, nmm@portlandmaine.gov, jduson@portlandmaine.gov, hbassett@portlandlandmarks.org

Just two weeks ago, with the Portland Press Herald article, I heard for the first time that the city is considering placing my home at [30-32 Vesper St.](#) in a Historic District. I was shocked that this conversation had been going on for months without me even knowing or being able to participate in the discussion.

I have lived in my home for 8 years and would never knock it down or build an ugly box condo multi-unit in its place. I am a 5th generation Mainer whose great grandparents lived on Sheridan St. While I strongly support the city's efforts to maintain the identity of real estate on the Hill, I fear what a Historic District would do to my ability to maintain and update my home. I have a crumbling supporting wall in the basement that I have been saving up to fix, the windows all need to be replaced, I found roof shingles on the sidewalk the other day, the back decks are rotting, it goes on and on. And I would say my home is in much better shape than many around me. Why would anyone want to make it more difficult and expensive for us to take care of our properties? These are not the former mansions of the West End. They are 100+ year-old multi-unit apartment buildings that were not maintained for many decades when the Hill was not as nice as it is now.

I am as disgusted by the new buildings going up all over the city as anyone. But I wish you would all focus on controlling those buildings rather than interfering in my ability to take care of my home. You created this issue by changing the zoning and approving projects like the Portland Company. Now you want to impose more restrictions on me? It just doesn't make any sense. Not to mention the bizarre map that would impact some streets and not others.

I hope you will start talking to me and my neighbors as you make this decision since we will bear the brunt of it.

Thank you,
Jocelyn Olsen
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