

**COLUMBIA CORRIDOR**  
A S S O C I A T I O N

Portland City Council  
1221 SW 4th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97204

17 July 2006

re: Comprehensive Plan Change for Linnton

Dear Mayor Potter and City Commissioners:

The Columbia Corridor contains the region's largest Regionally Significant Industrial Area and the City's largest Industrial Sanctuary. Primarily because of these designations and the commitment behind them, the Columbia Corridor is one of the state's most important economic corridors, including extensive industrial waterfront property. It is not an exaggeration to say that if the industrial vitality of the Columbia Corridor were bled away, it would have ramifications for the entire state.

The City of Portland has long been steadfast in its commitment to the spirit of the Industrial Sanctuary—a place where industry can be assured of a home; a place where land is set aside to contribute to the vibrancy of our economy.

In sharp contrast to that commitment, the Planning Commission recommendations to seek a change in the designation for the Linnton waterfront property in the Comprehensive Plan would be a “conscious land use policy decision about the future of the area, affirmatively stating that the area will eventually move out of the Industrial Sanctuary and be developed with a mix of lighter industrial and non-industrial uses” (Planning Commission letter to City Council, June 26, 2006).

The CCA is very concerned that if the property is rezoned out of industrial, new residential uses will limit the ability of industry to operate effectively and to expand in the future. We are equally concerned that rezoning away viable industrial property sets an economically dangerous precedent for the City's Industrial Sanctuary. We suggest instead that the City make a serious commitment to strengthen and revitalize the existing commercial center of Linnton and improve access to the river, without rezoning the property from its current industrial designation.

There is justifiable empathy for the residents of Linnton. The CCA encourages creative ways to address the concerns of this passionate community. However, CCA strongly objects to the proposed Comprehensive Plan changes or other zoning changes that would allow residential development in the Linnton waterfront industrial area and compromise the integrity of the City's Industrial Sanctuary.

Respectfully submitted,

Corky Collier  
Executive Director