

Position Statement: Tear down vs Restoration

Jan 2021

In most cases, the Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association (MTNA) supports the repair and restoration of our area's older homes (including condos, apartments, townhomes, etc.) over demolishing and replacing them. This supports housing-affordability, it reduces waste, conserves materials, eliminates unnecessary releases of pollutants such as lead and asbestos, and has a lower carbon footprint.

MTNA recognizes that older homes greatly benefit our community specifically because these homes provide an important supply of affordable housing for Portlanders. Older homes have already undergone the process of "filtering" down through the market over the years, and these homes have for decades now been a backstop for our community during an era of rising real-estate costs. As our area's older structures tend to be either slightly smaller, or in need of work, they provide an opportunity for a diverse cross section of people to grow their assets and build a stronger community.