

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Parks and Open Spaces are not the Answer to the Houseless Crisis
Date: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 8:59:14 AM

For March 17, 2021 2:00 PM Time Certain.

From: William Anderson <williamrollandanderson@gmail.com>
Date: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 8:51 AM
To: "Wheeler, Mayor" <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Hardesty <joann@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Ryan Office <CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, "City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero" <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Parks and Open Spaces are not the Answer to the Houseless Crisis

Re: proposed code changes to the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project

Dear Mayor Wheeler and members of the Portland City Council,

Our parks and natural spaces must remain open to the public.

As you consider the language for the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project, I strongly recommend the removal of Open Space Zones, including developed parks, natural areas, and trails, from consideration for the siting of either temporary or permanent houseless shelters EXCEPT for a declaration of emergency by the City Council due to a catastrophic natural disaster.

You will hear testimony on this issue, and you should conclude that there is already vacant and underutilized land available. You can conclude that allowing shelters in Open Space Zones is inequitable as it disproportionately affects BIPOC communities living without yards or outdoor spaces. You can conclude that access to parks, natural areas, and open spaces is a fundamental necessity for the physical and mental well being of all Portlanders and should not be infringed upon.

The houseless crisis in Portland needs solutions, and this is not one of them.

Very sincerely yours,
Billy Anderson

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Our Parks and Open Spaces are not the Answer to the Houseless Crisis
Date: Tuesday, March 9, 2021 4:51:12 PM

For March 17, 2021 2:00 PM Time Certain.

From: vmhughes <vmhughes@comcast.net>
Date: Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 3:25 PM
To: "Wheeler, Mayor" <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Hardesty <joann@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Ryan Office <CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, "City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero" <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>
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Very sincerely yours,
Vanessa Hughes

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Proposed Code Changes to the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project
Date: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 8:56:48 AM

For March 17, 2021 2:00 PM Time Certain.

From: Karl Mundorff <mundorff.karl@gmail.com>
Date: Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 5:08 PM
To: "Wheeler, Mayor" <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Hardesty <joann@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Ryan Office <CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, "City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero" <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Proposed Code Changes to the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project

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Very sincerely yours,

Karl W. Mundorff
531 SE 69th Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97215

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Our Parks and Open Spaces are not the Answer to the Houseless Crisis
Date: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 8:57:06 AM

For March 17, 2021 2:00 PM Time Certain.

From: Lauren Parker <laurcollmer@gmail.com>
Date: Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 6:05 PM
To: "Wheeler, Mayor" <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Hardesty <joann@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Ryan Office <CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, "City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero" <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>
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Very sincerely yours,
Lauren Parker
971-255-3305

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Housing Continuum Project
Date: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 8:57:25 AM

For March 17, 2021 2:00 PM Time Certain.

From: Gabrielle Savage <gabsavage@gmail.com>
Date: Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 6:27 PM
To: "Wheeler, Mayor" <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Hardesty <joann@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Ryan Office <CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, "City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero" <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Housing Continuum Project

All,

This is out of line. I'm

incredibly disappointed that you would even consider this in light of the many new taxes, all of which I voted for. Those should provide opportunities to help those less fortunate without sacrificing space that many enjoy and would no longer be able to.

I'm sure you are aware that many of these individuals choose to live as they do. I don't want to believe this but there is a segment of the population that does. We have a number of them, living by our house, and they rotate fairly regularly and to have a routine they follow. I've seen what is left of our green spaces after they've lived in areas for sometime, the off ramp to east bound Lombard from the 5 freeway is a perfect example. The filth, destruction and biohazards that are left not unlike what our parks will look like if this passes. Further, people who do use parks, like children and families will no longer be able to do so. There's no 'co-existing' with people who are living rough. No parent, of which I am not, will allow the potential of their child being harmed to venture near any place that is allowed to be used as this is proposing.

This is unacceptable. Turning parks into unusable spaces, which will be what they become, necessitating more taxation to solve the needs of those same spaces afterwards. It's a doom loop. I'm finding it harder and harder to support you, which I have. I do not envy your role and the choices you are making. But, what I can tell you is this information, including the text below, was sent to me by other liberal identifying friends. You are losing us. You will eventually lose our money and votes. Perhaps it's irrelevant but I think there's a better solution. One that involves upholding laws not eliminating them. Job creation programs and drug mitigation efforts that would provide more chances than just allowing people to continue to live rough. As if this is a reasonable outcome for them!

Portland is a great place and I have voted many times against my own financial interest to help those less fortunate than I but there has to be something better to do. Crushing our local parks is not a solution. I wish these people would simply care as much as we do. Clean up after themselves, not steal from us, not create roadblocks of campers and broken down cars. Not be addicted to drugs. However, wishes will not make this true. Real legislation and laws must be passed. Real

conversations must be had and transparency is necessary.

All of this is can be solved in a number of ways but just shuttling folks into our parks is not reasonable or realistic for anyone. What's next on the list, Forest Park?

I've had it.

Gabrielle Savage

Dear Mayor Wheeler and members of the Portland City Council,

Our parks and natural spaces must remain open to the public.

As you consider the language for the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project, I strongly recommend the removal of Open Space Zones, including developed parks, natural areas, and trails, from consideration for the siting of either temporary or permanent houseless shelters EXCEPT for a declaration of emergency by the City Council due to a catastrophic natural disaster.

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The houseless crisis in Portland needs solutions, and this is not one of them.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Our Parks and Open Spaces are not the Answer to the Houseless Crisis
Date: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 8:57:46 AM

For March 17, 2021 2:00 PM Time Certain.

From: Emily Sundholm <epsundholm@gmail.com>
Date: Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 7:38 PM
To: "Wheeler, Mayor" <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>
Cc: Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Hardesty <joann@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Ryan Office <CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, "City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero" <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Our Parks and Open Spaces are not the Answer to the Houseless Crisis

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Very sincerely yours,
Emily Sundholm

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Our Parks and Open Spaces are not the Answer to the Houseless Crisis
Date: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 8:58:28 AM

For March 17, 2021 2:00 PM Time Certain.

From: Sarah Laird <sarah.s.laird@gmail.com>
Date: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 8:15 AM
To: "Wheeler, Mayor" <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Hardesty <joann@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Ryan Office <CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, "City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero" <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Our Parks and Open Spaces are not the Answer to the Houseless Crisis

Re: proposed code changes to the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project

Dear Mayor Wheeler and members of the Portland City Council,

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Very sincerely yours,
Sarah Laird

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Proposed code changes to the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project
Date: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 10:44:21 AM

For March 17, 2021 2:00 PM Time Certain.

From: David Levey <davidjlevey@yahoo.com>
Date: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 10:14 AM
To: "Wheeler, Mayor" <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Hardesty <joann@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Ryan Office <CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, "City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero" <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Proposed code changes to the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project

Mr Mayor and members of City Council,

Look around our city and you can't help but notice the campsites, mountains of trash, feces, Heroin needles and the utter disregard for Portland. I understand that there are those that have fell on hard times, but there are others that are riding the system and feel they are entitled to leave their camp areas in ruins. **Our parks and natural spaces must remain open to the public or they will end up like these campsites and that is not acceptable to all the people of Portland that pay very high property taxes.**

Our parks and natural spaces must remain open to the public and clean.

As you consider the language for the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project, I strongly recommend the removal of Open Space Zones, including developed parks, natural areas, and trails, from consideration for the siting of either temporary or permanent houseless shelters EXCEPT for a declaration of emergency by the City Council due to a catastrophic natural disaster.

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Very sincerely yours,

David Levey

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Proposed code changes to the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project
Date: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 3:33:58 PM

For March 17, 2021 2:00 PM Time Certain.

From: Scott Wilson <wildw.pdx@gmail.com>
Date: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 2:17 PM
To: "Wheeler, Mayor" <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Hardesty <joann@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Ryan Office <CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, "City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero" <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Proposed code changes to the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project

Dear Mayor Wheeler and members of the Portland City Council,

Our parks and natural spaces must remain open, safe and accessible to the public. This is true at all times, but especially true during this pandemic.

As you consider the language for the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project, I strongly recommend the removal of Open Space Zones, including developed parks, natural areas, and trails, from consideration for the siting of either temporary or permanent houseless shelters EXCEPT for a declaration of emergency by the City Council due to a catastrophic natural disaster.

Our house is situated 1/2 a block north of Peninsula Park, and our daughter and the kids in our neighborhood draw so much benefit from using the park. It's a tremendous benefit for this entire area of North Portland and beyond.

The houseless crisis in Portland needs solutions, and this is not one of them.

Respectfully,

Scott Wilson
6634 N. Borthwick Ave.
Portland, OR 97217

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Our Parks and Open Spaces are not the Answer to the Houseless Crisis
Date: Thursday, March 11, 2021 10:07:57 AM

For March 17, 2021 2:00 PM Time Certain.

From: Rick Morse <hll_rickm@hotmail.com>
Date: Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 9:15 AM
To: "Wheeler, Mayor" <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Hardesty <joann@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Ryan Office <CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, "City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero" <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>
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Very sincerely yours,
Rick Morse

From: [Michelle Harper](#)
To: [Clerk General](#)
Subject: Fwd: Statement
Date: Thursday, March 11, 2021 4:13:27 PM

Council Clerk:

Mr. Dion Jordan has asked me to read his testimony on March 17 2pm City Council Hearing on shelter to housing continuum. He will be on an airplane at the time of the hearing.

Michelle M. Harper

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

From: Dion C. Jordan <dioncjordan@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Mar 11, 2021 at 6:18 AM
Subject: Statement
To: Michelle Harper <harpermichelle.m@gmail.com>

Hi Michelle,

Sorry for the delay in getting this to you. Please see a statement I am fine with you reading. Please feel free to edit or add any strong points that you feel would help. I give you total freedom to do so. Have a great day

To Mayor Ted Wheeler and Portland City Council Members,

I would first like to commend you for your efforts to help the houseless around Portland. My heart and personal resources go out to them. They like all Portlanders, deserve dignity, respect, and an opportunity to do more than survive, they deserve a chance to thrive. I have had the opportunity to look at the S2HC report and I agree with many of its solutions and considerations. However, there is one proposal in this report I hope members of this council would reconsider and that is the use of Open Space Zones. It is my understanding after reading the report that there are other underutilized and vacant lands that can be considered with less of an impact on the community. Open spaces, parks, trails, and natural areas are vital to the wellbeing of all God's creations; people, animals, and the environment. In the midst of a pandemic, Portlanders need these spaces more now than ever before. It is where all citizens can find peace, serenity, and a sense of community and belonging.

On a personal note, one of my greatest fears when I read about the consideration of using open space zones in this way were the words of a man whose voice I hear every day... "What people don't understand, they won't value; what they don't value, they won't protect; and what they don't protect, they will lose." I ask you today to please consider protecting these open spaces, so we don't lose them and

remove the use of Open Space Zones.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Dion Jordan

Dion C. Jordan

Equity and Inclusion Champion

Sawubona: Centering Equity, Inclusion and Racial Justice

www.Sawubona.us.com

www.DionJordan.com

When a flower doesn't bloom within its environment, you don't fix the flower, you fix the environment in which the flower grows. So let's build a place of safety, trust, and belonging for all; and watch people grow.

March 12, 2021

RE: Shelter to Housing Continuum Zoning Code Changes

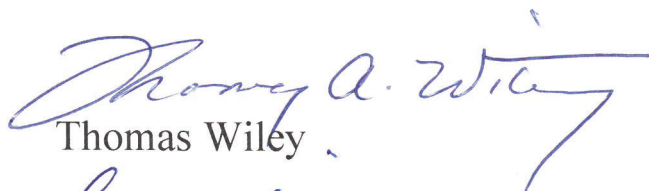
Dear Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners Hardesty, Mapps, Rubio, and Ryan:

As parks, natural areas, & trails supporters, we are writing to advocate strongly for an important change in the language of Shelter to Housing Continuum recommendations from the Planning and Sustainability Commission.

We recommend the removal of Open Space Zones from consideration for either temporary or permanent houseless shelters EXCEPT for a declaration of emergency by the City Council due to a catastrophic natural disaster.

A constructive alternative would spend the generous bond money that the housed (voters) agreed to spend, on shelter camps throughout the region composed of tents, RVs, Quonset huts, tiny houses, with shared facilities and services. We did it in the '30s and we can do it again now. Adding unsanitary parks and open spaces to the dismal situation downtown is not designed to, and cannot, end well for anyone.

Thank you for your consideration



Thomas Wiley



Laura Wiley

Laura Wiley
2678 SW Talbot Road, Portland OR 97201



March 12, 2021

**Testimony Regarding Shelter to Housing Continuum Project
City Council Agenda Item #166
Council Hearing Scheduled on March 17, 2021**

To Mayor Wheeler & City Council:

This testimony is on behalf of the SW Neighborhoods, Inc. and is being submitted by leaders of our Equity & Inclusion, Land Use, Parks, Schools, Public Safety, and Watershed Committees. We are residents of Southwest Portland who would like to help our houseless community members find the supportive housing, services, and shelter they deserve. Several of us have family members who are living on the streets due to mental illness or other disability, so understand these challenges first-hand. We are also advocates for our parks and natural areas and those who enjoy them.

As such, we support the Shelter to Housing Continuum (S2HC) project but do not support inclusion of Open Space Zones for consideration as temporary shelters, except for a declaration of emergency by the City Council due to a catastrophic natural disaster. Our reasons for this position are as follows.

1. There is no need to use Open Space Zones, including parks, natural areas, and trails, for shelters as there are adequate vacant and underutilized sites available without the use of Open Space Zones. Our coalition members are interested in working with partners to help identify available sites in our neighborhoods, if needed.
2. In many areas of Portland, there is already a shortage of park open spaces for use by the community so use of these spaces for any non-parks purpose should be restricted. Residents across the city, especially those without their own gardens and yards, depend on park access for essential recreation and their own mental and physical health.
3. Siting of shelters in parks will adversely impact the surrounding park area and intended land use, with possible harm to wildlife and other natural resources. City parks were not designed and are not appropriate, respectful places for people to live.
4. The houselessness of thousands of Portland residents is not a short-term emergency, rather it is an ongoing crisis. As such, the long-term planning that is required for this crisis cannot include an expectation that temporary shelters in parks offer a solution.

5. While park open spaces are not appropriate for shelters, park facilities could be resources in other ways, for example, informational signs on where/how to get services could be posted in restrooms and community centers, community centers could provide drinking water, showers, and possibly computer stations.

In summary, the residents of Southwest Portland would like to help work towards expansion of housing, services, and shelter solutions for houseless Portlanders. We value the work that has been done to prepare the Shelter to Housing Continuum proposal, and request that the proposal be changed to reflect that City Council would retain the authority to site temporary shelters in an Open Space Zone only during a declared emergency due to a catastrophic natural disaster such as an earthquake.

Thank you,



Leslie Hammond, President
SW Neighborhoods, Inc.

From: [Leslie Hammond](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Cc: [Mike Linman](#); [Janet Hawkins](#); [Mike Linman](#)
Subject: Fwd: SWNI Testimony Shelter to Housing Continuum
Date: Friday, March 12, 2021 2:14:19 PM
Attachments: [03-12-2021 SWNI Testimony Re #166 Shelter to Housing Continuum .pdf](#)
[ATT00001.htm](#)

Please see the attached testimony regarding Council Agenda Item #166-Shelter to Housing Continuum Project.

Thank you.

Leslie Hammond
SWNI President

Begin forwarded message:

From: Sylvia Bogert <sylvia@swni.org>
Date: March 12, 2021 at 2:10:25 PM PST
To: Leslie Hammond <thinkleslieh@gmail.com>
Subject: SWNI Testimony Shelter to Housing Continuum

From: [James Mears](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Homeless camps
Date: Saturday, March 13, 2021 9:58:41 AM

To the City Council of Portland:

Please consider this to be my testimony in the hearings on the location of homeless camps.

I moved here with my wife and infant son almost nineteen years ago from the Seattle area. My young family and I were starting a new life here with a new job. Portland was a beautiful small city. There were no homeless encampments. It is hard to believe now, but at that time, people in government had the good sense to say, “no, this is not what we want our city to be”. Obviously, things have changed. And I believe that one of the main things to change is that the city has forgotten how to say “no”.

It is impossible now to drive anywhere in the city and not see piles of garbage with tents on the sidewalks or in the parks. There are no sanitary facilities nearby, so one must assume that people are defecating and urinating wherever they can. How does it make sense to spend millions of taxpayer dollars on sewer systems and then to allow a certain segment of the population to defecate on the sidewalk?

I think of Portland now as a very large dysfunctional family, with a few alcoholic, drug addicted members who wreak havoc on an almost daily basis. What happens in families like this? The alcoholic, drug addict, or criminal become the center of the whirlwind. They demand everyone’s attention, even though they cannot see how destructive they have become. The family tries to act with compassion, but compassion is wasted on those who cannot see it or have the capacity to reciprocate or to change anything about themselves. The whole situation becomes a descending cycle of abuse, contaminating everyone with the addicts disease. The only option open to those who want to maintain their sanity is to leave the addict behind.

And people are leaving. I wonder if you know how many people in this city have left, are planning to leave, or want to leave, because they are just tired of seeing this city, this family, which they love, destroy itself.

I don’t want to move. We have raised our son in the same house for almost nineteen years. We have invested many hours and many thousands of dollars into improving our home and our community. I am sad to see this once beautiful city destroying itself. I want to stay, but frankly I am tired of battling a city government that does not seem to care about the people and businesses that made this city the vibrant place that it was.

I don’t have all of the answers, but I know that one of them is to learn how to say no to those who do nothing but take, at the expense of many others who have given so much.

Respectfully,
James Mears
Portland, Oregon

From James Mears
(503) 453-6382

From: [MB](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: S2HC - Written testimony on proposal of park and golf course encampments.
Date: Saturday, March 13, 2021 1:58:31 PM

Attention City Council of Portland:

I stand opposed for allowing parks and golf courses as homeless encampments.
WE need to please find another alternative.

I am a native Portlander, and literally I am disgusted on a daily bases that our beautiful city has turned into a waste-land. On virtually every block there are more groupings of tents, and make shift homes. I understand the issues of economy, mental health, and addiction very well, and my heart goes out to these folks. We however cannot give up our parks and golf courses as a place for these house-less people. We need these parks and courses for our citizens who are paying taxes, trying to exist and flourish with their families and not to mention their own good mental health with our children, grandchildren, families.

I am also a long term resident of Laurelhurst. We use to take our kids to the playground growing up, and then more recently our grandkids. With human feces, and hypodermic needles found on a daily bases in the past few years, and so much garbage everywhere, we had to make other choices for our outings! These are not signs of a co-existence alternative of these house-less people. On more than a few occasions we have had a few of these individuals yell slurs at us, and become hostile, which is quite disturbing. Our crime has risen in the neighborhood! Stolen Cars, bikes, break-ins, porch thieves and a myriad of other crimes.

If I was part of the City Council, I would like to suggest that we start to build a community of house-less people in a focused and dedicated area. Maybe on donated land, in a more industrial area, or on the edge of town. We need to ask our philanthropic community! Definitely out of downtown and our neighborhoods. And that is where these house-less need to go. Not on our streets, without any services. Bring the social services to this dedicated community, healthcare, even addiction services and the like. Food/Water and restrooms and showers, mailboxes. Make it a KOA type campground for house-less people. Could have tiny homes too. It will of course need some oversight, to keep people safe and away from crime issues.

Ask folks to donate. Churches and restaurants can donate and deliver food. Portland is an amazing city, and I know will rise to help these folks. These people need assistance.

This is what the US did during the depression. We put house-less folks on farms, so they could have a safe haven, rebuild themselves, and also co-exist with the feeling of community.

We don't need a band-aid, we need a full scale fix! It's only getting worse. The last 5 years have been horrific, and I am feeling like we have lost our city. More and more businesses are moving out of Portland, and new industry is deciding to not even come here. Our city is getting a bad reputation. We need to help our flailing city begin to thrive again.

Let's be the city that has plan, and a successful way to treat our house-less community in a humane

and supportive manner. Help these people who need a helping hand, instead of shuffling them all about the city. Humanity plays a huge part in this. The costs associated currently with picking up garbage weekly from these encampments, along with outhouses, costs the city quite a bit, not to mention the horrific issues in our neighborhoods, the unrest and the attraction of rodents. Make it illegal to camp on the streets, and move all house-less people into a community that they can thrive, and get the food, shelter and care that they need, in a clean and safe space.

Please do not give up our parks and golf courses for this effort.

These are Portland's special jewels, and we need to protect their beauty, and our city sanctuaries.

Thank you for your time and reflection.

MaryBeth

MaryBeth Nicholas Cruz

(503) 719-4362 office (503) 319-8773 cell

From: [John Nicholas](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Fwd: FW: S2HC - Written testimony on proposal of park and golf course encampments.
Date: Saturday, March 13, 2021 3:57:56 PM

Attention City Council of Portland:

I stand against allowing parks and golf courses as homeless encampments.

WE need to please find another alternative.

I would be willing to change my opinion if you would guarantee that all homeless people not in a shelter would be placed at one of these sites.

So as not to be confusing about my opinion...only if EVERYONE living on the street would be placed on a golf course owned by the city....No Parks under any circumstance shall be used as a homeless encampment.

and no one shall be allowed to camp on my streets.

I am a 4th generation native Portlander, and literally I am disgusted on a daily basis that our beautiful city has turned into a waste-land. On virtually every block there are more groupings of tents, and makeshift homes. I understand the issues of economy, mental health, and addiction very well, and my heart goes out to these folks. We however cannot give up our parks and golf courses as a place for these house-less people. We need these parks and courses for our citizens who are paying taxes, trying to exist and flourish with their families and not to mention their own good mental health with our children, grandchildren, families.

I am also a long term resident of Grant Park. We used to take our kids to the playground growing up, and then more recently our grandkids. With human feces, and hypodermic needles found on a daily basis in the past few years, and so much garbage everywhere, we had to make other choices for our outings! These are not signs of a co-existence alternative of these house-less people. On more than a few occasions we have had a few of these individuals yell slurs at us, and become hostile, which is quite disturbing. Our crime has risen in the neighborhood! Stolen Cars, bikes, break-ins, porch thieves and a myriad of other crimes.

If I was part of the City Council, I would like to suggest that we start to build a community of house-less people in a focused and dedicated area. Maybe on donated land, in a more industrial area, or on the edge of town. We need to ask our philanthropic community!

Definitely out of downtown and our neighborhoods. And that is where these house-less need to go. Not on our streets, without any services. Bring the social services to this dedicated community, healthcare, even addiction services and the like. Food/Water and restrooms and showers, mailboxes. Make it a KOA type campground for house-less people. Could have tiny homes too. It will of course need some oversight, to keep people safe and away from crime issues.

As an owner of 104 apt units in Portland I am fully aware of the problems associated with the homeless. To blame us for your problems is absurd. My average rent for a 1 bedroom is \$1040.. That is well below the new building asking rent , but even at \$1000 its way more than the homeless can pay..What can they Pay? Maybe \$300 a month...MAYBE? There is no solution for that except public housing...and not next door to me but in an area away from tax paying families.

Let's be the city that has plan, and a successful way to treat our house-less community in a humane and supportive manner. Help these people who need a helping hand, instead of shuffling them all about the city. Humanity plays a huge part in this. The costs associated currently with picking up garbage weekly from these encampments, along with outhouses, costs the city quite a bit, not to mention the horrific issues in our neighborhoods, the unrest and the attraction of rodents, the incessant tagging, grafitti and theft to feed the drug addiction issues. Make it illegal to camp on the streets, and move all house-less people into a community that they can thrive, and get the food, shelter and care that they need, in a clean and safe space.

Please do not give up our parks and golf courses for this effort.

These are Portland's special jewels, and we need to protect their beauty, and our city sanctuaries.

Thank you for your time and reflection.

John Nicholas

Managing Partner

N.I. Properties

503-232-1299

From: [Jamie Silverstein](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony Re: S2HC
Date: Saturday, March 13, 2021 9:19:35 PM

Dear Council Members and Stakeholders-

We are writing to express deep concern about opening the parks for temporary shelter. We live off of Laurelhurst Park and we have seen the encampment deeply impact our community in negative ways. There have been instances of fire, drug use and verbal aggression towards our children and our neighbors. While we recognize that this is a complex problem with many systemic injustices and mental health issues that need to be addressed, we feel very strongly that opening the parks further to the houseless will result in immediate dangers. We have multiple households on our street with children under six years old (like ours) and the houseless impact is putting our children in harm's way and making the parks and playground areas unsafe. We have had to skip outside time in the past months so as to no witness drug use or be accosted by persons that are mentally unwell. To be clear, we support creating real sustainable solutions and shelters for the houseless and we will gladly send our tax dollars towards a resolution to that end. We just do not support a stop-gap measure that has no real safety policy for us and puts our young children in potential danger.

Please feel free to contact us for further discussion.

With care,
Jamie + Matt Van Auken

--



Jamie Silverstein

{she/her}

Founder / Studio Director

Senior Teacher - ERYT 500

[@thegrinningyogi](#)

Real Good People. Real Good Yoga

[Have feedback for us?](#)

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Camping in Portland Parks
Date: Sunday, March 14, 2021 5:47:49 PM

For March 17, 2021 2:00 PM Time Certain.

From: Richard Leonetti <rleo@alum.mit.edu>
Date: Sunday, March 14, 2021 at 11:37 AM
To: Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Ryan Office <CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Hardesty <joann@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, "City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero" <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>, "Wheeler, Mayor" <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Camping in Portland Parks

Camping in Portland Parks is an abominable idea.

No camping of any sort should be permitted.

Richard Leonetti
SW 3rd Ave

--

Richard Leonetti rleo@alum.mit.edu 503-219-9445

From: [Anna Bar](#)
To: [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Commissioner Rubio](#); [Commissioner Ryan Office](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Commissioner Mapps](#); [Clerk General](#)
Cc: [Todd Borus](#); [David O'Brien](#); [Kevin White](#)
Subject: Camping/shelter in parks is a terrible idea
Date: Sunday, March 14, 2021 12:55:22 PM

Hello commissioners and mayor,

I used to play sand volleyball in Delta Park on a regular basis, however the homeless camp moved in. Residents of the homeless camp would come over and harass us while we were playing and we did not feel safe continuing to play volleyball there. This is just one example of how our beloved parks have been ruined by the homeless camping situation. These are parks that taxpayers pay for and expect to use. The homeless people ruin the parks with their trash, drug use, and random acts of violence and assault.

It's not safe to send our kids to the playground at the park anymore if homeless people are allowed to live there. Please do not expand homeless sheltering option to include our parks.

I'm from New York and there is Not a single person living in Central Park. Or Prospect Park. Or any of the parks. New York has shelters and homeless people are moved to a shelter where they can live humanely and not use drugs. Portland has a lot to learn.

Sincerely,
Dr. Anna Bar

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Tina Abich](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: March 17 meeting Shelter to Housing Continuum
Date: Sunday, March 14, 2021 1:14:43 PM

Dear Council Members,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen currently living on SE Stark near Laurelhurst Park. My concern relates environmental safety at the park and around Sunnyside Environmental School.

We live 2 blocks from the houseless encampment at Laurelhurst and our children attend Sunnyside Environmental School where another houseless encampment surrounds the school. People from both encampments have moved back and forth during the sweeps.

In the past month, one of the men at the encampment at Laurelhurst was stabbed multiple times. We have witnessed psychotic behavior, aggression, used needles, trash strewn all around and open fires. We hear gun shots with more frequency. We have had increased crime and trespassing. Additionally, I am very concerned as summer approaches that we could find our park on fire. My husband works in wildfire and has expressed the same concern. A child we know was bitten by a dog owned by one of the houseless residents. The owner proceeded to berate our friends for walking near their tent.

The park is no place for people to live. There needs to be designated areas ie unused parking lots where there are hygiene stations and mental health workers with CADC credentials who can help address issues of trauma and chemical dependency. Parks are not the place.

Houseless encampments can not be allowed around schools. Our children return to school after spring break. Children will be walking to school alone. They should not be afraid that they may be approached by strangers who are psychotic or intoxicated or fear they may be bitten by off leash dogs.

I am a social worker and have great compassion for our houseless brothers and sisters. I fully support the city's efforts to seek safe spaces for them to transition from their houseless status. I am not supportive of utilizing public recreational spaces and areas around schools for this purpose.

Thank you for your attention.

Tina Abich, LCSW

"Be the change that you wish to see in the world"
-Mahatma Gandhi

From: [MaxineBurton](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: S2HC Proposed zone changes
Date: Sunday, March 14, 2021 2:32:20 PM

To Who This Ma Concern:

I am unable to testify at a the hearing for this zoning change. I would like to testify in writing that I am in strong opposition to this zoning change.

The article in the March 14th issue of the Oregonian addressed the enormous trash problem that Portland faces. As a resident of the Laurelhurst neighborhood in N.E. Portland, I have significant concerns about the burgeoning homeless problem that has plagued our neighborhood and our city. Ms. Hardesty's proposal will significantly exacerbate this problem. It is deeply concerning to me that Ms. Hardesty, though well intentioned as I believe she is, has not, apparently, thought through the serous and disturbing repercussions of passing these zoning changes.

I am strongly in support of addressing the homeless problem in a manner that will be effective. I have always voted yes to approve measures that address this problem, and will continue to do so. I feel that we need to allocate funds needed to build more shelters, affordable homes, and most importantly, funding mental health and job training and employment services available to homeless and imminently homeless individuals. It is unacceptable that we have not found ways to address this problem and the multitude of issues that the homeless face. However, making it easier to live on the streets and in parks is likely to make the homeless problem much worse, which then contributes to the public health and safety issues that currently exist. One needs only to look at our city to see the dramatic ways in which Portland and the surrounding areas have been impacted by allowing this situation to escalate without mobilizing the funds and services needed to clean up our city. Voting to pass this measure is unconscionable. It will not help the homeless, many of whom are living in unsafe and unhealthy conditions, and it will not help the health, vibrancy, and livability of our city.

Sincerely,

Maxine Burton

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: proposed zoning changes
Date: Sunday, March 14, 2021 5:47:41 PM

For March 17, 2021 2:00 PM Time Certain.

On 3/14/21, 2:52 PM, "MaxineBurton" <mxnburton@gmail.com> wrote:

Hello,

The article in the March 14th issue of the Oregonian addressed the enormous trash problem that Portland faces. I have significant concerns about the burgeoning homeless problem that has plagued our neighborhood and our city. I believe that Ms. Hardesty's proposal will significantly exacerbate this problem. It is deeply concerning to me that Ms. Hardesty, though well intentioned as I believe she is, has not, apparently, thought through the serious and disturbing repercussions of passing these zoning changes.

I am strongly in support of addressing the homeless problem in a manner that will be effective. I have always voted yes to approve measures that address this problem, and will continue to do so. I feel that we need to allocate funds needed to build more shelters, affordable homes, and most importantly, funding mental health and job training and employment services available to homeless and imminently homeless individuals. It is unacceptable that we have not found ways to address this problem and the multitude of issues that the homeless face. However, making it easier to live on the streets and in parks (particularly without support services to make this a viable and safe way of life) is likely to make the homeless problem much worse, which then contributes to the public health and safety issues that currently exist. One needs only to look at our city to see the dramatic ways in which Portland and the surrounding areas have been impacted by allowing this situation to escalate without mobilizing the funds and services needed to clean up our city and make it a safer place to live.

Sincerely,

Maxine Burton

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: proposed code changes to the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project
Date: Sunday, March 14, 2021 5:47:34 PM

For March 17, 2021 2:00 PM Time Certain.

From: mallory ferguson <malloryef@gmail.com>
Date: Sunday, March 14, 2021 at 3:43 PM
Subject: Re: proposed code changes to the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project

Dear Mayor Wheeler and members of the Portland City Council,

Our parks and natural spaces must remain open to the public.

As you consider the language for the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project, I strongly recommend the removal of Open Space Zones, including developed parks, natural areas, and trails, from consideration for the siting of either temporary or permanent houseless shelters EXCEPT for a declaration of emergency by the City Council due to a catastrophic natural disaster.

You will hear testimony on this issue, and you should conclude that there is already vacant and underutilized land available. You can conclude that allowing shelters in Open Space Zones is inequitable as it disproportionately affects BIPOC communities living without yards or outdoor spaces. You can conclude that access to parks, natural areas, and open spaces is a fundamental necessity for the physical and mental well being of all Portlanders and should not be infringed upon.

The houseless crisis in Portland needs solutions, and this is not one of them.

Very sincerely yours,
Mallory Ferguson

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Betsy Tong](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony AGAINST Open Space Zones
Date: Sunday, March 14, 2021 6:14:07 PM

To whom it may concern

I am writing in violent disagreement to the proposed use of public parks for camping. If you want to permanently chase tax paying and stable residents out of Portland, this is a perfect way to do it. Rampant homelessness, unabashed drug or alcohol issues or other already find our streets an easy place to bunk. At best, they fall into a drunken stupor on the sidewalk, at worst they yell obscenities, or defecate on the streets.

While I appreciate the City Council may not have the means to deal with this during the pandemic, allowing homeless to free rein to live in public parks in a time when this is one of the few places families can go is beyond me. I am strongly against allowing public camp grounds to grow as the city has allowed in the last year plus - please don't make it worse.

Regards,

Betsy

Mobile: 310-871-2455

Email: Betsy.q.tong@gmail.com

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Our Parks and Open Spaces are not the Answer to the Houseless Crisis
Date: Sunday, March 14, 2021 8:28:52 PM

For March 17, 2021 2:00 PM Time Certain.

From: Gabriela McIntosh <gabymcintosh@gmail.com>
Date: Sunday, March 14, 2021 at 7:10 PM
To: "Wheeler, Mayor" <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Hardesty <joann@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Ryan Office <CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, "City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero" <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Our Parks and Open Spaces are not the Answer to the Houseless Crisis

Dear Mayor Wheeler and members of the Portland City Council,

Our parks and natural spaces must remain open to the public.

As you consider the language for the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project, I strongly recommend the removal of Open Space Zones, including developed parks, natural areas, and trails, from consideration for the siting of either temporary or permanent houseless shelters EXCEPT for a declaration of emergency by the City Council due to a catastrophic natural disaster.

You will hear testimony on this issue, and you should conclude that there is already vacant and underutilized land available. You can conclude that allowing shelters in Open Space Zones is inequitable as it disproportionately affects BIPOC communities living without yards or outdoor spaces. You can conclude that access to parks, natural areas, and open spaces is a fundamental necessity for the physical and mental well being of all Portlanders and should not be infringed upon.

The houseless crisis in Portland needs solutions, and this is not one of them.

Very sincerely yours,

Gabriela McIntosh
444 SE 69th Ave. Portland 97215

From: [AJS](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Written Testimony Regarding Item #165
Date: Sunday, March 14, 2021 8:32:50 PM

Dear Members of Portland City Council,

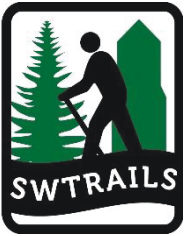
As a newly returned resident of NE Portland I have been met with disappointment since my return to Portland and the decisions being made by the City of Portland. While the issue of homelessness is a major one we need more action than sweeping the issue to the eastside of Portland. In my 6 years away I have seen my community hurt economically and have seen an increase in crime/theft. As a resident of the Glenfair neighborhood I have seen businesses leaving the area which has resulted in my community and those around us to be categorized as food deserts (thanks to the closing of two Safeways (181st and Halsey and 122nd and Glisan), a Target (122nd and Glisan), a K-Mart (122nd and Sandy), and a Fred Meyers (185th and Stark). As an already low income area the residents in this part of Portland now have to spend more time and energy seeking basic needs in order to live their lives. Now the city of Portland wants to add another layer on top of businesses going out of business and the increase in crime/theft by tossing all the homeless over here? The whole reason this side of Portland has so much available space for these shelters is that we keep losing resources due to the crime and businesses leaving. The residents in this area already feel that the City of Portland could care less about those East of 205 as we haven't seen any action from the city to help restore and build up this part of Portland. As a predominately minority and low income area we need the city's help not just heaping on more issues for this community. When was the last time those on city council or our Mayor ever been in this area of Portland? Can you answer that for us?

I am making these statements not as someone against helping the homeless population but as a concerned resident who cares about his community and wants to see our community thrive. If these homeless shelters need to be placed in our area then the city needs to also work on building up resources and ensuring that this low income community can support these new residents and ensure that there are programs in place to help these folks get the opportunity to get back on their feet or receive the mental health resources they require or ensure that they have an opportunity to live a more successful life while also ensuring the community is kept clean and sanitary. As we have seen throughout the COVID pandemic these homeless encampments can create some unhygienic conditions. We already leave our houses daily worrying about gun violence, theft and how to keep our families safe and provided for. I worry that if this area gets any worse we won't have any resources left as we continue to see daily or weekly another business leave this area. Help the homeless but also help out those living East of 205 as we feel forgotten and unrepresented.

Thank you for your time.

--

Alexander Sandage
Go Beavers



SWTrails PDX

Promoting walking and cycling in
SW Portland, OR

www.swtrails.org

Facebook @SwTrailsPortland

Follow @swtrailspx

March 15, 2021

Dear Mayor Wheeler & Members of the Portland City Council –

****Regarding the Planning and Sustainability Commission's recommended changes to the *Shelter to Housing Continuum Zoning Code* to be considered at your March 17th Council session, Item #166**

My name is Doug Rogers and I am the Board President for SWTrails PDX. We are an all-volunteer, nonprofit community organization working to promote the health and wellness of our neighbors by supporting walking and biking in the beautiful hills of SW Portland. We build and maintain trails, we work with the City of Portland to develop new routes for walking and biking opportunities for our neighborhood residents, and we advocate for more resources for SAFE walking, hiking, and biking.

We strongly agree with Multnomah County Commissioner **Sharon Meieran's**, statement in the 3-7-21 *Oregonian*: "There is a humanitarian crisis facing us in Multnomah county. Thousands of people are living outside in unsafe and unhealthy conditions, with inadequate shelter or medical care... unacceptable from a health, safety and human decency standpoint." Truly a shocking crisis for our very resourceful community that has more than enough to share for those in truly greatest need. ***Our City and our County must help those in need to come in out of the cold, and the rain, and be treated with the same decency and compassion that we provide for our own children and families.*** Action is needed NOW.

We have long been a partner with SW Neighborhoods, Inc. (SWNI) in support of those activities that will improve the quality of life for our local residents. We also support most of the concepts included in the *Shelter to Housing Continuum (S2HC) project* to help the houseless/homeless in our community. ***However, we do not support inclusion of Open Space Zones for consideration as temporary shelters, except for a declaration of emergency by the City council due to a catastrophic natural disaster.***

We agree with SWNI's #1 reason for this position: "There is no need to use Open Space Zones, including parks, natural areas, and trails, for shelters **as there are adequate vacant and underutilized sites available without the use of Open Space Zones.** Our coalition members are interested in working with partners to help identify *available sites in our neighborhoods, if needed*" (SWNI Testimony re: S2HC, March 12, 2021 – please see attached). For example, the city-owned, "Sears Army Reserve Center" on SW Multnomah Blvd (& 25th) has been used before, and is now available. SWNI volunteers then identified 4 other key supporting reasons not to include Open Space Zones for temporary shelters – please see the attachment with their detailed assessment.

THANK YOU for all your efforts to resolve this crisis. We know this is a complicated, complex problem that needs all of our citizens to support constructive change. There are no easy answers here, but we do want to *avoid sacrificing those hard earned and valued special places in our City – our parks and open spaces – that benefit the whole community just as they are now.*

DOUG ROGERS, President, SWTrails PDX

Board: **Doug Rogers** (president, 503-244-7703, rdouglasrogers@msn.com); **Deb Small** (vice president, 951-522-1567, dsmallster@gmail.com); **Lee Buhler** (treasurer, 503-227-0160); **Rita Fox** (secretary, 425-335-5358) **Don Baack** (Advocacy, 503-246-2088, baack@q.com); **Barbara Bowers** (membership); **Glenn Bridger** (Audit/Strategy, 503-245-0729); **Dave Manville** (Trails/Construction, 503-244-1005); **Barbara Stedman** (Social Media, 503-892-5180); **Brian Brady** (Website/ Maps, 503-956-4340); **Hans Steuch** (Audit/Signs, 503-504-8843)

Modified 20-05-14 dsmall



190380

Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc.

7688 SW Capitol Highway, Portland, OR 97219 (503) 823-4592

www.swni.org

March 12, 2021

**Testimony Regarding Shelter to Housing Continuum Project
City Council Agenda Item #166
Council Hearing Scheduled on March 17, 2021**

To Mayor Wheeler & City Council:

This testimony is on behalf of the SW Neighborhoods, Inc. and is being submitted by leaders of our Equity & Inclusion, Land Use, Parks, Schools, Public Safety, and Watershed Committees. We are residents of Southwest Portland who would like to help our houseless community members find the supportive housing, services, and shelter they deserve. Several of us have family members who are living on the streets due to mental illness or other disability, so understand these challenges first-hand. We are also advocates for our parks and natural areas and those who enjoy them.

As such, we support the Shelter to Housing Continuum (S2HC) project but do not support inclusion of Open Space Zones for consideration as temporary shelters, except for a declaration of emergency by the City Council due to a catastrophic natural disaster. Our reasons for this position are as follows.

1. There is no need to use Open Space Zones, including parks, natural areas, and trails, for shelters as there are adequate vacant and underutilized sites available without the use of Open Space Zones. Our coalition members are interested in working with partners to help identify available sites in our neighborhoods, if needed.
2. In many areas of Portland, there is already a shortage of park open spaces for use by the community so use of these spaces for any non-parks purpose should be restricted. Residents across the city, especially those without their own gardens and yards, depend on park access for essential recreation and their own mental and physical health.
3. Siting of shelters in parks will adversely impact the surrounding park area and intended land use, with possible harm to wildlife and other natural resources. City parks were not designed and are not appropriate, respectful places for people to live.
4. The houselessness of thousands of Portland residents is not a short-term emergency, rather it is an ongoing crisis. As such, the long-term planning that is required for this crisis cannot include an expectation that temporary shelters in parks offer a solution.

5. While park open spaces are not appropriate for shelters, park facilities could be resources in other ways, for example, informational signs on where/how to get services could be posted in restrooms and community centers, community centers could provide drinking water, showers, and possibly computer stations.

In summary, the residents of Southwest Portland would like to help work towards expansion of housing, services, and shelter solutions for houseless Portlanders. We value the work that has been done to prepare the Shelter to Housing Continuum proposal, and request that the proposal be changed to reflect that City Council would retain the authority to site temporary shelters in an Open Space Zone only during a declared emergency due to a catastrophic natural disaster such as an earthquake.

Thank you,

Leslie Hammond, President
SW Neighborhoods, Inc.

From: [Douglas Rogers](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Shelter to Housing Continuum Zoning Code, Item #166
Date: Sunday, March 14, 2021 9:14:21 PM
Attachments: [Mar. 17th Council testimony Re homeless.pdf](#)
[Testimony - Shelter to Housing Continuum .pdf](#)

Please see the attached testimony for March 17th City Council session (plus an additional attachment).

THANK YOU,

Doug Rogers, President, SWTrails PDX
4675 SW Cullen Blvd., Portland, OR 97221
503-244-7703 / rdouglasrogers@msn.com

From: [Greg Heinrichs](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Cc: [Linda Heinrichs](#)
Subject: Homeless encampments in public parks and lands
Date: Monday, March 15, 2021 10:17:25 PM

We all recognize the dire situation that homelessness has created for residents and those who find themselves in this terrible situation. We also recognize the significant damage the last 12 months has done to the image of this City, to the businesses and to the citizens. While I personally support causes like Sisters of the Road Café, the McDonald house and other organizations in the city I cannot see any positive effect of setting up encampments in the City owned properties. Doing so does not solve the problem and exacerbates the issues already faced by Portlanders. This is ill conceived and while you claim it is only for 180 days we already know that moving such encampments or disbanding them is even more traumatic to the residents and the surrounding areas. So 180 days will turn into years and with it the beauty and charm of Portland public spaces along with the ability of anyone else to use them will be decimated. Doing business in Portland is becoming hard enough right now. Please do make it worse.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Our Parks and Open Spaces are not the Answer to the Houseless Crisis
Date: Monday, March 15, 2021 11:11:11 AM

For March 17, 2021 2:00 PM Time Certain.

From: Jenny Bierce <jennifer.bierce@gmail.com>
Date: Monday, March 15, 2021 at 10:52 AM
To: "Wheeler, Mayor" <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Hardesty <joann@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Ryan Office <CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, "City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero" <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Our Parks and Open Spaces are not the Answer to the Houseless Crisis

Re: Proposed code changes to the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project

Dear Mayor Wheeler and members of the Portland City Council,

Our parks and natural spaces must remain open to the public.

As you consider the language for the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project, I strongly recommend the removal of Open Space Zones, including developed parks, natural areas, and trails, from consideration for the siting of either temporary or permanent houseless shelters.

You will hear testimony on this issue, and you should conclude that there is already vacant and underutilized land available. You can conclude that allowing shelters in Open Space Zones is inequitable as it disproportionately affects BIPOC communities living without yards or outdoor spaces. You can conclude that access to parks, natural areas, and open spaces is a fundamental necessity for the physical and mental well being of all Portlanders and should not be infringed upon.

Current campsites have overrun the city and have created an excess of trash and unsafe conditions for Portlanders. My home is currently surrounded by 5+ tents and campsites, and due to their occupants, I have been personally subject to verbal/physical harassment and witnessed raging tent fires and extensive drug use. By allowing campsite access in our parks you will remove an area that has remained a safe haven for tax paying Portlanders to enjoy and access the outdoors.

The houseless crisis in Portland needs solutions, and this is not one of them. This will only exacerbate this issue. Please vote against this.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Bierce

From: [Planning and Sustainability Commission](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Shelter to housing continuum - please remove open-space zones for considerstion
Date: Monday, March 15, 2021 1:22:37 PM

Julie Ocken
she/her
Strategic Projects
City of Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability
503-823-6041
1900 SW 4th Ave, suite 7100
Portland, OR 97201
www.portland.gov/bps

The City of Portland is committed to providing meaningful access. For accommodations, modifications, translation, interpretation or other services, please contact 503-823-7700 or use City TTY 503-823-6868.

From: K Dunn <kathiexx3@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 1:20 PM
To: Planning and Sustainability Commission <psc@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Re: Shelter to housing continuum - please remove open-space zones for considerstion

Dear Planning Commission members,

Creating an “outside zone” for the homeless to include parks **hurts our city already reeling from the pandemic.** It is not a good temporary or permanent solution. Opening city parks even in an emergency, opens the door to ruination of our dearly beloved Portland gems.

Let’s spend our tax money on permanent solutions that benefit the whole community. Use our tax money to provide more “Harbor for Hope” facilities, use the Wapato jail to be redesigned as a healthcare and temporary housing facility.

Thank you for your service,

Kathie Dunn

From: [Barbara McLean](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Trash, graffiti, homeless camps and Portland's big mess
Date: Monday, March 15, 2021 2:18:15 PM

Hello Portland City Commissioner and Mayor Wheeler,

I read an alarming article in the Sunday Oregonian, March 14, 2021, entitled Stumptown to Dumptown. I hope you have all read this article.

I have also been downtown and elsewhere and this city has been trashed.

There are a variety of reasons according to the article, however, one of the bigger reasons is: "Frustrating Fragmentation: Portland's sanitation system is anomalous among American cities of comparable size, with services sprinkled

across a vast array of bureaucratic silos and public-private partnerships.....Such fragmentation is a far cry from how things work in Seattle, Tucson and Los Vegas which have departments dedicated to sanitation.....The city of Las Vegas' Department of Operations and Maintenance, for example, is responsible for street sweeping, homeless camp cleanups and illegal dumping."

"Portland's way of doing things has long vexed those focused on keeping the city clean."

Why does "Portland's way of doing things" have to be so inefficient and ineffective? Hopefully, former mayor Sam Adams who has been tasked with making sense of Portland's ineffective system of city cleanup and maintenance, can make some progress.

I would like to point out here that that the taxpayers who live, work and pay taxes in this city should have some rights, too! It appears that homeless people have more rights than others who live in the city. They are allowed to plop their tents down and strew trash wherever they want with no consequences. Aren't there fines for littering? Not that homeless folks could afford fines, but shouldn't everyone be held accountable for their actions. As a city could Portland not provide more trash cans throughout the city?

And what about all the graffiti that has defaced the city? It's everywhere, on everything! Why is this allowed? What about a graffiti abatement team, that would be paid to patrol the city night AND day that would have the capability of arresting anyone found creating graffiti. A person so found would be required to both pay a fine and erase any graffiti that he/she created.

I read in the Oregonian article that prisoners used to pick up trash along the side of state roads but now are not doing that. What about paying homeless people a decent wage to pick up trash as well as get rid of graffiti? Build affordable apartments, tiny houses or whatever and then let homeless folks pay for rent by way of jobs in trash removal and the like. I think involving more citizens in the upkeep of their city will encourage them to be more responsible as well as civic minded.

It's obvious that many people who live in this city have no respect for the city or for the other people who also live in the city. I think all citizens

regardless of their income or status should be expected to help with the upkeep of the city. When I moved here in 1999 this was a great city. It was clean, very safe. The downtown was great and it was not frightening to be there at night. This has all changed.

I believe in America all have a right to peaceful protest, however, violence and vandalism should not be tolerated and must be appropriately dealt with. Perpetrators should be tried in a court of law, pay restitution for whatever damage they caused as well as clean up whatever damage has been caused. Please, let's not tolerate this anymore!

I think many Portlanders would be willing to come out and help clean up litter, and those who have made messes should also help! Let's not tolerate any more trashing and vandalism downtown! Let's enforce heavy fines and penalties!

You folks are the ones governing our city. I have to say that at the present time you are doing a poor job. Please step up, be strong, have courage and let's have a livable city again. Make sure that actions have consequences! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Barbara McLean

PS If Sam Adam's is going to create a "Clean and Green project" I would like to be part of that. 503-381-8296

From: [City Info](#)
To: [Inia McConnell](#)
Cc: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: RE: Code Changes for Homeless Camps In Parks
Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 3:29:58 PM

Hi Inia,
I'm also forwarding your e-mail to The Council Clerk so it can be included in public testimony regarding the code change.
Lisa

Lisa Leddy
311 Customer Service Representative
City of Portland, Office of Management and Finance
d: (503) 823-4000

-----Original Message-----

From: Inia McConnell <pineapplepdx@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 4:40 PM
To: City Info <cityinfo@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Code Changes for Homeless Camps In Parks

Dear Mr. Mayor,

I'm watching channel 8 news at 4:00 today when this news story comes on about changing city codes in Portland that will allow the homeless to set up camps in some designated public parks!! Not sure who's idea this is or where this is coming from, but are they insane!! The taxpaying citizens me being one will never go for such a critically bad idea to deal with Portland's homeless crisis your office is going to have to come up with another way to deal with this. You saw what the neighbors went through for nearly a year 2020 in the Laurelhurst neighborhood with the illegal homeless camps at Laurelhurst Park that was a disgusting nightmare and should have never been allowed to start it's a beautiful public park not an overnight campground. I really hope you rethink your recent plan to house the homeless in our city parks it's absolutely a bad idea and not the answer.

Respectfully,
Inia L. McConnell
Concerned Citizen of Multnomah
County

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jean Bryant](#)
To: [Wheeler, Mayor](#)
Cc: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: S2HC
Date: Monday, March 15, 2021 5:38:09 PM

Dear Mayor Wheeler and members of the Portland City Council,

As a avid supporter of Portland city parks and open spaces, I writing to strongly advocate for an important change in the language of Shelter to Housing Continuum recommendations from the Planning and Sustainability Commission. I ask that you remove “OPEN SPACE ZONES” from consideration for either temporary or permanent houseless shelters EXCEPT for declaration of emergency by the City Council due to a catastrophic disaster.

The heart-rending situation of the almost ubiquitous homeless in Portland is something that affects all of us in Portland. It is my opinion that there is a much better solution to the ongoing and getting worse problem than moving the tent cities from our city streets, sidewalks and on and off freeway ramps to our parks and open spaces, would be to utilize the available vacant and underutilized land that is currently available. We already have safe and hygienic space to house them without moving them to another “camping outdoors” situation.

What is happening in Portland is inhumane and unthinkable. All of us home owners pay plenty of property taxes to help build small livable spaces for the homeless. All of the people living on the streets is creating a depressing, toxic, unhealthy environment. Most of the tent camps have no means to toilet themselves, clean or get rid of refuse and garbage. There are block after blocks up and down Powell from 52nd to the freeway of piles and piles of trash, garbage and human waste. It encourages rats and is demeaning to live in a city that appears to just not care what it looks like or care about the poor people trying to live.

I moved to Portland in 1973 to start my 45 year career as an RN at OHSU. Portland was a vibrant, sparkling clean, proud and sassy city back then. So many people wanted to move here, that Governor McCall advertised “Welcome to Oregon, now leave”.

I was proud to invite our sister city from China to participate in our wonderful Dragon Boat races during the Rose Festival. I would be ashamed to have them see what we have become. We look like a city that has thrown up it’s hands and says “Oh well!”

Please keep our parks and open spaces clean, safe for families and wildlife who are losing more and more safe spaces as time goes by. Our Portland Parks has been a national example for the U.S. in the past. Please don’t allow our parks to become another area for tents pitched with garbage, rats, filth and homeless people so that no one feels safe going there. The parks should be available to all of us for our mental health. Tents and filthy conditions are not conducive to a healthy city. We look like we are A THIRD WORLD COUNTRY!!!!!!;’[=

These people need a leg up. Put our existing empty buildings and available housing that can be converted for this use. This is not a temporary problem. Please invoke a safe and healthy for all permanent solution.

Kind regards,
Jean Bryant
Sent from my iPad

From: [City Info](#)
To: [WILLIAM & CINDY ROCK](#)
Cc: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: RE: Reclassification of City Parks/Greenspace in violation of mandated protections
Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 3:26:25 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Hi William and Cindy,
I'm also forwarding your e-mail to The Council Clerk for public testimony.
Lisa

Lisa Leddy
311 Customer Service Representative
City of Portland, Office of Management and Finance
d: (503) 823-4000

From: WILLIAM & CINDY ROCK <c.rock@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 12:15 AM
To: City Info <cityinfo@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Reclassification of City Parks/Greenspace in violation of mandated protections

We are writing to express our absolute dismay at the latest attempt to change the status for the use of our city parks and green spaces to allow for vagrant camps and homeless villages. This is nothing less than malfeasance and negligence in governmental administration of the maintenance and beauty of our parks.

Recently we read that Ms. Hardesty is actually suggesting we allow an attempt to change our traditional protections for our parks to allow homeless villages and campsites. Evidently we are being groomed to look the other way and ignore the garbage, used needles, abandoned shopping carts, mattresses, furniture and stolen pets tied to tents, while these very same individuals deface and destroy the once beautiful city of Portland. Citizens of Portland have a lifelong history of using and paying for our parks and have a right to expect to see those tax dollars not be squandered with neglect or failure to perform the duties set forth in public service. We voters have mandated for the protection, maintenance and livability of our city and it's parks, as evidenced by city code. Evidently, some will use the pandemic and mass unemployment as an excuse to suddenly allow the destruction of the very properties we have paid to maintain and protect. The City of Portland was once a beautiful city, it's parks once a shining example of good stewardship and pride. During the 1970's and 1980's these parks led Portland to advance as one of the most 'livable' cities in America. This is no longer the case because the City Council has failed to address this population through use of our old vagrancy and litter laws, placement into temporary housing and work programs. The city has a backlog of thousands of calls from angry and concerned citizens reporting on the aggressive panhandling/camping/theft/litter generating campers all over the Portland area.

Portland's citizens are all shareholders in the future of our city and we demand that

City Council review it's failures to address the sudden influx of population that has chosen to live on our streets, accumulating trash and garbage in every campsite, destroying the very fabric of a city we cherish. Many of these campers are not from Portland, but are drawn here for the services we provide. The pandemic has dangerously worsened an already out-of-control increase in the number of homeless camping on our streets with close in exposure to a deadly, air born virus. Now we are supposed to allow this population to co-exist with these criminal freeloaders while we take are children and pets to the same parks that we have paid to use through our taxes? While some of the homeless simply cannot afford housing, many more are simply drug and alcohol addicted and suffering from mental illness. Many have criminal histories and are dangerous.

Please do not lessen the protections we have in place to protect our investment in this city. Portland deserves to be proud of it's city. Today, primarily because the council has not exercised firm limits with this vagrant population, our city is an embarrassment to the nation. Stop allowing the trashing of our city for political gain.

Cynthia and Bill Rock



Social Justice Coalition Letter in Support of Shelter to Housing Continuum

As organizations that fight for equity, inclusion, and social justice for every Portlander, **we call on Portland City Council to enact the Shelter to Housing Continuum (S2HC)** and embrace greater flexibility to provide stable housing and shelter to our city's most vulnerable neighbors.

Our city is in the throes of a housing and homelessness crisis, brought on by generations of exclusionary policy decisions, predatory capitalism, a fraying safety net, and a failure to plan for the future. As Portlanders who love our city and our neighbors, we have a collective responsibility to help solve this crisis and ensure a safe, stable place to live for every human being here.

Recommended by a unanimous vote of the Planning and Sustainability Commission, **S2HC is an important step toward making safe, stable housing and shelter a reality for all Portlanders, including the poorest among us.** City Council should enact S2HC without delay, reject proposals to weaken it, and embrace changes that give the city greater flexibility to find good sites for new housing and shelters.

S2HC provides thoughtful, humane tools to address houselessness:

- Lowers barriers to siting homeless shelters and associated services across the city.
- Gives permanent legal status to Outdoor Shelters like the Kenton Women's Village, when they are opened by public agencies and community-based nonprofits.
- Expands the legal Group Living options, making it easier to build alternative types of housing like dormitories, senior care facilities, co-housing, and single-room occupancy apartments.
- Allows a residential property to permanently host a recreational vehicle or a tiny house on wheels.

Each of these elements builds on proven, successful approaches to supporting our houseless neighbors through safe, stable living arrangements. **None of them pose the least risk to livability, health, or public safety.** They are what a welcoming city does.

Yet the City Council is hearing from voices asking for S2HC to be watered down or rejected entirely. These calls can generally be reduced down to “Some human beings do not deserve to live near me or my favorite places.”

That is not who we are, as Portlanders, and it is certainly not who we tell ourselves we want to be.

If we want to truly be a welcoming city, **we need to adopt S2HC and push it further:**

- Remove the blanket ban on Outdoor Shelters in Open Space zones and replace it with a process for City Council to approve sites on a case-by-case basis after a public hearing.
- Allow churches, faith-based organizations, and community nonprofits in low-density residential zones to site Outdoor Shelters on their property by right.
- Allow RVs and tiny houses on wheels on residential property if it uses approved sanitation solutions (rather than banning anything without a sewer line).

Adopting S2HC with these changes will help Portland reach our aspiration to be a compassionate, welcoming city. We urge you to do so without delay.

Signed by:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ● Portland: Neighbors Welcome | ● Unite Oregon |
| ● Community Alliance of Tenants | ● Portland DSA |
| ● The Interfaith Alliance on Poverty | ● Stop the Sweeps PDX |
| ● ShelterNow | ● Sunrise PDX |
| ● Street Roots | ● Business for a Better Portland |
| ● No More Freeways | ● Portland-Metro People's Coalition |
| ● Sightline Institute | |

From: [Diaz, Samuel](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Cc: [Kearl, Zach](#); [Allen, Seraphie](#); [Oliveira, Donnie](#); [Durbin, Andrea](#); [Engstrom, Eric](#); [Bond, Mark](#); [Montez, Chariti](#); [Lyons, Adam](#); [Carney, Shannon](#); [Glazewski, Matt](#); [Lujan Valerio, Rico](#); [Castro, Cynthia](#); [Bradley, Derek](#); [McNally, Matt](#)
Subject: Fw: Social Justice Coalition Letter in Support of Shelter to Housing Continuum
Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 9:53:12 AM
Attachments: [Social Justice Coalition Letter for Shelter to Housing Continuum \(1\).pdf](#)

Good morning,

Please include as part of testimony for Council Items 165 and 166.

Thank you,
 Sam

P.S. Copying Council Offices and BPS as an FYI.



Samuel Diaz
Senior Policy Advisor

Pronouns: He/Him/His
 1221 SW Fourth Avenue, Suite 340
 Portland, OR 97204
 Cell: (503) 823-8041
samuel.diaz@portlandoregon.gov
<https://www.portland.gov/wheeler>

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(503) 823-1125: 口笔译服务 | Chiaku me Awewen Kapas | अनुवादन तथा

व्याख्या | Устный и письменный перевод | Turjumaad iyo Fasiraad | Traducción e Interpretación
 | Письмовий і усний переклад | Biên Dịch và Thông Dịch |

From: Portland: Neighbors Welcome <team@portlandneighborswelcome.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 9:27 AM
To: Henry Kraemer <kraemer.henry@gmail.com>
Subject: Social Justice Coalition Letter in Support of Shelter to Housing Continuum

The City's email systems have identified this email as potentially suspicious. Please click responsibly and be cautious if asked to provide sensitive information.

Good morning,

This morning, more than a dozen of Portland's leading social justice organizations released a

joint statement in support of the Shelter to Housing Continuum, along with several amendments that would strengthen the city's ability to provide safe, stable shelter for Portlanders experiencing homelessness.

The letter is attached, and its full text is below. For follow-up, please contact Trisha Patterson from Portland: Neighbors Welcome at 360-986-2504.

Social Justice Coalition Letter in Support of Shelter to Housing Continuum

As organizations that fight for equity, inclusion, and social justice for every Portlander, **we call on Portland City Council to enact the Shelter to Housing Continuum (S2HC)** and embrace greater flexibility to provide stable housing and shelter to our city's most vulnerable neighbors.

Our city is in the throes of a housing and homelessness crisis, brought on by generations of exclusionary policy decisions, predatory capitalism, a fraying safety net, and a failure to plan for the future. As Portlanders who love our city and our neighbors, we have a collective responsibility to help solve this crisis and ensure a safe, stable place to live for every human being here.

Recommended by a unanimous vote of the Planning and Sustainability Commission, **S2HC is an important step toward making safe, stable housing and shelter a reality for all Portlanders, including the poorest among us.** City Council should enact S2HC without delay, reject proposals to weaken it, and embrace changes that give the city greater flexibility to find good sites for new housing and shelters.

S2HC provides thoughtful, humane tools to address houselessness:

- Lowers barriers to siting homeless shelters and associated services across the city.
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Each of these elements builds on proven, successful approaches to supporting our houseless neighbors through safe, stable living arrangements. **None of them pose the least risk to livability, health, or public safety.** They are what a welcoming city does.

Yet the City Council is hearing from voices asking for S2HC to be watered down or rejected entirely. These calls can generally be reduced down to “Some human beings do not deserve to live near me or my favorite places.”

That is not who we are, as Portlanders, and it is certainly not who we tell ourselves we want to be.

If we want to truly be a welcoming city, **we need to adopt S2HC and push it further:**

- Remove the blanket ban on Outdoor Shelters in Open Space zones and replace it with a process for City Council to approve sites on a case-by-case basis after a public hearing.
- Allow churches, faith-based organizations, and community nonprofits in low-density residential zones to site Outdoor Shelters on their property by right.
- Allow RVs and tiny houses on wheels on residential property if it uses approved sanitation solutions (rather than banning anything without a sewer line).

Adopting S2HC with these changes will help Portland reach our aspiration to be a compassionate, welcoming city. We urge you to do so without delay.

Signed by:

- Portland: Neighbors Welcome
- Community Alliance of Tenants
- The Interfaith Alliance on Poverty
- ShelterNow
- Street Roots
-

Unite Oregon

- Portland DSA
- No More Freeways
- Sightline Institute
- Stop the Sweeps PDX
- Sunrise PDX
- Business for a Better Portland
- Portland-Metro People's Coalition

Sincerely,

Trisha Patterson

—

[Portland: Neighbors Welcome](#) is a group of grassroots volunteers dedicated to ensuring that every present and future Portlander can find and keep a safe, stable home they can afford. Emails to team@portlandneighborswelcome.com currently forward to a few of us.

From: [tony](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Zoning
Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 10:08:56 AM

The East Portland community continues our voicing of concerns with this new proposal. In very recent history the East Portland community voiced strong concerns about the proposed Hansen Shelter project and suggested that Wapato would be a better location for the project. These concerns were ignored and the Wapato suggestion was dismissed out of hand as a non-workable solution. Now we know the Hansen Shelter was a disastrous failure and chased businesses out of the area before being shut down itself and the Wapato property is now housing one of the most lauded shelter operations in our area. So we demand that we are heard and heeded this time. We require these commitments to be a part of this new proposal: 1) Title 15 emergency housing declaration be allowed to expire thereby disallowing random camping within city limits. A new emergency declaration be declared so that these new codes may be implemented only for the duration of this new emergency declaration, not to exceed one year. 2) A new proposed shelter site map be drawn and posted for community review, that shows an equitable distribution of proposed sites in ALL communities of Portland. Dispute the East Side having more potential sites, they should be removed from the map until it shows an equitable distribution in ALL communities. 3) An enforcement plan needs to be explained and attached explicitly to this proposal stating that as new managed shelters are established, random unsanctioned camps will be shut down, removed, cleaned up and monitored so that they can not be reestablished. A one for one continuous progress report should be publicly available. 4) The management plan should be detailed for these new sites and naming who, specifically, is responsible for its implementation and results are to be published before any vote is taken.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [phyllis decristofaro](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Zoning
Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 10:12:27 AM

Dear Council members,

The East Portland community continues our voicing of concerns with this new proposal. In very recent history the East Portland community voiced strong concerns about the proposed Hansen Shelter project and suggested that Wapato would be a better location for the project. These concerns were ignored and the Wapato suggestion was dismissed out of hand as a non-workable solution. Now we know the Hansen Shelter was a disastrous failure and chased businesses out of the area before being shut down itself and the Wapato property is now housing one of the most lauded shelter operations in our area. So we demand that we are heard and heeded this time. We require these commitments to be a part of this new proposal:

1) Title 15 emergency housing declaration be allowed to expire thereby disallowing random camping within city limits. A new emergency declaration be declared so that these new codes may be implemented only for the duration of this new emergency declaration, not to exceed one year.

2) A new proposed shelter site map be drawn and posted for community review, that shows an equitable distribution of proposed sites in ALL communities of Portland. Dispute the East Side having more potential sites, they should be removed from the map until it shows an equitable distribution in ALL communities.

3) An enforcement plan needs to be explained and attached explicitly to this proposal stating that as new managed shelters are established, random unsanctioned camps will be shut down, removed, cleaned up and monitored so that they can not be reestablished. A one for one continuous progress report should be publicly available.

4) The management plan should be detailed for these new sites and naming who, specifically, is responsible for its implementation and results are to be published before any vote is taken.

Thanking you in advance for your consideration,

Anthony and Phyllis DeCristofaro

Summerplace residents

Be well, do good works and keep in touch.....Garrison Keillor

March 1, 2021

Dear Mayor Wheeler and members of the Portland City Council,

As parks, natural areas, & trails supporters, we are writing to strongly advocate for an important change in the language of Shelter to Housing Continuum recommendations from the Planning and Sustainability Commission. **We recommend the removal of Open Space Zones from consideration for either temporary or permanent houseless shelters EXCEPT for a declaration of emergency by the City Council due to a catastrophic natural disaster.**

We appreciate the consideration, research and thought that staff and commission members put into the S2HC report and its associated recommendations. The misery and distress that houseless people suffer in our community is a heart-rending consequence of decades of inequality, ill-considered policy and economic failures. Houselessness is not new to Portland but has grown rapidly in recent years and seems likely to continue to increase as we deal with the long shadow of this pandemic. We believe the majority of the recommendations will do much to help Portland address our houseless crisis.

Our concern is focused on the recommendation that allows temporary shelters in public Open Space. We recommend that Open Space, including developed parks, natural areas, and trails, be removed from consideration for siting of either permanent or temporary shelters. Our rationale is outlined below.

1. Availability of Vacant & Underutilized Land - Because adequate alternatives exist, there is no need to site temporary or permanent shelters in the Open Space Zone.

A BPS staff report to the PSC makes this abundantly clear: “The Buildable Lands Inventory showed us that we have plenty of land to meet the City's housing needs, for everybody. The constraint on affordability and shelter facilities is the cost of land and the cost of construction and operations, not the amount of available vacant and underutilized land. If we have enough land to house everybody, it is logical to assume we can fund space for the facilities used to shelter people currently not housed. So no, we do not need . . . Open Space to meet that need.”

2. Equity and Access - Allowing shelters in public open space removes that space from use for intended park purposes by everyone else.

Increasingly, Portland residents live in spaces with no yard or outdoor area whatsoever. As our population increases and densifies, the role of parks, natural areas and trails becomes more and more essential. Looking ahead, the need for even more parks and open space will be critical to maintain our region's livability for all. Changing the allowed uses for properties in the Open Space Zone makes it unavailable for its intended use.

Over the past twenty years, Portland voters have consistently approved tax measures to address inequities in access to parks, natural areas, and trails, most recently approving a

new Parks levy in November 2020, in the midst of the pandemic. Obviously, access to these special places is important to our citizens. We cannot betray that trust.

3. Physical & Mental Health - Nature is not just a nice thing to have – it is fundamentally important for our health, wellbeing and happiness.

Study after study has confirmed that regular contact with nature is required for mental health and well-being. When people visit parks and green spaces, they benefit from a reduction in anxiety, depression, and stress. Ensuring that these places are always there for *everyone* is critical for the health of our entire community.

The pandemic has highlighted the immensely important role that parks and natural areas play in a densely populated urban environment. On July 31, 2020, a *Washington Post* article entitled “Pandemic underscores how public parks shape public health” reported that “Traffic to local parks is up dramatically [in the pandemic] as people seek safe outdoor places for recreation. Online searches for terms like “trails near me” . . . have spiked to unprecedented levels in recent months.”

4. Negative Impacts on the Resource - The environmental impacts of outdoor shelter are real and are difficult, if not impossible, to mitigate.

Chapter 33.296 of the Portland City Code “allows short-term and minor deviations from the requirements of the zoning code for uses that are truly temporary in nature, will not adversely impact the surrounding area and land uses, and which can be terminated and removed immediately.” Siting permanent or temporary shelters in the Open Space Zone would be in direct conflict with the intent of this chapter. When protected and well managed, urban wildlife habitat makes important and measurable contributions not only to urban wildlife, but also to clean air and clean water. Sadly, these areas are already under stress. We see around us the negative environmental impacts resulting from unsanctioned camping in open space. It does not take long for the things we value most in our parks, natural areas and trails to be destroyed by overuse or inappropriate use. Siting larger, sanctioned camps or shelters in parks or natural areas, even on a “temporary” basis, is a policy decision that would do irreparable harm.

5. Long Term Character of this Emergency – Unfortunately houselessness is not a temporary problem.

In the event of an emergency caused by a natural disaster, such as an earthquake, there is no question that public open space must be made available for temporary shelters. The humanitarian crisis related to our houseless community certainly qualifies as an emergency, but it is an emergency that is ongoing and manmade. It must fall into a separate category.

The S2HC report acknowledges this fact in the 15.04 commentary: “Portland’s housing emergency was first declared in 2015 and has been extended several times. These extensions have highlighted that the need for shelter is not an episodic emergency, with a discrete beginning and end, but is a continuing crisis.” It is understood that the need

to provide shelter options for our houseless population will be required long into the foreseeable future. The fact is temporary shelters placed in the Open Space Zone would most likely not be temporary at all.

For the reasons outlined above, we believe there is no compelling rationale to support inclusion of Open Space for siting temporary or permanent shelters. The long-term impacts would be severe and the resources and time required for restoration would be extraordinary. Portland can and must do better than surrendering its parks, natural areas, and trails to any use, temporary or permanent, that jeopardizes their primary purpose - now and into the future.

In making this recommendation, we are not saying that parks have no role to play in helping to address the houseless crisis. On the contrary, Parks are already making a significant contribution. PP&R's restrooms are available to all park users at 70 parks throughout the city and, during the pandemic, the bureau has nearly doubled that amount in order to ensure access to hygiene. In partnership with five different school districts, PP&R hosts a free lunch program in the summer – complementing the program offered through the schools during the school year. Finally, Parks has always opened community centers in response to extreme weather conditions or other short-term emergencies such as Covid-19, and we support such temporary uses in these facilities.

With their talented team of parks and recreation professionals, we know there are myriads of other creative ways that PP&R can support the S2HC effort. However, siting shelters in public open space should not be one of them.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss this issue further. We also plan to submit testimony at the March 17 hearing.

Proposed Amendments to the S2HC Recommendations

- 1. Amend language in 33.296.030.G to remove the Open Space Zone from consideration as either temporary or permanent houseless shelters EXCEPT for a declaration of emergency by the City Council due to a catastrophic natural disaster such as an earthquake**
- 2. Amend language in the new provision 33.296.030.H to add an exception for the Open Space Zone.**

From: [Yvonne Montoya Morgan](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony for City Council Meeting RE: PSC Recommends Shelter to Housing Continuum Zoning Code changes
Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 10:48:27 AM
Attachments: [S2HC Proposed Open Space Amendments-1.pdf](#)

As a full-time resident/homeowner living in the Pearl District I strongly oppose the proposed Open Space Zones. Considering temporary or permanent houseless shelters in parks (i.e., Jamison Park, Tanner Park, Fields Park) is both unsafe and unsanitary for all residents. Not only is there land, as per the attached, there are numerous vacant buildings that can be used as ‘temporary’ shelters for the homeless.

As a loft resident/owner in the Pearl District, with no yard, we utilize the surrounding parks on a daily basis. We also have a small dog that enjoys walking in a ‘clean’ neighborhood. We have participated in the NW Neighborhood Associations Clean-up crew and appreciate the dedication of all the volunteers.

Allowing temporary shelters for the homeless in in parks will create an unsanitary environment during the current pandemic crisis would only invite more infections.

My vote is **NO** on considering the Shelter to Housing Continuum (Open Space Zones).

Thank you,

Yvonne Morgan
Pearl District Full-Time Owner/Resident

From: [Kirsty Lampi](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: public testimony on Amend Title 33 Planning and Zoning and Titles 8, 15, 17, 21, 29, and 30)
Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 10:59:34 AM

Kirsten Lampi
3803 SE11th Ave
97202

Please do not allow camping in public parks!! This would be a disaster for all our children who have only parks to play in! We play in Brooklyn Park, but the past few years more and more needles left behind by people illegally camping there have made it unsafe!!

Our parks are unsafe now, please use the money we voted to give you in Novemeber to make the parks safe again!!

Thank you!

Kirsten Lampi and my two children

From: [Craig Boretz](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Cc: [Craig Boretz](#)
Subject: March 17 Agenda items 165 and 166
Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 11:00:02 AM

Good Afternoon,

First, I would like to be able to read the language of the actual amendment to Title 33 Planning and Zoning. Where is this published?

Second, I have heard via social media that this amendment would allow camping in all public parks in Portland designed to accommodate a homeless population. This use of our parks is completely and totally outrageous. I strongly urge City Council to not approve such an amendment. Our parks are for the enjoyment of every citizen and especially our children. We cannot and should try to solve a societal problem by using this public resource. Certainly, there must be other options to satisfy the homeless crisis! Clearly there are sites available to the city to lease in order to establish outdoor camps if shelter needs are not sufficient. These camps should be provided trash and toilet services in order to keep them as clean as possible under the circumstances...

Once again, I strongly disagree with any amendment that would allow the use of our public parks for homeless campers!!!

Respectfully,

Craig Boretz

From: [Wheeler, Mayor](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: S2H Resolution from ICA
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 4:10:59 PM

From: Dean P. Gisvold <deang@mcewengisvold.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 11:27 AM
To: Wheeler, Mayor <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>
Cc: Commissioner Hardesty <joann@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Ryan Office <CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: FW: S2H Resolution from ICA

Mayor and Commissioners,

I have been authorized to send the following board resolution for the Irvington Community Association regarding our position on S2H proposal.

Dean Gisvold, board member

Resolutions of the Board of Directors for the Irvington Community Association

At its regularly scheduled monthly meeting, held virtually on Thursday, March 11, 2021, with a quorum present, the Board of Directors for the Irvington Community Association (ICA) approved the following recitals and resolutions.

Recitals

First, we know that the City has a significant homeless problem affecting all neighborhoods, including Irvington. Tent camping seems to be everywhere. Something has to be done, but we know that the City has many pressure points right now, such as recent court decisions which allow camping where other alternatives are not available. Another big problem is money, City revenues are down, and everywhere you look money is needed to clean up the City, get the plywood off businesses downtown and elsewhere, control and stop the violence, and defeat the virus. Will there be money for S2H? Will there be non profits, managers, and operators for the needed shelters? And what will happen when the foreclosure and eviction moratoriums expire?

Second, what appear to be well managed tent shelter areas (with adequate hygiene equipment and garbage services) at the east end, and just north of the Hawthorne Bridge, have been operating for several months without serious complaints as far as we know. This may be a good model to follow, but we have no idea about cost and manpower needs. Also we have heard good reports from Vancouver regarding the use of motels for temporary shelters. So there are alternatives to look at to see if they would work in Portland.

Third, all of the pictures in Vol 1 of S2H show an ultra-clean environment, tidy, and well kept, which is not what we now see on the streets and sidewalks in Irvington. You will remember when then Mayor Hales allowed camping in certain areas in the City. The unintended consequences were many; it did not work out well, and neighborhoods are bearing the brunt of the problem. We do not want to see a repeat. Whatever form and wherever located the shelters must be well funded and managed, with all necessary services.

Be It Resolved that ICA will support the S2H recommendations if the City:

1. Will clean up and move the current tent camps that now exist in Irvington and other neighborhoods in Portland to new shelters per S2H
2. Will manage or cause to be managed all new shelters, especially the outdoor shelters, and provide such shelters with all necessary services, such as housing units, sinks, showers, toilets, storage, and garbage pickup.
3. Will enforce rules and regulations that keep the shelters clean and well managed, and use City inspectors as part of the process, rather than rely on the complaint driven system we now have, which takes too long and does not work all that well.
4. Will have one City bureau in charge, and clearly identified to neighborhood residents.
5. Will provide adequate City funds to make the above happen for at least a three year period.

Submitted by Dean Gisvold, board member and land use chair, on behalf of the ICA. March 16, 2021.

From: [Brandon Manley](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Public Testimony Request - City Council Meeting 3.17 at 2:00 PM
Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 11:43:48 AM

Portland, OR City Council,

My name is Brandon Manley and I'm submitting written testimony for my opposition to the following item:

***165 TIME CERTAIN: 2:00 PM** – Amend Title 33 Planning and Zoning to facilitate the provision of shelter and housing options for Portlanders in need (Ordinance introduced by Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners Rubio and Ryan; amend Code Title 33) 3 hours requested for items 165-166

These recommended solutions are not good enough. I expect a better, more long-term solution that does not involve usage of public parks for a temporary homeless camp/shelter. I expect a solution from our elected officials that is permanent and manageable (similar to the transitional housing like Argyle Gardens which I live across the street from) and not this very weak and half-hearted attempt to appease a minority.

Fix the problem. Fix it once and for all and stop expecting the general public to be okay with your lack of oversight and general malaise as it relates to this issue.

I don't know when it became the responsibility of the general public to subsidize living expenses for an entire group of people; I'm willing to have my tax contributions go towards the long-term housing solution but not at the expense of our parks (especially since the general public just passed Measure 26-213, a five-year tax levy, will provide \$48 million each year to the parks bureau, on average, according to the city.)

Who the hell votes for a tax levy only to then follow up with the opportunity to trash the parks? Give me a break. Do Better. Seriously, do your job better. All of you.

Thanks,
Brandon Manley
405.227.8137

From: [Sara Bateman](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: S2HC Camping in Parks and Golf Courses
Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 12:01:29 PM

I am writing to submit my objection to the Shelter to Housing Continuum plan to allow camping in parks and golf courses and other public spaces. While I have compassion for the city's current houselessness problem, I don't consider this to be a fair or safe solution for those of us lucky enough to live in homes. As a woman with young children, this proposal would make me feel unsafe taking my children to play in parks. I would feel unsafe walking past the parks and golf courses in my neighborhood in order to get home from public transit or from the commercial areas of my neighborhood. I disagree with the idea that allowing camping on public property does anything to solve the houseless problem and instead only serves to alienate taxpayers the city relies on to fund social programs and to further destroy the livability and desirability of property ownership within the City of Portland.

Best regards,
Sara Bateman
City of Portland resident

Sent from my iPhone



FRIENDS OF
MARQUAM
NATURE PARK

March 16, 2021

Mayor Ted Wheeler- mayorwheeler@portlandoregon.gov
 Commissioner Mingus Mapps- MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov
 Commissioner Carmen Rubio- Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov
 Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty- joann@portlandoregon.gov
 Commissioner Dan Ryan- CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov

Re: Concerns about Shelter to Housing Continuum (S2HC) proposal

Dear Mayor Wheeler and City Commissioners,

We, the Board of Directors of the Friends of Marquam Nature Park, are dedicated Parks advocates who have volunteered for decades to make parks safe and accessible to all Portlanders. Recognizing the severity of the houseless crisis in Portland, we appreciate the efforts that the commission and staff have put into research, discussion, and finding solutions to such a complex problem. Everyone is entitled to a safe, sound, and secure structure to live in, with cooking facilities and sanitary services nearby. There are many vacant and underutilized sites, both indoor and outdoor, available all over the city that would make suitable locations for temporary shelters. These might include flat, grassy fields or paved areas within developed parks, where designated, contained, and organized camping facilities could be feasible. But these facilities cannot be safely situated in fragile, undeveloped Open Spaces (i.e., with Environmental Conservation or Environmental Protection zoning overlays), without tremendous long-term damage to the environment and impact on all park users.

We have serious concerns about the Shelter to Housing Continuum code revisions that would allow even temporary shelters to be created in our city's Open Space environmental zones. We request that Open Space environmental zones be removed from consideration for both temporary and permanent houseless shelters except in the case of a declaration of emergency by the City Council due to a catastrophic natural disaster.

Open spaces like Marquam Nature Park provide respite that is critical for physical and mental health, especially during the last year of the Covid lockdown. As important, if not more so, these areas are the last remaining vestiges of nature in our city. Park staff, citizens, and non-profits dedicate themselves to restoring the native vegetation, improving stormwater quality, supporting wildlife, and building trails so that citizens can enjoy and appreciate nature close to home. In addition, wildlife needs these green spaces and corridors in which to live and travel.

As we know from recent incidents, cooking and warming fires in natural areas pose a huge risk of wildfires. Building structures and adding tents on this land will mean trampling plants, compaction of soils, erosion, displacement of wildlife, and degradation of streams and wetlands. The damage could reverse decades of stewardship work done to restore and conserve this land and negatively affect the public health benefits these Open Spaces provide.

Please remove Open Space environmental overlay zones from consideration for both temporary and permanent houseless shelters. There are better, safer, more humane and sanitary places to house people that will not cause long-term irreparable damage to these natural areas.

Respectfully,

Bruce Murray, President
 Roger Brown, Vice President
 Sonja Connor, Secretary
 Robin Jensen
 Jo Grossmann
 Joanne Ruyle
 James Ruyle

From: [Wheeler, Mayor](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Concerns about Shelter to Housing Continuum (S2HC) proposal
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 4:10:47 PM
Attachments: [S2HC - FMNP testimony.pdf](#)
[ATT00001.htm](#)

From: Friends of Marquam Nature Park <fmnp@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 12:03 PM
To: Wheeler, Mayor <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Hardesty <joann@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Ryan Office <CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Re: Concerns about Shelter to Housing Continuum (S2HC) proposal

Dear Mayor Wheeler and City Commissioners,

We, the Board of Directors of the Friends of Marquam Nature Park, are dedicated Parks advocates who have volunteered for decades to make parks safe and accessible to all Portlanders. Recognizing the severity of the houseless crisis in Portland, we appreciate the efforts that the commission and staff have put into research, discussion, and finding solutions to such a complex problem. Everyone is entitled to a safe, sound, and secure structure to live in, with cooking facilities and sanitary services nearby. There are many vacant and underutilized sites, both indoor and outdoor, available all over the city that would make suitable locations for temporary shelters. These might include flat, grassy fields or paved areas within developed parks, where designated, contained, and organized camping facilities could be feasible. But these facilities cannot be safely situated in fragile, undeveloped Open Spaces (i.e., with Environmental Conservation or Environmental Protection zoning overlays), without tremendous long-term damage to the environment and impact on all park users.

We have serious concerns about the Shelter to Housing Continuum code revisions that would allow even temporary shelters to be created in our city's Open Space environmental zones. We request that Open Space environmental zones be removed from consideration for both temporary and permanent houseless shelters except in the case of a declaration of emergency by the City Council due to a catastrophic natural disaster.

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Respectfully,

Bruce Murray, President

Roger Brown, Vice President

Sonja Connor, Secretary

Robin Jensen

Jo Grossmann

Joanne Ruyle

James Ruyle

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: S2HC
Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 12:59:16 PM

For March 17, 2021 2:00 PM Time Certain.

From: Linda Pineo <lpineo@gmail.com>
Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 12:42 PM
To: "Wheeler, Mayor" <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Hardesty <joann@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Ryan Office <CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, "City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero" <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>, BPS Mailbox <BPSMBX@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: S2HC

Dear Mayor and other elected officials,

The proposed Shelter to Housing Program seems poorly planned. I am a resident in East Portland, having moved from Iowa about 10 years ago. At first we were impressed with Portland, but since that time, we have seen the dirty "camps" move further east and grow exponentially.

We believe homeless people should be able to live in a safe, clean environment, but so far the homeless "camps" just get worse. Good suggestions, like the wapato property, that really seems to have wonderful resources right at hand and truly give people help to improve their lot, were initially turned down while local businesses have suffered the scourge of the camps and projects like the ill-conceived Hansen Shelter.

Rather than permanently changing zoning and permanently blessing these disgusting camps, why not consider this an "emergency" and treat it as such, changing the codes just for the duration of the emergency, and limiting it to a time period, such as 1 year or 18 months. Who wants to have "permanent" camps?

The proposed shelter site map has a preponderance of sites on the east side. This should be redrawn so that an equitable number of potential sites are distributed in all communities.

An enforcement plan needs to be set up so that the managed shelters are kept clean, and as they are established, unsanctioned camps should be shut down and monitored so they don't come back. A progress report detailing the removal of an unsanctioned camp for the building of each shelter site should be readily available.

So often Portland starts a project and there is no oversight or true management. The Shelter to Housing plan should tell who is responsible for making sure that these things happen.

We live in a very nice neighborhood (Summerplace), but we feel as if we are poor country cousins compared to the west side of Portland, which has many more amenities and huge magnificent parks. It doesn't seem fair to add more less desirable areas to this part of Portland.

Thanks,

Linda Pineo

From: [Charles Morgan](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Hearing on homeless camps in public places
Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 1:01:13 PM

This is a very human issue ...we don't have shelters for homeless people living in the streets for the same reasons we don't have public toilets, family leave policies, child care subsidies/facilities, a decent minimum wage, decent benefits for employees, unions, health care for all, and why we do have "contract employees" vs. employees, inadequate schools, underpaid teachers, and exhausted women juggling the work of three adults. and the ever discussed and unacted-upon crumbling infrastructure...etc. We have chosen personal profits over the public good. This is the Wild Wild West, rife with guns and booze and Proud Boys, unsuitable for women and children and domestic life in general. We once were a first world country. Now, we are a mean-spirited "once-was" broken land of greed and disinvestment.

From: [Corey Barrett](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Shelter to housing continuum project
Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 2:18:19 PM

I am writing to strongly oppose the proposal that would allow the use of Portland parks for camps and shelters. This is not the solution. I use the park near my house regularly, as do many of my neighbors. Kids playing. People walking their dogs. Couples hanging out in the sun. None of this would happen anymore if the park were converted to a homeless camp.

Focus should be turned to mental and medical health care and opportunities to foster equal opportunity.

Corey Barrett
NW Portland

Sent from my mobile

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Shelter To Housing Continuum Project
Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 2:25:32 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)

For March 17, 2021 2:00 PM Time Certain.

From: Christopher Masciocchi <masciocchi@mac.com>
Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 2:19 PM
To: "City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero" <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Shelter To Housing Continuum Project

Auditor Caballero,

I just wanted to thank you for your service to the city and for the integrity you have both shown and encouraged.

I also wanted to share the email I just sent to the Mayor and City Council. It's time for us to walk our talk and actually **BE** the sustainable, forward thinking, equitable and diverse city that we love to **SAY** we are.

Mayor Wheeler

I strongly urge you to reject the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project. Not only does it not address any of the causal aspects of this profound Public Health Crisis, it addresses the symptoms in ways that potentially will do far more harm than good.

Last year the citizens of Portland made two things very clear by voting to tax ourselves even more: Our parks and public spaces are extremely important to our collective health and well-being and that it is way past time to address the insanity of having people literally living in the streets. This proposal not only does *not* protect our public spaces, it "solves" the houseless situation by concentrating the problem in camps in our neighborhoods with no guidelines on where or how concentrated those camps can be or what impact these shelters will have on the surrounding areas. This feels like an enormous abdication of responsibility. If anything we should be going out of our way to make sure there are very strict guidelines for shelters and camps. Worst of all, the original maps that showed the vast majority of shelter "opportunities" east of 82nd Avenue, in the form of large parking lots and abandoned or underutilized businesses, willfully ignore that those very qualifications are evidence of profound disinvestment and neglect. Putting homeless camps in these areas is the exact opposite of what needs to happen here. It's time to *invest* in East Portland, not continue dumping on it. The irony is that concentrating even more poverty and desperation at the periphery, where citizens already feel marginalized and neglected, is likely to destroy more small

businesses and tip even more people into homelessness!

I am proud to live in a city that seeks to find compassionate solutions to the homeless situation, but it is imperative that we extend equal compassion to the tax paying citizens that pay for the parks and infrastructure that we can no longer safely use. Let's start over, think holistically, bring EVERYONE to the table from the start and make a commitment to have ONE unified city where every neighborhood shares an equal burden and where we work together to solve these issues at the causal level.

Many Thanks,
Christopher Masciocchi
503.242.2999



[FRIENDS OF GATEWAY DISCOVERY PARK](#)



FRIENDS OF HAZELWOOD HYDROPARK



HAZELWOOD



FRIENDS OF TREES



GATEWAY GREEN

GATEWAY GREEN

From: [Joan Sterrett](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Re: Hearing on S2HC
Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 3:32:05 PM

Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners:

The details of this Bill are very complex and the solutions within are not compatible with zoning or have consideration for public welfare which includes safety and sanitary conditions.

The department of sustainability and Planning, proposing this Bill proclaimed in 2015 the lack of affordable housing. In the past 4 years the department has issued permits for multiple Apartment Buildings in Portland. Why did they ignore the inclusionary housing act for these projects? A thousand affordable units could have been attained.

Chapter 33.296 Portland City Code which would allow temporary shelters (tents) in Open spaces is contrary to the intent and use of these treasured areas. During the Covid pandemic, Parks, Beaches, and Forest trails have been highly used, outlets for the immense solitary world we were plunged into last year. Allowing Temporary Shelters in them would negate the solitude and freedom persons experience there. Temporary would evolve into permanent shelter as evidenced by the number of tent sites already established in the city.

All authority to control what has befallen Portland by these transient groups has not succeeded.

In that respect, has any department of the City/County/State had any meaningful conversations with members of these compounds to ask the reason they are on the streets?? Central City Concern is inundated with Drug patients, Outside In Teens without family support. These agencies supported by City, State, Fed, and public monies, they are doing their share of help. The tent people have become additional problems, getting to the core of their plight so far has not been sought then analyzed on a personal basis. Like an illness, symptoms usually determine cause for a Doctors medical probes after which prescribed treatment is suggested. In reality, government is spending money on stop gap measures without specific knowledge of the campers illness' hypothetically.

Solution Suggestions: Providing land for R.V.'s Trailers, Campers; such as the Trailer Parks of yesteryear for those who call a vehicle home.

Tent sites could also fall into that category. Dignity Village for example on NE Sunderland was a successful plan. Sam Adams, Vera Katz assistant at the time, knows how that evolved.

Sincerely, Joan Sterrett

From: [Lynne Hanson](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: S2HC Proposed Changes 165 & 166
Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 3:36:30 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

I strongly support the proposed expansion of options for people without housing and basic human rights to supportive services. It is clear that these issues will not solve themselves. I fail to see how clearing out one homeless camp after another serves any purpose other than appeasing the nearby neighborhood complainants. This year more than any year, the need has grown exponentially due to multiple factors, and it is clear that solution-focused changes are needed.

As a former social worker, I am aware of the multiple challenges that those without shelter face, and how each aspect impacts with the other issues. Lacking housing exacerbates everything for persons in this situation, and currently it is extremely difficult to obtain the varied and extremely necessary services which would facilitate the ability to move beyond the current situation.

The proposed changes would also facilitate the general public, if the hazards of homelessness were mitigated. It would help to eliminate the many fires accidentally started in impromptu camps, decrease the garbage and human waste that accumulate out of necessity, and could possibly lead to different distribution of dollars and manpower currently required to move people out only to have them start over, no better off than before.

It is important to recognize that those in camps or on sidewalks or under bridges are people. They are people who have had issues of many types, and are people who deserve to have access to housing, food, sanitation, mental health access, substance abuse treatment, and in many cases the resulting physical issues which develop living in such inadequate circumstances.

I strongly urge the proposed changes. Please consider carefully and choose to take the steps necessary to expand services in these areas.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynne A Hanson
PO Box 19175
Portland, OR 97280
lynne.hanson@gmail.com

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Lynne A. Hanson
State-Certified Residential Appraiser
(503) 475-6520

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Please vote NO on the PCC Shelter to Housing Continuum Project Proposed Open Space Amendment.
Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 4:47:53 PM

For March 17, 2021 2:00 PM Time Certain.

From: Jeanne Farr <jeannemfarr@gmail.com>
Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 4:16 PM
To: "Wheeler, Mayor" <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Ryan Office <CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, "City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero" <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Please vote NO on the PCC Shelter to Housing Continuum Project Proposed Open Space Amendment.

Please vote NO on the Portland City Council Shelter to Housing Continuum Project Proposed Open Space Amendment.

This amendment would be catastrophic for Portland residents and businesses already hit by the pandemic and mob violence.

Were our parks, the respite for nature and play for our community's children and families (from all over the metro area) converted into homeless encampments:

- public safety would decrease;
- crime would increase;
- local businesses would not survive;
- property values would plummet;
- tax dollars shoring up city infrastructure would be reduced;
- people would flee from this city;
- larger companies would leave Portland;
- unemployment would increase;
- Portland's quality of life for all citizens would be deeply and negatively impacted; and
- tourism would tank.

This incredible, creative city, in the midst of healing and rebuilding, would be dealt a blow that it may not survive. Such a deterioration of city life would negatively impact all residents of Portland and the outlying areas because we are interdependent with our business community and the services they offer.

While perhaps well intended, this amendment does not address the problem. It would in fact make it worse. Were this to pass, homeless people from other states would come here to seek community.

Please do not allow this proposed amendment to pass and utterly destroy the fabric of this already fragile city.

Thank you for reading my testimony.

Jeanne Farr
Portland Resident

From: [Bennett](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: written testimony to remove Open Space zones from consideration for houseless shelters
Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 6:16:53 PM

March 15, 2021

Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners Hardesty, Mapps, Rubio and Ryan:

I am writing concerning the Shelter to Housing Continuum and strongly advocate for an important change in the language to **remove Open Space Zones from consideration for either temporary or permanent houseless shelters, EXCEPT for a declaration of emergency by the City Council due to a catastrophic natural disaster.**

I spent the bulk of my professional career as a landscape architect designing public spaces. I know how valuable our parks and natural areas are in providing urban dwellers with connection to nature, outlets for peace and reflection, and opportunities for community gatherings. Contact with nature is essential for our health and well-being, and this importance has been highlighted by the pandemic more strongly than ever. Portland needs a system of well cared for parks and open spaces that are safe, accessible and clean for all to use.

We can clearly see the impact that homeless camps are having throughout our city. Where they appear, garbage, human waste and debris follow. The long-term impacts of this use can and will be significant. The problem is clearly out of hand in our city and needs to be addressed. Fortunately, areas of vacant and underutilized land exist to meet the need in a structured way.

Our valuable parks and open spaces are **not** suitable places to meet the need of the homeless. Voters have made their voices heard over and over through passage of park bond levees that ensure our parks are maintained and enhanced. Our parks and open spaces are essential to the livability of Portland, they are treasured and **MUST** be protected.

I plead with you to make the sensible choice and:

1. Amend language in 33.296.030.G to remove the Open Space Zone from consideration as either temporary or permanent houseless shelters EXCEPT for a declaration of emergency by the City Council due to a catastrophic natural disaster such as an earthquake

2. Amend language in the new provision 33.296.030.H to add an exception for the Open Space Zone.

Respectfully submitted,

Bennett Burns

1485 SW Cardinell Drive

Portland Oregon 97201

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Our Parks and Open Spaces are not the Answer to the Houseless Crisis
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 9:41:17 AM

For today's 2:00 PM Time Certain.

From: roberly cotton <roberlycotton314@yahoo.com>
Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 7:16 PM
To: "Wheeler, Mayor" <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Hardesty <joann@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Ryan Office <CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, "City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero" <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Our Parks and Open Spaces are not the Answer to the Houseless Crisis

Re: proposed code changes to the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project

Dear Mayor Wheeler and members of the Portland City Council,

Our parks and natural spaces must remain open to the public.

As you consider the language for the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project, I strongly recommend the removal of Open Space Zones, including developed parks, natural areas, and trails, from consideration for the siting of either temporary or permanent houseless shelters EXCEPT for a declaration of emergency by the City Council due to a catastrophic natural disaster.

You will hear testimony on this issue, and you should conclude that there is already vacant and underutilized land available. You can conclude that allowing shelters in Open Space Zones is inequitable as it disproportionately affects BIPOC communities living without yards or outdoor spaces. You can conclude that access to parks, natural areas, and open spaces is a fundamental necessity for the physical and mental well being of all Portlanders and should not be infringed upon.

The houseless crisis in Portland needs solutions, and this is not one of them.

Very sincerely yours,

Roberly Gonzales

From: [info](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: written testimony for Council meeting 3.17.2021 *165 & *166
Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 7:56:21 PM

3.17.2021

RE: Amend Code Title 33, 8,15,17,21,29,30

I believe the need for concrete ideas moving into the correct action for the growing houseless community across our tri-county area, more specific, the City of Portland.

I have had my business at Union Station for the past 46 years, I have lived with the houseless community for many, many years in this area, I know what works and what does not.

- Provide transparency on planning efforts for addressing within the growing houseless community.
- Require experienced management teams/facilities be in place before placement for occupancy. Example: If you can put a nurse into a high school, you can do the same idea in a facility.
- Encourage the movement of individuals toward services provided by low barrier shelters and enclosures and or moved to other designated safe locations much like an expansion of Dignity Village.
- Use Dignity Village as an example of supervising their community, rules, standards are required for occupancy.
- “Sunset” clause required to assure a timeline for your proposed temporary 180-day plan.
- A county or city park like setting is no place to set up a housing project of any kind. Housing can be a hotel/motel room, tiny house, etc. These could be converted into permanent housing.
- Create a center in each neighborhood where the houseless are currently occupying outdoor spaces. Staffed with the essential personnel necessary to create the services needed.
- Stop concentrating services in urban areas. Houseless communities are across the City, facilitate your services in many neighborhoods in the appropriate buildings near the need of houseless populations, not concentrated in East county or the urban core of downtown Portland.

Adele' Nofield
Wilfs Restaurant & Jazz Bar
800 NW 6th Ave.
Portland, OR 97209
503.223.0070
info@wilfsrestaurant.com

From: [Joe Petrina](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: [User Approved] Re: Testimony
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 8:19:02 AM

Housing shelter

My name is Joe Petrina. I've lived in Portland all my life. I'm 67 years old and I'm disappointed in the way our city is Handling the homeless population. Clearly these citizens need our help however I just don't believe in the way we're helping them. They need social programs. They need housing. They need potential jobs. They need drug counseling. They need permanent shelters for those that can't work.

We just Voted for a Metro tax funding \$250 million to help cover Homeless services. The new tax and it's distribution seems very vague and concerned that administrative cost will overrun the actual benefits For shelters in counseling.. How do we make All the jurisdictions in the Tri-County area accountable for these funds so they are distributed correctly and effectively. According to the ballot there should be no more than 5% of cost going towards administration.

Tell me how we're going to be able to account for that?

I just want to make a couple points. I believe Parks should not be used as campsites. They are to be used by the public and families, and walking your dogs, in places for tourists to visit.

They shouldn't be use this place is that people can litter. They shouldn't be used as places that people can use as outdoor bathrooms without any sanitation..I don't think tents should be legal at all. I think we should be providing The homeless small pre-manufactured shelters. Here's a brief story In our beautiful forest park.

A Friend of mine was threatened in Forest Park on 2 occasions

A Homeless person ranting and threatened a local resident (my friend) and her dog to kill them. It really doesn't matter if he intended to or not but it's threatening.

Another experience was she had walked up to the park and witnesses a naked homeless person walking around the park. I believe it is against the law to be naked on public property. How do we consider this normal or acceptable?

What would happen if that happened to you or your wife or your child or your husband or your partner experienced the same thing? How would you react....?

It's not legal to litter. Or abandon cars appliances, RVs, mattresses, human feces, plastic bags, food remnants, clothing, tires, and multiple other items, left for someone else to pick up. Is this considered normal or acceptable?

The filth is unacceptable....

What may I ask is considered normal today and acceptable by the million plus people living in the Tri-County area and how does the council consider any of these crimes as normal?

VOTE NO OR AMMEND S2HC TO EXCLUDE OPEN SPACES IN PARTICULAR

PUBLIC PARKS

Sent from my iPad

On Mar 16, 2021, at 8:54 AM, Council Clerk – Testimony
<CCTestimony@portlandoregon.gov> wrote:

Hello Joe,

It looks like your last email didn't contain any information in the body or attached.
Could you please resend?

Thank you,
Council Clerk's Office
Office of the City Auditor: Operations Management: Council Clerk
City of Portland | 1221 SW 4th Ave., Room 130 | Portland, OR 97204
[Learn about the Auditor's Office](#) | [View the current Council meeting agenda](#)

-----Original Message-----

From: Joe Petrina <joepetrina1@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 9:47 PM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony <CCTestimony@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Testimony

To all

Sent from my iPad

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Our Parks and Open Spaces are not the Answer to the Houseless Crisis
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 9:41:04 AM

For today's 2:00 PM Time Certain.

From: Audrey Tollefson <taudrey@comcast.net>
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 at 7:34 AM
To: "Wheeler, Mayor" <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Hardesty <joann@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Ryan Office <CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, "City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero" <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Our Parks and Open Spaces are not the Answer to the Houseless Crisis

Dear Mayor Wheeler and members of the Portland City Council,

Our parks and natural spaces must remain open to the public.

As you consider the language for the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project, I strongly recommend the removal of Open Space Zones, including developed parks, natural areas, and trails, from consideration for the siting of either temporary or permanent houseless shelters EXCEPT for a declaration of emergency by the City Council due to a catastrophic natural disaster.

You will hear testimony on this issue, and you should conclude that there is already vacant and underutilized land available. You can conclude that allowing shelters in Open Space Zones is inequitable as it disproportionately affects BIPOC communities living without yards or outdoor spaces. You can conclude that access to parks, natural areas, and open spaces is a fundamental necessity for the physical and mental well being of all Portlanders and should not be infringed upon.

The houseless crisis in Portland needs solutions, and this is not one of them.

Very sincerely yours,

Audrey Tollefson
Sent from my iPhone

March 17, 2021

Ted Wheeler, Mayor
 City Commissioners
 1220 SW Fourth Avenue
 Portland, OR 97204

Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners,

I am writing to ask you to address two crises that are raised in the recommended Shelter to Housing Continuum. One is humanitarian, the other ecological. The first relates to a lack of affordable housing and homelessness. The second stems from degradation of the city's and Metro's natural area parks and ecologically sensitive lands as a result of widespread encampments. Today you have the opportunity and moral obligation to tackle both of these challenges.

I urge you to adopt the recommendations contained in the proposed Shelter to Housing Continuum code rewrites which take Open Space off the table for permanent shelters. This is consistent with the recommendation of the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability staff and the Planning and Sustainability Commission.

However, I also urge you to eliminate all lands with an Environmental Conservation (EC) or Environmental Protection (EP) overlay, regardless of the underlying zone. This is important because not all EP or EC environmental zones are necessarily in the Open Space Zone. I ask you do the same for floodplains, natural hazard lands, and regional trail corridors such as Springwater on the Willamette; Springwater Corridor; and 40-Mile Loop. All of these areas are both inappropriate for individual or group camping owing to the fact that those uses negatively impact these areas, are far from services, and are "out of sight, out of mind" and fail to provide humane living conditions.

Temporary Shelters: I also ask that you ensure the city's parks and natural resources are protected from random and sanctioned encampments. I urge you to remove the city's and Metro's natural area parks and regional trail corridors such as Springwater on the Willamette; Springwater Corridor; and 40-Mile Loop from consideration for temporary shelters.

Please amend 33.296.030.H (page 78, Volume 2, Shelter to Housing Continuum) as follows:

"This new provision accommodates the temporary operation of a mass shelter or an outdoor shelter on a site in all zones, with the exception of city and Metro's publicly owned natural area parks; land with an Environmental Conservation (EC) or Environmental Protection (EP) overlay; floodplains, and natural hazard lands, and regional trail corridors such as Springwater on the Willamette; Springwater Corridor; and 40-Mile Loop, of the city for up to 180 days within a calendar year."

Finally, while the Shelter to Housing Continuum code changes does not directly address it, there is a second issue that also constitutes an ongoing emergency. The issue is

unsanctioned individual and large encampments. Land managers in the city and at Metro have documented both the ecological and significant financial impacts individual camping and larger encampments have had on their properties. The environmental impacts include: soil compaction, cutting of trees, removal of understory vegetation, human waste in streams and wetlands, wildlife harassment, wildfire, millions of dollars of restoration undone and millions more in additional restoration, irreversible loss of ecological functions.

These impacts are not restricted to City of Portland parks and natural areas and Bureau of Environmental Services water quality and natural area restoration sites. Metro Parks and Nature program has also submitted testimony to the Planning and Sustainability Commission documenting impacts to their properties. I have included a PowerPoint presentation with images from Metro, the Johnson Creek Watershed Council, and my own photos that illustrate the ecological impacts and inhumane living conditions in the city's and Metro's natural areas, floodplains and Environmental Protection and Environmental Conservation zones.

Many find these images troubling; and they are. They are not intended to discredit or otherwise denigrate those who find themselves without alternatives to camping in publicly owned natural areas or on ecologically sensitive areas. They represent the dual crises of homelessness and ecological degradation. Much public commentary and testimony decry the widespread impacts of trash or littering. Those impacts, while they do represent a legitimate quality of life concern, are ephemeral. My concern is the long term, and in some instances irreparable, impacts on the city's natural resources. They also illustrate the inhumane living conditions that predominate in these areas. The city must provide alternatives to these conditions. There are no silver bullets but adoption of the Shelter to Housing Continuum code changes, with the amendments I have suggested, is one program.

Respectfully,
Mike Houck
Park, Trail and Natural Area Advocate
2433 NW Quimby Street, #4
Portland, OR 97210
503-319-7155
mikehouck@urbangreenspaces.org

cc Metro Council
Jon Blasher, Metro Parks and Nature

190380

*Portland City Council Hearing
Shelter to Housing Continuum
Wednesday, March 17 2021*

*Impacts of Camping In
Natural Areas*

Mike Houck

It's not about litter or trash. There are myriad negative impacts on natural area parks, streams, rivers and fish and wildlife habitat

- Inhumane Conditions
- Habitat Destruction
- Soil Compaction
- Water Pollution
- Wildlife Harassment
- Wildfire Danger
- Public Safety
- Millions of dollars of restoration undone
- Some areas may never recover

Dam on Johnson Creek

190380



190380

Johnson Creek Debris Flow



Johnson Creek Fire Damage Exploded Propane Tank

190380



190380

Johnson Creek Soil Compaction & Tree Removal



190380

Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge



190380

Willamette Cove



190380

Willamette Greenway



190380



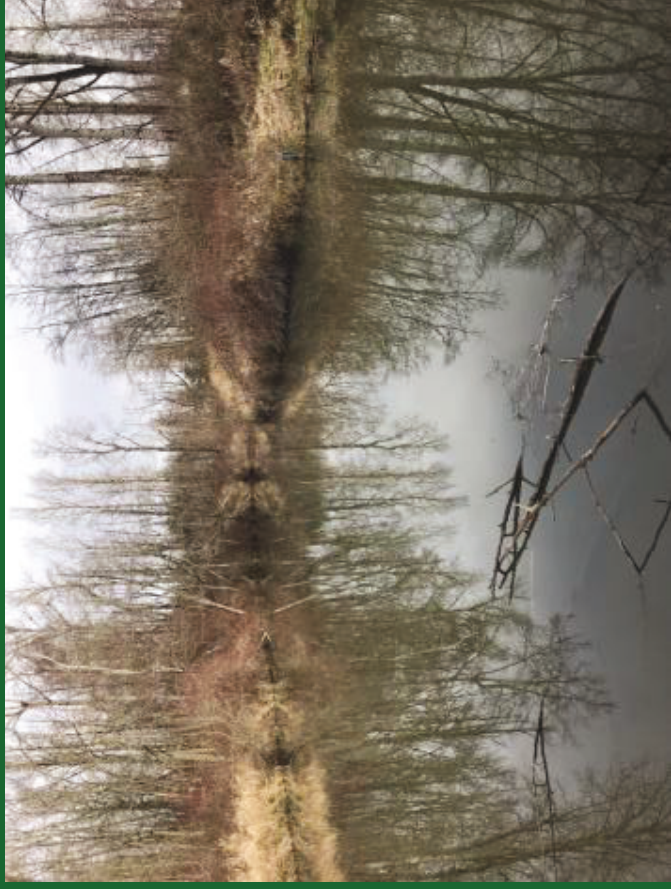
Alice Springs Columbia Slough, Named After The Late Alice Blatt Cully Activist

Big Four Corners BES Restoration Site Columbia Slough



190380

Oak Knoll Columbia Slough BES



Beggar's Tick Marsh Metro

190380



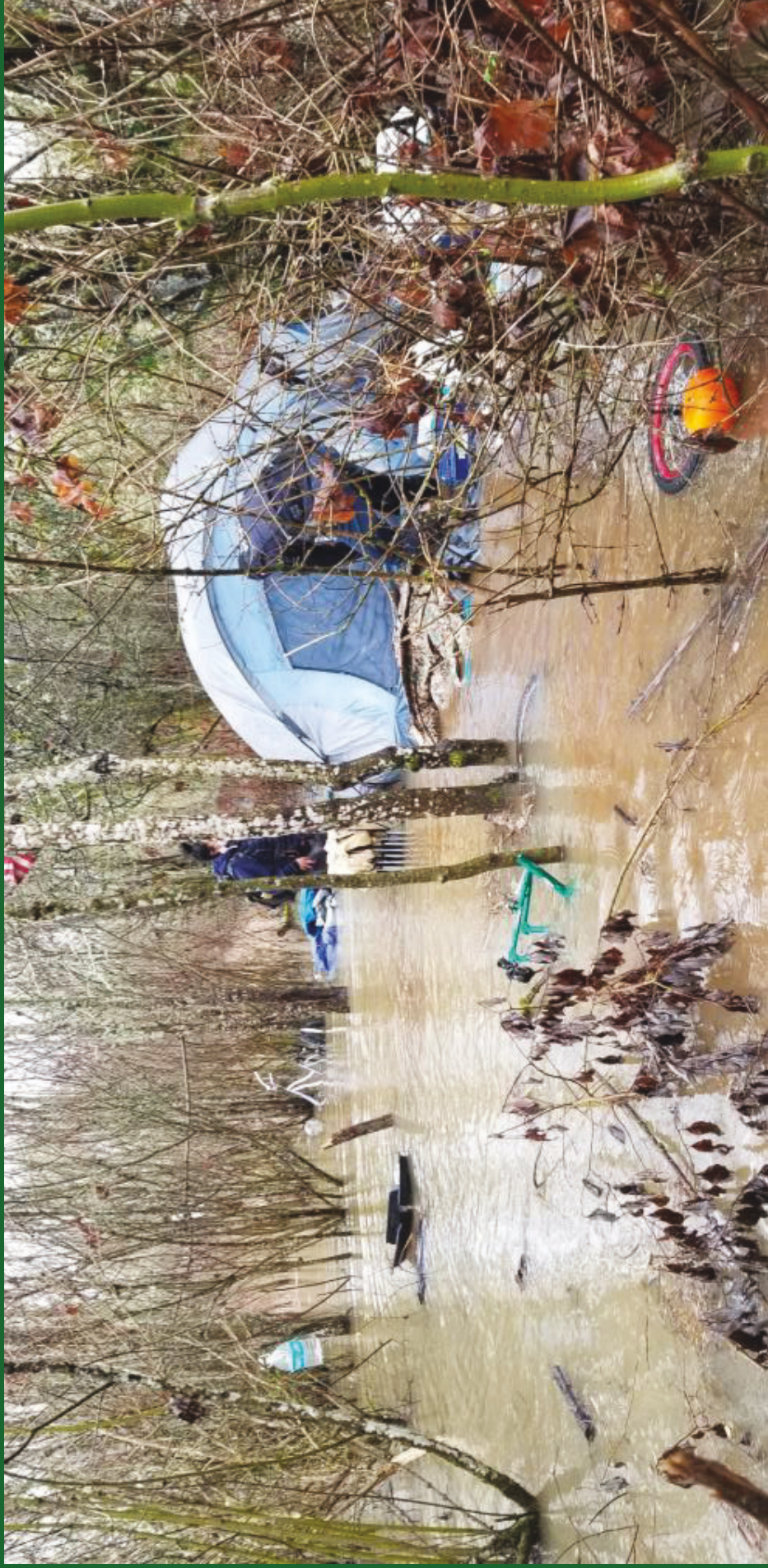
Newell Creek Canyon Metro

190380



Gales Creek Washington County Metro

190380





From: [Wheeler, Mayor](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Mike Houck testimony to Portland City Council re Shelter to Housing Continuum
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 5:06:41 PM
Attachments: [Mike Houck S2HC Testimony 3 16 21.pdf](#)
[Homeless Camps Mike Houck PPT\(NXPowerLite Copy\) \(NXPowerLite Copy\)\(1\).pdf](#)

From: Mike Houck <mikehouck@urbangreenspaces.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 7:36 AM
To: Mike Houck <mikehouck@urbangreenspaces.org>
Subject: Mike Houck testimony to Portland City Council re Shelter to Housing Continuum

--

Mike Houck, The Urban Naturalist
Urban Greenspaces Institute
PO Box 6903
Portland, OR 97228-6903
503.319.7155
mikehouck@urbangreenspaces.org
www.urbangreenspaces.org

Endless Pressure, Endlessly Applied

In Livable Cities is Preservation of the Wild

From: [Mary Vogel](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Cc: [Engstrom, Eric](#)
Subject: Shelter to Housing Continuum
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 8:42:10 AM

Dear Mayor and Commissioners,
My latest PlanGreen blog (linked below) is about one of the root causes of the lack of housing affordability--which is at the heart of our housing crisis. As a person with profound hearing loss, I am deeply empathetic with the homeless who have been priced out of housing. I offer some policy solutions to that in my blog. And I hope that you will join me and Alan Durning of Sightline Institute in helping us change federal policy.

But I believe that lack of affordability is not the reason that all who are homeless are in tents or other temporary shelters are camping along my downtown street and many commercial streets, along our riverfronts, along/under our freeways and bridges, etc.

This brief story may be illustrative of why I DON'T BELIEVE YOU SHOULD OPEN OUR PARKS TO CAMPING. I used to have a close friend in my building who I confided in more than anyone else in my life. She was a college-educated liberal with a Masters Degree with her own disability--Fibromyalgia. She once heard a group of rough-looking guys on public transit bragging about how much they liked Mayor Charlie for letting them camp just about anywhere. They also told her they expected to see alot more folks arrive from out of town (as they themselves were) to take advantage of his bleeding heart policy. Linda was not a shy or retiring person. In fact, she had a unique gift to be able to strike up a conversation with anyone. But Linda claimed she was accosted by these out of town homeless one too many times to be comfortable living downtown. She made fun of me for continuing to take their side. And she ultimately became a Trump supporter--ending our friendship. She has since moved on to North Carolina.

What Linda had encountered was the aggressive anarchist set amongst the homeless who don't want any authority over them, who actually prefer to live on the streets without paying rent or being beholden to others.

Like many others in Portland, I have kept my good health and my energy to fight for housing justice and climate justice by getting out to South Park Blocks or Washington Park on a near daily basis. Because I don't have a car, I don't get to the mountains or coast anymore. I need a place where I'm not constantly affronted by the ills of our current housing system. All of us do!

PLEASE DO YOUR BEST TO KEEP OUR PARKS FREE OF CAMPERS.
Otherwise, I urge you to pass the Shelter to Housing Continuum proposal

with that amendment.

THANKS!

Mary Vogel

Downtown Portland (where I see at least a dozen tents from my balcony and a dozen more once I step outside)

Mary Vogel, CNU-A



Bringing services nature provides to community design & planning

A Woman Business Enterprise/Emerging Small Business in Oregon

503-245-7858

mary@plangreen.net

<http://plangreen.net>

PlanGreen Blog: [Brave New US Housing Policy](#)

Facebook: [PlanGreen commentary and events](#)

From: [City Info](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Cc: [City Info](#); caschaerer@comcast.net
Subject: FW: Code Changes for City's Homeless
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 11:10:53 AM

Forwarding to City Council for testimony...

Jonah Willbach
 311 Customer Service Representative
 City of Portland, Office of Management and Finance
 311 Program
 (503) 823-4000
 1120 SW 5th Ave, Suite 114
 Portland, Oregon 97204
jonah.willbach@portlandoregon.gov
 Preferred pronouns: he/him

-----Original Message-----

From: Carol Ann Schaerer <caschaerer@comcast.net>
 Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 9:25 AM
 To: City Info <cityinfo@portlandoregon.gov>
 Subject: Code Changes for City's Homeless

Dear Mayor Wheeler and Members of the Portland City Council:

It is with greatest distress that I write you about the plans to change city land codes, allowing tent communities to be constructed on our public lands.

I oppose this plan on many levels:

1. We voters passed A tri-county measure in May 2020 adding an income tax surcharge to our maximum 9% Oregon income tax. My husband and I will be paying an additional \$3500-4000 a year for this.

The planned income from this surcharge is approximately \$150,000,000 a year, and yet there was no clear plan on HOW to implement it.

A planning group is now going to spend part of that money, about \$40,000,000 to “study” how to use the tax money? How much time will this study take? Why wasn't a plan ready to go when the bill passed?

2. In our SW neighborhood, we have been told SWCC may or may not reopen, because our facilities do not serve the social-economic diversity of this city. This is said, even though we have people from all over the city ride the bus to the front door to use the facility, our staff is diverse, and the facility serves many low income elderly in this area. We are one of the most diverse areas of the city, in terms of religion, gender, economics, and race, and have the only indoor public pool on the west side.

We are also told Multnomah Art Center may not reopen, although most of the private art education institutions in the area have closed in the past three years. Again, this facility is used by people from all over the city, and classes have long waiting lists.

This is all in spite of the fact that Parks and Recreation funding passed this last election.

3. The city has done absolutely nothing to curb the vandalism of business properties in the city. We have become a city of GRAFFITI, GARBAGE, and TENT GHETTOS. I am all too aware of the problems. They are widespread and have made a beautiful, vibrant, small big city into a disgraceful garbage dump.

Our whole adult family—sons, grandchildren, and their moms—live in NE Portland. I have one adult child who lives directly across the street from a ODOT green space housing about ten tents. I just delivered new socks and AA batteries for the people who live there. Please do not tell me I have no mercy and compassion.

4. I am well aware that every person who finds themselves without a home has a story, and that each story is, while universal, also unique. The stories include mental/physical health issues, substance abuse issues, and various economic and societal reasons. Realistically, not all will be helped.

I am not sure the city and tri-county can possibly know how to serve these folks until we have a complete census of them and their needs? We need to identify the chronically vs acutely homeless. I have heard our homeless now numbers about 15,000, among the largest in the nation.

5. While I believe that centrally housing them will be a great step forward, I am heartened by the Wapato project (finally implemented privately), there seems to have been no real comprehensive, organizational plan by the city and metro. I have also felt encouraged by the white structures in the parking area of east of Marquam Bridge.

Using our precious public green spaces without a plan will insure that our homeless population will continue to grow.

We need to be able to have comprehensive social services right where they live. I have liked the idea of rehabbing existing infrastructure. People need bath/shower/food prep, and a gathering place where social services can be administered on a regular basis. Will putting them in our green spaces really do that?

We are in our senior years, and estimate that we pay about \$20,000 in property taxes, income taxes, and other surcharges to this city each year. As I drove out by Delta Park this past week and saw the high piles of garbage and the awful conditions in which people are living there, my stomach turned, and I asked myself what in the world have the people, whose salaries our are taxes paying, been doing? Do we abandon this city and move, as many friends and businesses are doing?

“Make your bed” was a habit I learned as a child. People learn by example. Good mental/physical health stems from healthy habits and routines, such as a commitment picking up one’s garbage and not defacing structures. I really fear that, without dealing with these fundamental living basics, moving people to precious green spaces will only serve to grow the existing problems, put further burdens on parts of Portland city communities, and do nothing to turn this spiral of dependence.

Wow, didn’t realize how much I wanted to say about seeing this city descend into what it is today. I will continue to pick up garbage, keep my home and yard maintained, do my art markmaking where appropriate, and support services for the truly needy as I am able. Let’s hope you make decisions that will lead others to do the same. Sincerely, Carol Ann Schaerer, 5925 SW 41st Avenue, Portland OR 97221.

The Sent from my iPad

From: [Mary Ann Schwab](#)
To: [Rep Kotek](#)
Cc: [McClymont, Keelan](#); [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Commissioner Rubio](#); [Commissioner Ryan Office](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Lewis, Jonny](#); [Mapps, Mingus](#); [Kafoury Deborah L.](#); [Meieran Dr. Sharon](#); [Jayspal Susheela](#); [Pederson Jessica Vega](#); [Stegmann Lori](#); [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Re: HB 3115 Oregon Coordinating Committee Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival Please note: ...on public property that is open to public must be objectively reasonable as to time, place and manner with regards to persons experiencing
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 9:27:12 AM

Good Morning Mayor and Commissioners:

This just in from House Speaker Rep. Kotek's office regarding HB 3115

Granted, HB 3115 will ensure that individuals experiencing homelessness are protected from fines or arrest for sleeping or camping on public property when there are no other options. Albeit, I believe HB 3115 will blindsides the City Councils proposals today.

HB 3115 Oregon Coordinating Committee Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival

Please note: ...on public property that is open to public must be objectively reasonable as to time, place and manner with regards to persons experiencing homelessness. HB. 3115 must be amended preventing unsheltered camping in tents and/or vehicles near public and private school property.

Stop the clock! In my humble opinion the unsheltered individuals Camping and living in vehicles next to public and private schools must stop. Immediate households near Sunnyside, Laurelhurst, and yes, Richmond have suffered beyond what those who live elsewhere can imagine. Photos below:





Respectfully,

Mary Ann Schwab, Community Advocate
 Sunnyside Neighborhood Resident since 1971
 605 SE 38th Avenue
 Portland, OR 92714

For those newly elected to serve on City Council, you may find this link helpful.
Home Again, A 10-year Plan to end homelessness in Portland and Multnomah County,
 Action Plan Citizens Commission on Homelessness' Action Plan, December 2004
<https://www.portlandoregon.gov/shared/cfm/image.cfm?id=105025>
 Question, contact Don MacGillvary mcat6354@gmail.com who served on that
 action committee.

On Mar 16, 2021, at 5:14 PM, Rep Kotek <Rep.TinaKotek@oregonlegislature.gov> wrote:

Mary Ann,

Thank you for reaching out to Speaker Kotek's office with your concerns about HB 3115. I have shared your concerns with the Speaker. She is very focused this session on a variety of solutions to improve access to housing and reduce the number of Oregonians experiencing homelessness. Here's a little background on HB 3115:

In 2019, the federal court ruling in the case of Martin v. City of Boise required local governments to reconsider how they treat people who are experiencing homelessness. HB 3115 basically affirms a key principle of current case law: if a city chooses to regulate “survival activities” like sitting, lying, sleeping or keeping warm and dry, those laws must be reasonable.

HB 3115 will ensure that individuals experiencing homelessness are protected from fines or arrest for sleeping or camping on public property when there are no other options. If local communities already have laws on the books that are in compliance with the Boise decision, they will not have to update their ordinances. If local communities do not comply with this decision, they risk legal action. This bill would clarify how these communities can move forward legally following the Boise decision.

If you would like a more in depth look at this bill, the Oregonian covers the details in this article:

<https://www.oregonlive.com/news/2021/03/oregon-would-get-closer-to-decriminalizing-homelessness-under-proposed-bill.html>

To address shelter needs in Oregon, the Speaker has proposed HB 2006 and HB 2004, which are complementary efforts to address the state’s emergency shelter needs. The bills would give communities the temporary authority to site new shelters more quickly and provide funding to build and operate shelters and navigation centers in key locations across the state.

Speaker Kotek knows that housing and homelessness are complex issues that require multiple creative solutions. This story from Oregon Public Broadcasting highlights some of the key legislation on these topics she is prioritizing this session:

<https://www.opb.org/article/2021/03/08/oregon-democrats-legislature-housing-homelessness-priorities/>

Thank you for reaching out about this issue. Please feel free to contact us with any future comments, questions, or concerns.

AmyBeth Stevens (She/Her), District Director
Speaker of the House Tina Kotek
North/NE Portland, House District 44

(503) 286-0558 District | (503) 986-1200 Salem
900 Court Street NE, H-269
Salem, OR 97301
rep.tinakotek@oregonlegislature.gov

From: Mary Ann Schwab <e33maschwab@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 11:12 AM

To: Kotek Tina <Rep.TinaKotek@State.Or.us>

Subject: HB 3115 Oregon Coordinating Committee Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival Please note: ...on public property that is open to public must be objectively reasonable as to time, place and manner with regards to persons experiencing ...

Please note: ...on public property that is open to public must be objectively reasonable as to time, place and manner with regards to persons experiencing homelessness.

Stop the clock! In my humble opinion the unhoused individuals Camping and living in vehicles next to public and private schools must stop. Immediate households near Sunnyside, Laurelhurst, and yes, Richmond have suffered beyond what those who live elsewhere can imagine. Photos below:

1) For example, at 3:15 a.m.

a women screaming and waiving a machete — when told to go back to bed —

she cut on man’s face from the bridge of his nose to his hear lobe. Fire Department arrived EMT tending to the cuts, Ambulance took patient to ER, and four patrol cars were on site. Apparently, the screaming woman disappeared.

2) Two nights ago, several persons set up tents and set a warming fire located next to the Crove Church front doors. Again Fire Department arrived to find campers hearing their truck — put the fire out. But they lack authority to tell trespassers to leave the church property. Same holds true for those camping on the Sunnyside Elementary School/PP&R Playground.

Did I fail to mention two (2) butane tanks blowing up — near SES campers attempting to stay warm? Without a doubt, the immediate households were wide awake and shaking.

The solution as I see it falls back on City Prosper Portand, Planning & Sustainability Commissioners: Stay tuned for 19 units in queue at 5114 SE Belmont Street, no windows East or West of the building.... . 19 condos with one subsidized unit, and ten year tax abatement for foreign and domestic investors. Units will not be affordable for MFI 30% — nor for MFI 60%.

Don MacGillivray served on the HOME Again Advisory Committee:
Home Again, A 10-year Plan to end homelssness in Portland and Multnomah County,
Action Plan Cityens Commission on Homelessness’ Action Plan, December 2004
<https://www.portlandoregon.gov/shared/cfm/image.cfm?id=105025>

<image001.jpg><image002.jpg>

<image003.jpg><image004.jpg>

From: [Mary Ann Schwab](#)
To: [McClymont, Keelan](#)
Cc: [Watson, Amanda](#); [City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero](#); [Bottomly Therese](#)
Subject: Homeless camping on Public Property must not include PUBLIC & PRIVATE PRE-K through 8 Grade property, photos below.
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 9:38:37 AM

Good Morning Keelan:

My attempting to submit testimony in a timely manner on ZOOM APP is frustrating when watching morning news, the Homelessness would be addressed in City Council this morning. Nor was I alerted from SEUL or Civic Life.

Surely what appears to be whoops, another unintended contentious closed door shenanigans within Council Chambers — when not everyone has access to the internet with the public library closed, city council chambers closed, so forth.

Prior to their taking a formal vote, I hereby request the topic be kept open for an additional seven (7) days.

Thank you,

Mary Ann Schwab, Community Advocate
Sunnyside Neighborhood Resident since 1971
(503) 236-3522



From: [Andrew G. Rowe](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: March 17th Hearing Questions
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 9:54:35 AM

The city of Portland is well along its way towards losing the support of its business leadership, taxpaying residents and citizens. Both companies and individuals are leaving the city and the vicious circle of downward spiral is continuing to accelerate. As a business owner with 70 employees downtown, we are at a crossroads in determining whether or not we stay or leave.

How can allowing camping in public spaces be reconciled with Mayor Wheeler's priorities: ensuring safety, combating homelessness and improving livability?

Why is the City Council not focused on immediately building designated camping areas with services to address the situation, moving the homeless into those locations?

What are your plans for cleaning up the endless amounts of garbage, that have stained the reputation of our beloved city?

Thank you.

Andrew G. Rowe, Executive Chairman
AllMed Healthcare Management, Inc.

[111 SW 5th Avenue, Suite 1400](#)
[Portland, OR 97204](#)

Office: [\(503\) 274-9916](#)

Mobile: [\(503\) 816-9727](#)

Skype: andrewrowe1362

agrowe@allmedmd.com

<http://www.allmedmd.com>

Improving Healthcare Together

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From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: No Open Space Use for Homeless Housing
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 11:29:17 AM

For today's 2:00 PM Time Certain.

On 3/17/21, 11:20 AM, "Meg Thompson" <megthompson@me.com> wrote:

Dear Auditor Hull Cabarello;

Thank you for your courage is standing up to the City Council!

Dear Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners Hardesty, Mapps, Rubio, and Ryan:

As parks, natural areas, & trails supporters, I am writing to strongly advocate for an important change in the language of Shelter to Housing Continuum recommendations from the Planning and Sustainability Commission.

I recommend the removal of Open Space Zones from consideration for either temporary or permanent houseless shelters EXCEPT for a declaration of emergency by the City Council due to a catastrophic natural disaster.

I appreciate the consideration, research and thought that staff and commission members put into the S2HC report and its associated recommendations. The misery and distress that houseless people suffer in our community is a heart-rending consequence of decades of inequality, ill-considered policy and economic failures. Houselessness is not new to Portland but has grown rapidly in recent years and seems likely to continue to increase as we deal with the long shadow of this pandemic. I believe the majority of the recommendations will do much to help Portland address our houseless crisis.

My concern is focused on the recommendation that allows temporary shelters in public Open Spaces. Please do not allow this.

Meg Eastman Thompson

Meg Eastman Thompson

MEMO

FROM: Martin Slapikas, NE Portland

TO: Mayor Wheeler
 Commissioner Rubio
 Commissioner Ryan
 Commissioner Hardesty
 Commissioner Mapps

SUBJECT: Portland City Council Agenda Item 166: *Amend City Code Health and Sanitation, Emergency Code, Public Improvements, Water, Property Maintenance Regulations and Affordable Housing to facilitate the provision of shelter and housing options for Portlanders in need. (Ordinance; amend Code Titles 8, 15, 17, 21,29, and30)*

DATE: March 17, 2021

Portland needs to be a city where no one sleeps in the streets or on the sidewalks.

The use of public funds and resources to provide for this vulnerable population should be used.

With that in mind, I am in agreement with:

1. The need to provide shelter, sanitation, and food for the vulnerable in our society.
2. A temporary change in the city code, with an expiration date, to allow time for the location or construction of more shelters, and the temporary relaxation of code to allow more density and similar changes to allow faster creation of shelters.
3. A temporary relaxing of code in reference to those providing food and other necessary support such as clothing to the homeless population.
4. The use of moveable, temporary, sanitary facilities in areas where the homeless population is living, pending shelter availability, with consideration for the safety of those using the sanitary facilities, but also of those living, going to school and working in the vicinity of those shelters.
5. The temporary relaxation of code to permit living in RV or “tiny house on wheels” and to increase the number of people who can inhabit a house consistent with safety and sanitation.
6. A policy decision that city parks and other open spaces should **not now, or ever**, be used to provide temporary or ongoing shelter to homeless.
 The people who live in Portland need and deserve, to have safe, clean spaces for children; for exercise and recreate; and for aesthetic beauty and mental relaxation, which is proven to improve quality of life, quantity of life and safety.

Any suggestion to use parks or other open spaces for shelters for the homeless should be rejected.

I recommend that as soon as possible, not only parks and other open spaces, but also sidewalks, and other city property, not even be available for temporary shelter – such as tents.

The issues are the same. Safety and sanitation cannot be maintained, even with temporary toilet facilities.

7. The people of Portland need and deserve to have safe and clean parks and other city open spaces available to all the citizens.

As experience has clearly shown, if the homeless temporary shelters are allowed to proliferate in, or on the borders of, parks and open spaces, sidewalks, parking lots, and other spaces, those spaces become unsafe (needles, excrement, behavioral problems, etc.) such that the people of Portland cannot use those areas safely.

8. The rapid location of, or creation of, shelters so that the problem of homeless in tents and other temporary and unsafe conditions can be ended as quickly as possible. There should be full involvement with the recently passed legislation for multi county cooperation for care of the homeless population.

In summary:

I **strongly recommend** code changes include ways to assess, and enforce, the *Health, Sanitation, Emergency Code, Public Improvements, Water, Property Maintenance Regulations and Affordable Housing*, and to insist on improvements if necessary, or closure of a site if Health, Safety and Sanitation cannot be provided, assured and enforced.

Portland needs to be a city where no one sleeps in the streets or on the sidewalks.

The use of public funds and resources to provide for this vulnerable population should be used.

From: [Martin Slapikas](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Written Testimony City Council Agenda Item #166
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 12:11:50 PM
Attachments: [2021-3-17 City of Portland Agenda Item 166.docx](#)

From: [cynthia sulaski](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: testimony re shelter to housing continuum proposals
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 12:30:03 PM

Dear Mayor Wheeler and Portland City Council,

Concerning the Shelter to Housing Continuum project (S2HC),

- I support BPS' recommendation to **not remove the city's ability to declare or extend a Housing State of Emergency**. We are in an emergency now, and it could very well worsen with eviction moratoriums ending and high unemployment continuing. Also, please waive permitting and Conditional Use fees for new shelters – this is an emergency.
- I recommend that the Open Space proposal (33.296.030.H) **clearly prohibit the siting of shelters in city parks and sensitive natural areas** including waterways and in flood plains but allow siting in areas such as leftover space around state or Federal highways, or surplus from other transportation and development projects, which might at times be plausible shelter sites.

- I recommend that you direct BPS and other departments' resources to help locate actual plausible shelter sites. I believe an open community effort is needed to propose, assess and launch implementation projects to create shelter or village sites on the scale of need, which might plausibly require 50+ sites. To ensure equitable placement of shelters, and achieve city-wide community acceptance, establish a process (e.g. by use of public land, funding, etc.) to balance concentration of shelters across city areas. **Every neighborhood should be asked to propose preferred village/shelter sites.**

I appreciate your consideration of my testimony.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Sulaski
Portland, Oregon

I am Walter Weyler, of 1221 SW Tenth Avenue in Portland. While I am a board member of the Downtown Neighborhood Association (DNA). My testimony today is from me as a private citizen and it has not been approved as policy by the DNA board.

I support the council to approve the **Shelter to Housing Continuum (S2HC)** plan only with a restrictive amendment. This amendment must prevent use of zoned Open Space areas that are developed parks, environmentally sensitive areas or public use trails.

Portland is experiencing a crisis as our houseless neighbors are living among us in deplorable unsafe, unsanitary conditions, and uncollected garbage is littering our streets and parks.

The **Shelter to Housing Continuum (S2HC)**, plan provides flexibility in the city's land use and permitting system, which will allow the creation of managed sites. The city can then manage these sites to provide shelter, safety, access to water, and hygiene facilities.

However, Open Space land which is a developed park, an environmentally sensitive area, or a public use trail must **not** be used for shelters, either permanently or temporarily.

Thank you for your service and this time to testify.

Walter Weyler
503-490-3907

From: [Walter Weyler](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Shelter to Housing Continuum (S2HC)
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 12:41:47 PM
Attachments: [Testimony on S2HC.1.docx](#)

Ladies and Gentlemen, this is the testimony I will present today.....Walter Weyler 503-490-3907

From: [peanut13 Butter](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 12:57:33 PM

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

I cannot get your web page to work for information related to opposition of homeless in parks. Please submit asap to proper email address.

I dont know how you can let the homeless live in a park that is turning into a giant toilet. i cant walk in the park without seeing the people living in make shift housing putting their pants or zipping up. I am constantly approached by same an fell unsafe three blocks from my home. They wander through our neighborhood and night and take whatever they can carry coming onto our property.. By the way the last time you cleaned up the area where the lived the rats ran all around our neighborhood i now have numerous holes that have been dug I am afraid for my safety without goin outside and looking both ways to see if it is safe to leave. I have talked and called the police numerous times and told they the homeless are untouchable thanks to your choices that affect me , my family, my neighborhood. WHY cant you come up with a work farm idea and let these people learn I am afraid to live in Portland laurelhurst period.. But who wants to live with this! Do something productive really living in the park , having sex in the park of I guess we can cover our kids eyes when they see and dont go near the bushes remember what got on your shoes last time. Your idea is wrong at every level. We have illegal activity going on where it's making it unsafe and inaccessible for people!FYI Hardest says a few people how about so many you cant count and the filthy 8 feet high and dozens and dozens of bikes and shopping carts stolen from local stores trying to survive. HARDESTY IS DEAD WRONG WITH this idea !

From: [Elizabeth Marantz](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: My testimony
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 4:48:44 PM

From: Elizabeth Marantz <towhee2@easystreet.net>
Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 1:09 PM
To: Keelan McClymont <cctestimony@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: [ACNA Board] testimony on #165 S2HC

I would like to thank the BPS staff for coming up with zoning changes to provide more housing and shelter opportunities for our large and rapidly growing unhoused population. However, I do not think that the city should throw in the towel and accept the current degradation of Portland's publicly owned open spaces, parks and natural areas. But that, in effect, is what this proposal seems to be doing.

City code currently prohibits the siting of shelters in open spaces, natural areas, and parks. But this proposed code change will allow these kinds of spaces to be utilized for shelters on a temporary basis of up to six months. Allowing temporary siting may turn out to be a way to enable permanency for these kinds of facilities.

I believe that the intention of allowing RVs, Thows (tiny house on wheels) and Group Living on single family residential lots is to get some affordable housing in place quickly. The availability of a lower rental could prevent some houselessness or could provide a first essential step up out of houselessness. These kinds of housing opportunities on single family residential lots will be provided by the host property owner (as opposed to shelters which will be organized by the city or an agency). Some neighborhoods, especially Downtown and East Portland, will see a lot more of these houses on wheels, just as those neighborhoods will also see most of the shelters which will be permitted in both residential and commercial zones. This inequity is of great concern and should be addressed.

I believe that a robust protection of The Commons is a prerequisite for residents of every neighborhood to support these alternative housing options and expanded shelter opportunities in every neighborhood. If parks are felt to be unsafe, if natural spaces continue to be degraded, and if rights of way are routinely impeded, the city will continue to decline in livability, citizens will lose affection for Portland and its governance, and the crucial support needed to support innovative ways to address the homeless crisis will be very hard to get.

I appreciate the opportunity to send in my comments. I live in the SW Arnold Creek neighborhood. Elizabeth Marantz.

--

To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to board+unsubscribe@arnoldcreek.org.

From: [Elizabeth Marantz](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: testimony on #165 S2HC
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 1:10:21 PM

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I appreciate the opportunity to send in my comments. I live in the SW Arnold Creek neighborhood. Elizabeth Marantz.

March 17, 2021

Dear Mayor Wheeler and Portland City Council,

Thank you, the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, and the Planning and Sustainability Commission for your efforts to help address our city's housing crisis through the Shelter to Housing Continuum project. I support many of the options proposed, but I oppose the proposal to allow and sponsor temporary (180-day maximum) shelters and sanctioned camps in vegetated parks and natural areas, except on a temporary basis in response to a FEMA disaster declaration. My reasons:

- Portlanders from all over the city flock to local parks and natural areas for active and passive recreation and respite. There is a rapidly growing body of publications that attest to the public health (physical and mental) benefits of being in green spaces and nature. Bringing shelters and camps and associated people and dogs will change the character of our parks and natural areas, from places where one can escape the urban scene, to populated public space. Where we have deficiencies in parks and green spaces, the city should invest to create more of them, while also implementing strong measures to prevent green gentrification.
- Our parks and natural areas are degraded due to human-caused impacts due to foot traffic (human and dog), litter, and waste, causing erosion and sedimentation, soil compaction, and land and water pollution. These impacts are exacerbated by the proliferation of homeless camps in these spaces. Bringing more people and dogs into public parks and natural areas will exacerbate those impacts and change the nature of our parks and natural areas.
- Trees, vegetation, streams, and wetlands in Portland's parks and natural areas, and on some public golf courses as well, are also integral elements of our public infrastructure, contributing to water quality and stormwater management. As a significant part of Portland's urban forest, they are also the lungs of the city, helping clean the air and sequester carbon. And, they are also home to birds, fish, and wildlife species, most of which are already in decline from loss of habitat, climate change, and other impacts.
- This proposal flies in the face of significant public and community-based investments to create green spaces, like Cully Park and Gateway Green, and Westmoreland Park, that provide peaceful open space for people, habitat for fish, wildlife and pollinators, culturally important elements such as first food gardens, and nature-based playgrounds for kids and families.
- Allowing temporary shelters or camps for 180 days is problematic. It sends the message that it is appropriate for humans to reside in public open spaces. And once situated, people will not want to leave, creating additional conflict and pain. The damage to land, water, and wildlife, will be done, creating additional costly restoration needs.

We need a creative, multi-faceted citywide strategy to address disparities in housing and services. That strategy should also focus on assisting people who are already living in city parks, natural areas, and open spaces, to relocate to less-damaging locations. We need to preserve and enhance our parks and natural areas without converting them to permanent or temporary shelter or camp sites. And again, we need to invest in creating more parks and greenspaces in neighborhoods where that are park-deficient, while also implementing measures to maintain housing affordability and prevent green gentrification.

For these reasons, I urge you to disallow homeless shelters and camps in Portland's parks and natural areas. Thank you for your consideration.

Roberta Jortner

7201 SE 36th Street, Portland Oregon, 97202

From: [Roberta Jortner](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony re: Shelter to Housing Continuum Project
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 1:11:47 PM
Attachments: [CityCouncilShelterTestimony_RJortner_03_17_2020.docx](#)

Thank you for considering my testimony below and attached.

Best,

Roberta Jortner

March 17, 2021

Dear Mayor Wheeler and Portland City Council,

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For these reasons, I urge you to disallow homeless shelters and camps in Portland's parks and natural areas. Thank you for your consideration.

Roberta Jortner

7201 SE 36th Street, Portland Oregon, 97202

From: [Patrick Brunett](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Shelter to Housing Continuum (S2HC) testimony
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 1:45:57 PM

Re: Shelter to Housing Continuum proposal

Councilors:

I write in strong opposition to the proposed “**removal of barriers to siting of shelters**” that would allow **tent dwellings in Portland parks**. Now more than ever, Portlanders rely on their municipal parks to provide a brief sanctuary from the challenges of everyday life in the city. Allowing the unfortunate scenarios we see all over the city to spill over into Portland’s parks is not a solution to homelessness.

In addressing this crisis, council should concentrate on creating organized programs that provide opportunities for training and meaningful public works employment, such as in plastics recycling programs or development of urban organic farming. Tiny home villages are one solution, but should be constructed on unused or underutilized public land, not existing parks.

From: [Theodora Tsongas](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Shelter to Housing Continuum Project
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 1:58:06 PM

To: Portland City Council
From: Theodora Tsongas PhD, MS
March 17, 2021

Greetings Mayor and Councilmembers:

I am writing to support the proposed zoning code changes through the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project to get housing and shelter for people into city code and policy so that we are not dependent on emergency declarations and to address a long standing and continuing problem.

Lack of housing and survivability in Portland is an ethical and moral issue that we must address if we are to be a compassionate city. Allowing people to be criminalized because of homelessness, when most are due to circumstances beyond their control, is simply unacceptable. We are only as well as our less fortunate community members. This is also a public health issue in that people without viable shelters are at higher risk of acute and chronic illness with little to no access to health, medical, or social support and services. And, under current circumstances, we even have discouraged people from being able to take care of themselves.

As I sat huddled in my home during the recent power outages and extreme cold, I wondered how people outside could survive and how many would not make it through the night alive. We must take action to address this situation now. It is not new and will continue until we have policy and code changes that enhance our ability to accommodate people and help with their transition to stable and healthful housing. This proposal will move us in the right and necessary direction.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Theodora Tsongas, PhD, MS
Portland, Oregon

From: [City Info](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Cc: [City Info](#); kklingles@icloud.com
Subject: FW:
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 4:13:33 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Forwarding to Council testimony email...

Jonah Willbach

311 Customer Service Representative

City of Portland, Office of Management and Finance

311 Program

(503) 823-4000

1120 SW 5th Ave, Suite 114

Portland, Oregon 97204

jonah.willbach@portlandoregon.gov

Preferred pronouns: he/him

From: Kelly Klinglesmith <kklingles@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 3:34 PM
To: City Info <cityinfo@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject:

Dear Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners Hardesty, Mapps, Rubio and Ryan,

I am writing to advocate strongly for an important change in the language of Shelter to Housing Continuum recommendations from the Planning and Sustainability Commission. I recommend the removal of Open Space Zones from consideration for either temporary or permanent houseless shelters EXCEPT for a declaration of emergency by the City Council due to a catastrophic natural disaster. Furthermore, this kind of change requires input from the public before being considered.

thank you!

kelly klinglesmith

aiyee!

Sent from my iPad



March 17, 2021

City of Portland
Attn: Mayor Ted Wheeler & City
Commissioners(cctestimonial@portlandoregon.gov)
1221 SW Fourth Ave.
Portland, OR 97204

Subject: Support of the Shelter to Housing Continuum Policy and Proposed Amendments

Dear Mayor and Commissioners,

First, thank you and your staff for the immense amount of work that they have done on this important pressing issue. Unfortunately, homelessness is and increasing global problem. Here in Oregon homeless residents include climate change refugees who have been impacted by fires that now blend in with those who became jobless due to the pandemic. That said, I urge you to think of this Ordinance as a long-term process that is iterative in nature. Technologies are constantly emerging that could better facilitate services to and construction of these temporary housing areas. Innovative Housing Demonstration Project can help celebrate creativity and build additional temporary housing guidelines.

I ask that you consider the adding language of how best facilitate means for temporary homes be welcomed into the neighborhood & business communities. My hope is that this will help create a soft landing by facilitating communication between community leaders and housing site managers. In siting encampments, the access to standard public services of water, sewer, and heat are being required. But, alternatives such as off-grid technologies need to be permitted as well. In addition, humane services such as access to US Postal Service should be considered.

Prohibited Siting in Industrial Zones.

Light Industrial zones should be opened up to the siting of Temporary Housing options where certain conditions exist. Light Industrial zoned properties typically generate very low hazardous emissions and should be opened up for Temporary Housing siting where accessible to water, sewer, and public roadways.

Group Housing reduced from a Conditional Use.

Group Housing by the proposed definition is 9 or more bedrooms and 3,500 max sq. ft. in the Low-Density Residential zones. Please add the requirement for these to be processed as a Type II design review to allow the surrounding residents to participate in their approval.

Finally, the Short-Term housing regulations need to be re-visited to make sure needed affordable temporary housing or Group Living do not become abused for expensive Short-Term housing.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tamara DeRidder". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tamara DeRidder, AICP
Principal, TDR & Associates
1707 NE 52nd Ave.
Portland, OR 97213

From: [Tamara DeRidder, AICP](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: [User Approved] Testimony on Shelter to Housing before City Council 03172021
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 7:54:04 PM
Attachments: [TDR Housing to Shelter Testimony to City Council 03172021.pdf](#)

Dear Council Secretary,
Please accept the attached testimony on the Shelter to Housing proposal. I am submitting this testimony as an individual.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Tamara

Tamara DeRidder, AICP
Principal, TDR & Associates
Land Use Planning & Public Engagement
1707 NE 52nd Ave.
Portland, OR 97213
503-706-5804

--

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." Margaret Mead

From: [Danielle Maillard](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Shelter to Housing Continuum Testimony - Danielle Maillard
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 4:44:39 PM

Good afternoon,

My name is Danielle Maillard. I'm speaking today on behalf of Sunrise PDX, alongside Anna Kemper and Paxton Rothwell to advocate for the passing of the Shelter to housing continuum, and particularly the passage of the amendments introduced by P:NW. I support each amendment, but I am here to speak specifically about the amendment to not undermine existing vehicle dwellings.

The shelter to housing continuum creates new, legal, stable options on residential private property - meaning that RVs or tiny houses on wheels may be permanently legalized on private sites. This legalization empowers those with the adequate resources to create housing opportunities for their neighbors who are on the verge of eviction or already houseless.

This being said, a foundational reason for the legalization of these vehicle dwellings is that it is a solution in getting a roof over the heads of those who can not afford it. Therefore, adding language that requires these dwellings to have \$10-20k sewer connections is a barrier of entry and would make many adequate existing dwellings illegal. I urge you to adopt this amendment so the people benefiting from these vehicle dwellings will actually have the opportunity to make a living without the burden of an expensive sewage connection requirement.

We have the resources to adopt alternative sanitation solutions, such as established dumping sites, mobile street teams, or pumping services, and we have seen other cities such as Eugene answer to this call for action.

It is mindblowing to me that people care so much about where exactly their houseless neighbors decide to live, but couldn't seem to care less whether these same people live or die. I am 23 years old and on this very day last year, at about this same time exactly, I was laid off from all three of my jobs because of Covid-19. I had to move out of my apartment in NE because I could no longer afford rent. Fortunately, I have family and friends who were more than happy to support me. We don't shame the people in our own

lives for not having options and needing help, we do everything in our power to help them. This mentality can't stop with the people we know and love.

I truly hope that anybody testifying in opposition of this policy is in the process of personally housing the people who live in the tents they are complaining about, or donating to the mutual aid funds that have existed as the only saving grace for people on the verge of eviction.

The passage of this policy and its noted amendments is critical right now in addressing the concurrent crises present in our home, please stand for collective liberation and support the shelter to housing continuum and the amendments.

Thank you for your time,

Danielle Maillard
Sunrise PDX

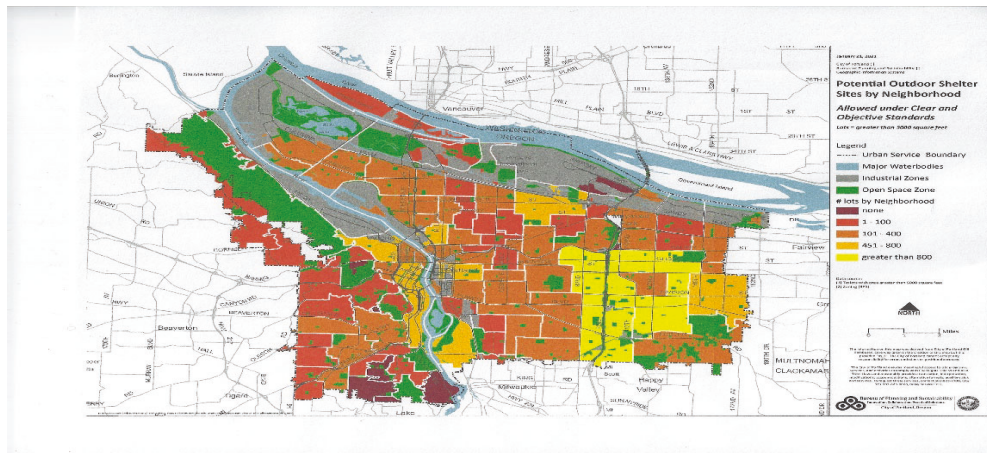
March 17, 2021

TO: Portland City Council
RE: Shelter to Housing Continuum

Shelter to Housing Continuum is a significant piece of work transforming an archaic zoning code to a progressive foundation to regulate rapidly diversifying housing types.

Short term shelter is not housing. Shelter only provides a temporary safe space with concentrated resources to respond to an emergency whether it be fire or personal crisis.

The project eliminates one of Portland very few zonings regulations design to ensure equity and prevent political and market forces from concentrating poverty. The staff provided map illustrates the risk. Impoverished people are forced into impoverished neighborhoods. The proposal spreads the responsibility for shelter throughout the city without limits on concentration.



The yellow and orange show the greatest opportunity for shelter that are the same as the neighborhoods of greatest diversity and poverty.

The City Council shall require annual reports to investigate if shelters are being provided equally for all neighborhoods and operate without negative impact.

Affordable housing is not the cause of homelessness. There can never be enough affordable housing. Homelessness is caused by personal reasons. People do not live together well. People are opinionated and lack tolerance for other people. Villages and Portland's Street Response Team illustrate the personal and respective approach.

Indoor shelters do not work except for temporal emergencies such as fire or ice storms. Permanent large 200 bed indoor shelters are warehouses that strip people of their pride and belongings. A network of outdoor shelters enables the City to eliminate the unsafe and inhumane illegal camping on city streets and vacant property. These smaller; personally, intimate outdoor spaces create relationships between the neighborhoods and those cast outside their community.

**303 NW Uptown Terrace #1B
Portland, Oregon USA 97210
peter@finleyfry.com**

From: [Peter Fry](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Shelter to housing Continuum
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 5:23:10 PM
Attachments: [City Council Testimony.docx](#)

Please accept my written tetimony

Peter Finley Fry AICP PhD MUP
303 NW Uptown Terrace; Unit 1B
Portland, Oregon 97210
503 703-8033

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10



ARTbarnARTfarm 190380

EcoHousing



A Tiny House Artist Eco-Village

A proposed arts-focused tiny house community with a replicable model of affordability, context-sensitive density and adaptive infill, with the greenest design possible

Learn more: foragedesign.org/residential/artfarmecovillage



ARTfarm Conceptual Design Plan

FORAGE DESIGN | PROGRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT GROUP

TINY HOUSES
BATHROOMS & SHOWERS
COMMON SPACES (Office, Kitchen, Living Room, Storage, Laundry)

Benefits of Tiny Homes of Wheels Cluster Housing

- Adds to diversity of affordable housing choices (both rental and owned)
- Low impact development infill
- Adds density that fits in with existing residential neighborhoods - turns more neighborhoods into density supporters with positive examples
- Transitional development approach on the housing continuum
- Housing dignity for low-income residents is not only gained but a source of pride in their uniqueness
- Makes home ownership much more in reach for many more people
- Increases equity and accessibility of who can own/build/create housing



- Provides much needed low-cost housing with greater flexibility at a price point and market category currently missing

Tiny Homes/THOW & Climate Benefits

- Efficient space living translates into environmental benefits in energy, water, waste and purchasing
- Significant reductions in GhG
- 93% reduction of energy of traditional houses
- 45% decrease in ecological footprint

Source:

<https://ipropertymanagement.com/research/tiny-home-statistics>

Smaller Carbon Footprint

190380

Living in a smaller home means less electricity or natural gas usage; it costs less to heat or cool a smaller space. Many tiny home builders also install energy-saving items like solar panels and washer/dryer combos that do the work of two machines in one.

On a related note, tiny house owners tend to use more fresh foods than pre-packaged or frozen. This is partially due to smaller fridge/freezer space, but it's also a part of the "tiny home culture." The early interest in tiny homes was, after all, to get away from big city life and get back to nature, living as cleanly and simply as possible.

Other common behavioral changes among new tiny house dwellers include greater conservation of water, increased composting, more purposeful purchasing habits, and less housekeeping and maintenance.

- A tiny home uses about 7% of the energy that a traditional house does.
- Moving to a tiny home can decrease a household's ecological footprint by 45%.
- Tiny homes emit an average of 2,000 pounds of greenhouse gasses each year; traditional homes emit 28,000 pounds.
- Tiny homes use an average 914 kilowatt hours (kWh) each year while traditional homes use 12,773 kWh.
- The ecological footprint of the average tiny home is 3.87 global hectares (gha); a traditional home's footprint is 8.4 gha.
- 85% of tiny homes operate at above-average energy efficiency.

Tiny Homes & Affordability

- fraction of cost of typical housing
- increases availability of sites and providers to partner in the solution
- adds to the diversity of housing choices in an expedited low-impact way
- increases pathway to ownership model

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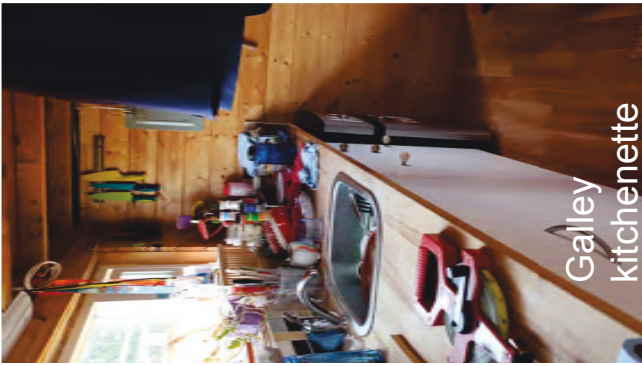
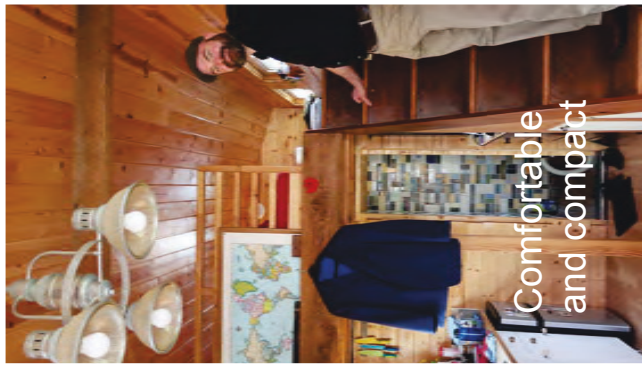
that spaces are designed to be multi-purpose. Additionally, because tiny homes are generally so much more personalized than traditional homes, you really do get more bang for your buck, so to speak, in terms of usage. Plus, a smaller price tag means less loan interest to pay; it's not uncommon for mortgage holders to end up paying an additional 50% of what their home is worth in interest alone.

- 60% of tiny homeowners have no credit card debt.
- On average, a tiny home costs less than one-fifth what a traditional home would cost.
- The average sales price of a newly-built single-family home is \$383,900.
- The average listing price of a home on Zillow is \$275,000.
- The average cost of a built-to-suit tiny house is \$59,884.
- The average cost of a DIY home build is closer to \$23,000.
- The most luxurious tiny homes top out at \$180,000.
- One couple built their own 192-square-foot tiny home for less than \$8,000.
- 78% of tiny home dwellers own their home compared to 65% of traditional home dwellers.

Source: <https://ipropertymanagement.com/research/tiny-home-statistics>

ARTbarn | ARTfarm

Tiny House Living
Compact, low-impact, affordable
(Images from Art Farm existing Tiny House on Wheels)



AMENDMENTS

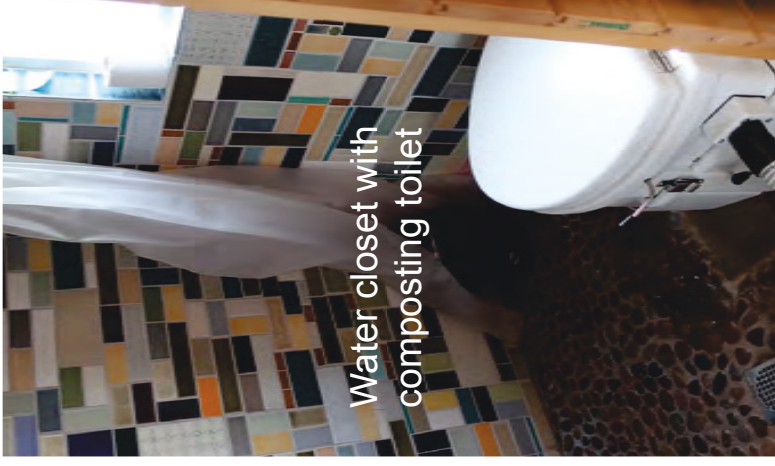
190380

Water, electrical and Sanitation in Tiny Homes on Wheels: Create an “all of the above” strategy to **allow opportunities for off-grid living:**

1. **solar panels and batteries for power**, rather than a required electrical hook-up;
2. **portable water tanks or other containers that are manually refilled**, rather than a site water connection, to provide potable water;
3. **greywater systems for bar sink and shower drainage**,
4. **composting toilets* and/or drain to tank and pump approaches** to provide for sanitation needs in innovative housing demonstration projects, especially those involving tiny homes on wheels.

**Composting toilets are allowed by Oregon building code since the 1970's. Link to ReCode Information and precedents. Art Farm has a THOW with a composting toilet.*

<https://www.recodenow.org/composting-toilets-in-oregon/#:~:text=Permitting%20Composting%20Toilets%20in%20Oregon,to%E2%80%9D%20the%20NSF%20standard%2041>



Water closet with composting toilet



Greywater planter (precedent)

AMENDMENTS

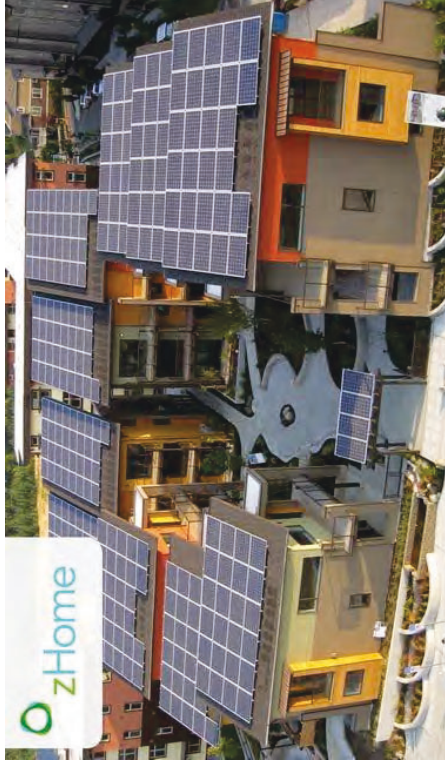
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Innovative Housing Demonstration Pilot Program

Purpose: Allow development of a limited number of demonstration projects (10) to evaluate opportunities for increasing the availability of innovative housing in Portland.

Create a pathway to remove barriers that exist to a variety of alternative housing types that provide both environmental innovation and greater affordability.

- A small set of pilot projects would provide a pathway to test innovative housing models, evaluate code issues, and demonstrate viability with low risk.
- Drawing on policy precedent, staff shall create an Innovative Housing Demonstrations Policy (IHDP) to advance further study, remove unnecessary code barriers, and encourage greater innovative housing.
- This demonstration approach will broaden the array of local examples and strategies for low-impact, climate responsive housing and increase the availability of built examples that model social, financial and environmental innovation in Portland neighborhoods.



City of Redmond Policy Precedent

190380

Innovative Housing Demonstration

Policy (IHDP)

- **Allows for 5 alternative housing projects** via an application process
- **Purpose:** Increase affordable housing supply, and demonstrate innovation in more diverse housing types, sizes and income mixes
- **Allows flexibility in site and design standards** to support and test models
- Process to **identify potential zoning code changes** to support more innovation
- **Outlines submittal & review requirements**
- **Evaluation report provision & 5 yr. sunset clause**

Purpose:

Allow development of a limited number of projects to evaluate opportunities to increase the availability of innovative housing in Portland neighborhoods.

Need: Until permanent ordinances regarding innovative housing projects can be implemented, there is a need to allow a limited number of regulated innovative housing projects.

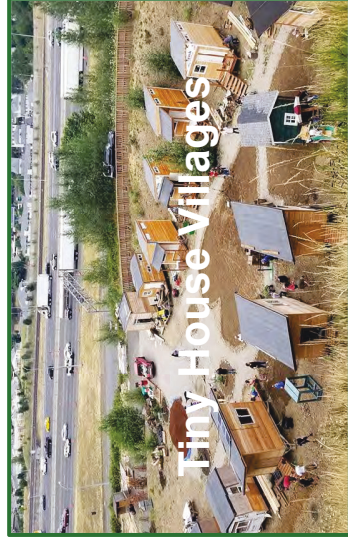
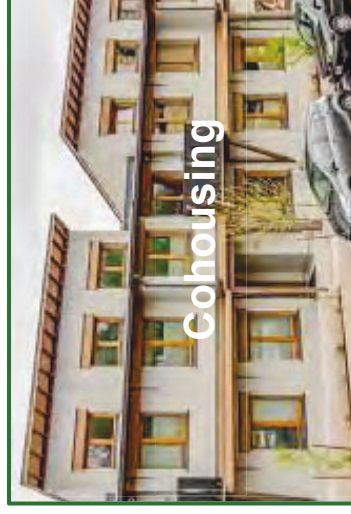
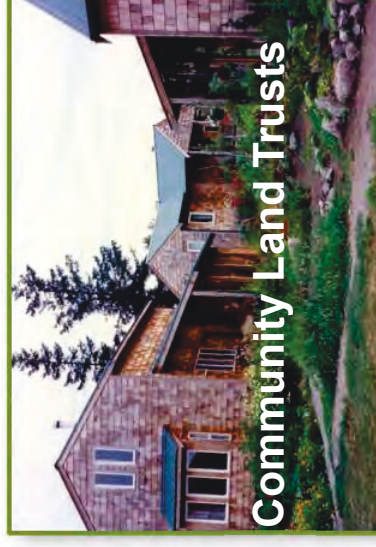
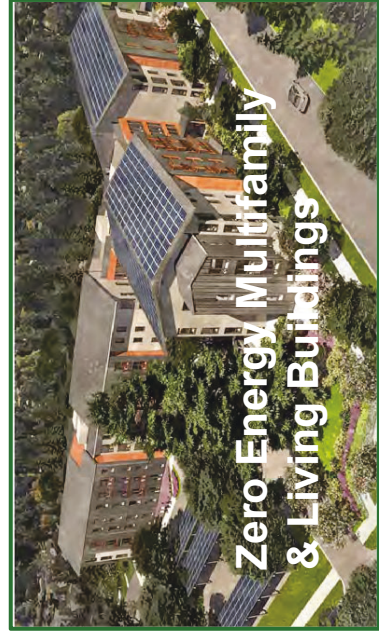
(5) Following expiration of the ordinance codified in this division, City staff shall produce a report evaluating how well the project achieved the goals of the ordinance and the goals of the enabling Comprehensive Plan policy language.

City of Redmond Innovative Housing Demonstration Policy

<https://www.codepublishing.com/WA/Redmond/CDG/RCDG20C/RCDG20C3062.html>

190380 Innovative Housing Demonstration Examples

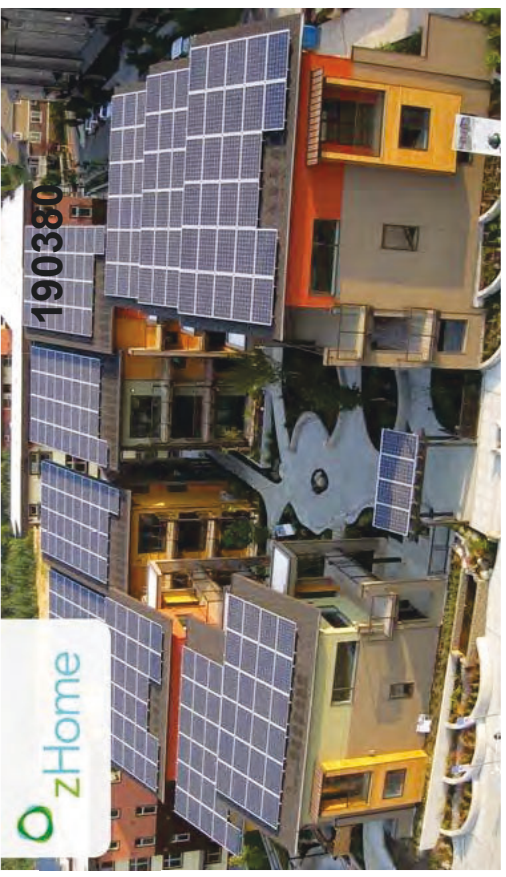
We need more innovative demonstration projects of both environmental/climate responsive design, or are supportive models that contribute to affordability and equity



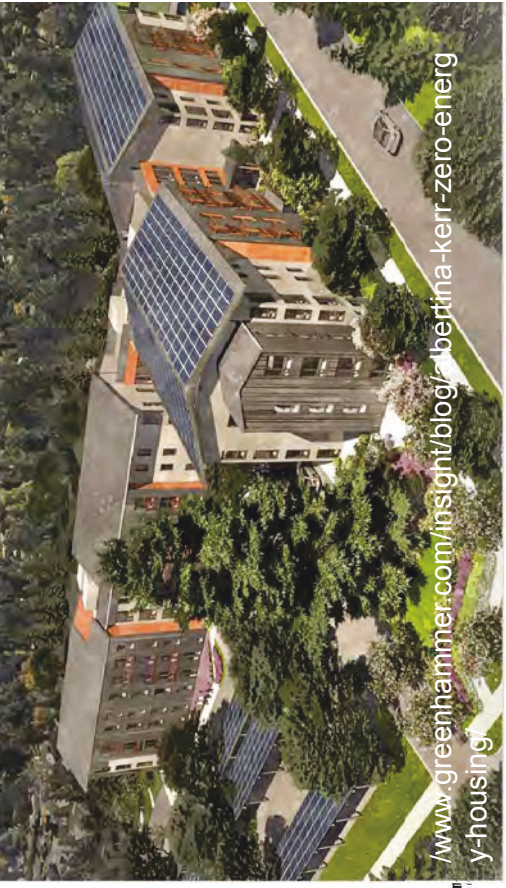
INNOVATIVE HOUSING TYPES

Environmentally Innovative

- Zero Energy Buildings
- Zero Waste Buildings
- Passive House
- Living Buildings



Ankeny Row
A New Net Zero Energy Pocket Community



INNOVATIVE HOUSING TYPES

Environmentally Innovative

- Zero Energy Buildings
- Passive House
- Living Buildings
- Zero Waste Buildings

Hassalo on 8th,
Portland



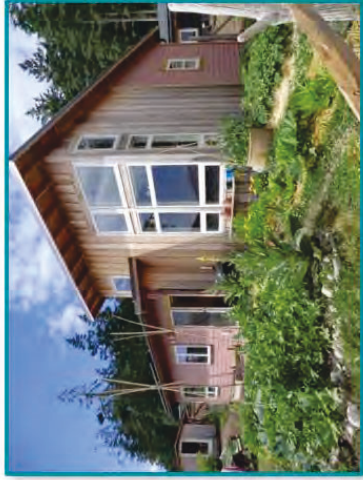
27-story high rise featuring 293 units. The building is the first of its kind to receive a LEED Gold Certification from the US Green Building Council. Incorporating multiple green components, including solar energy, roof gardens and a membrane bioreactor-based wastewater treatment and recycling system installed in the building's basement. The system was the first urban, residential treated wastewater reuse application permitted in the USA.

<https://www.waterworld.com/international/desalination/article/16/200715/nyc-highrise-reuse-proves-decentralized-system-works>

INNOVATIVE HOUSING TYPES

Affordable/Cooperative/Socially Innovative

- Cohousing
- **Community Land Trusts**



4. Perpetual Affordability:

The CLT retains the option to repurchase the structures located on the land. The CLT is committed to preserving the affordability of housing and other structures.

Lopez Community Land Trust

Sustainable families and homes for a better future

Lopezclt.org



Innovative Housing Types

Sustainable Economic Development & Food Access | **Equitable Food Oriented Development (EFOD)**

While conventional food systems work and Transit Oriented Development (TOD) may unintentionally cause harm to communities through gentrification, displacement, or extraction of local resources, **EFOD instead fosters strong social capital networks, equitable asset development, increased civic engagement, and decreased displacement.**

Learn more: *The Kresge Foundation, released [Equitable Food Oriented Development: Building Community Power](#)*



EFOD: THE POWER OF FOOD-BASED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT **| Ashland Market & Cafe, 80+ affordable housing units (Oakland, CA)**

Long-time community organization Mandela Partners worked alongside local residents and stakeholders to develop the Ashland Market and Cafe, a 2,100-square-foot food hall, incubator, and community space on the ground floor of an affordable housing complex. The project was catalyzed in partnership with a resident-led advisory committee that eventually selected four local food entrepreneurs as the facility's inaugural tenants. Ashland Market & Cafe vendors live in the surrounding neighborhoods and sell foods that reflect their heritage and family histories. To support and encourage community-based entrepreneurship, kiosks rental rates are kept well below market and tenants are offered business development workshops, micro-loans, and legal assistance. Ashland Market & Cafe was funded using an innovative, mix of financial instruments including revolving loans, \$360,000 in federal Healthy Food Financing Initiative funds, and \$1.3M in public and private investments.

Benefits of the Innovative Housing Pilot Approach

- **Innovation** Opportunity to be a leader in continuing Portland's Legacy of Innovation
- **Low Risk, High Reward** Small set of pilots provides a pathway to test innovative housing models, study code barriers, and demonstrate viability with low risk
- **Transitional approach** Low-impact development can happen NOW while retaining future higher intensity development potential without demolition
- **Climate-responsive approach** Supports removing code barriers to more climate responsive and low impact housing types
- **Socially-responsive approach** Creates more opportunities to demonstrate affordable socially-supportive housing models that we have few examples of (Cohousing & Community Land Trusts)

Creates a pathway to test creative affordable housing approaches we may not have considered yet.



The L.A. Dome Village was comprised of 20 Omni-Sphere domes which provided housing and supportive service for up to 34 individuals and family members. Located in the heart of downtown LA, it transformed an unsightly encampment site into a community of formerly homeless people.

ARTbarn | ARTfarm



Learn more: foragedesign.org/residential/artfarmecovillage

ARTbarnARTfarm Tiny House Artist Ecovillage

190,380 context-sensitive urban density and infill, with the greenest design possible through efficient use of land, water and energy.

PROJECT OVERVIEW | Art Farm LLC is an artist collaborative focused on arts education and supportive creative programs. Working with a team of experts including Progressive Development Group, Forage Design + Planning, and Cascadia Clusters, the Art Farm collaborative is proposing to develop an affordable, tiny home courtyard cluster and artist ecovillage. This proposal includes adding up to nine residential units at the western half of an existing single-family residential property with zoned potential for up to ten units. The intent is to demonstrate creative approaches for affordable housing as well as a variety of innovative sustainable design features.

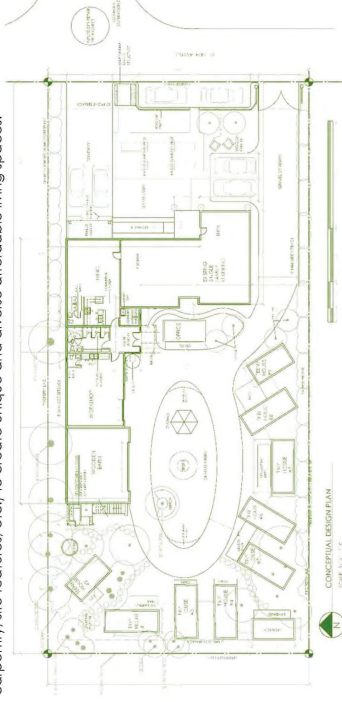


TINY HOUSE CONCEPT ILLUSTRATION



EXISTING SITE PLAN

AFFORDABLE HOUSING | In collaboration with Cascadia Clusters as the project contractor, the site would include a mix of permanent and flexible housing types, ideally including several Tiny Homes on Wheels (THOWS). Each residential unit would feature off-grid utilities including solar power and battery storage. Further, by providing a mix of unit sizes and options for rentals of some permanent tiny homes or flexibility for visitors to bring their artistic tiny house with them, it allows variety of housing options for different user needs. Options may also be available for work trade or rent offsets for onsite artistry work (e.g. finished carpentry, site features, etc.) to create unique and diverse affordable living spaces.



PROJECT NAME: ART FARM SITE PLAN
DRAWN BY: FORAGE DESIGN + PLANNING, LLC
DATE: 10/15/2024

ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE | Environmental goals include net zero energy performance, onsite agriculture, a market stand, innovative stormwater management, rainwater capture and reuse through on-site cisterns, greywater filtration, and composting toilets. The intent is to create a "triple-bottom line" approach to sustainability, equity and economy including low income housing, on-site energy generation for carbon-neutrality, with innovative stormwater management, agriculture, and arts education.

ARTbarn | ARTfarm

- **Affordable Artist Housing**
 - 20,000 s.f. multi-family zoned property on SE 74th in Brentwood Darlington
 - **Goal to create low-cost tiny house village as a replicable model of affordable housing**
 - Single family residence surrounded by higher density 1-2 story multi-family housing. Existing historic barn, small workshop, and 1 tiny house on wheels (THOW).
 - **Multifamily zoning for up to ten units** - aiming for THOW project now, higher intensity use 10-15 yrs
 - **Deep green, sustainable design:** net zero energy, green roof, onsite stormwater management, food production





EXISTING SITE PLAN
SCALE= 1/16" = 1'-0"



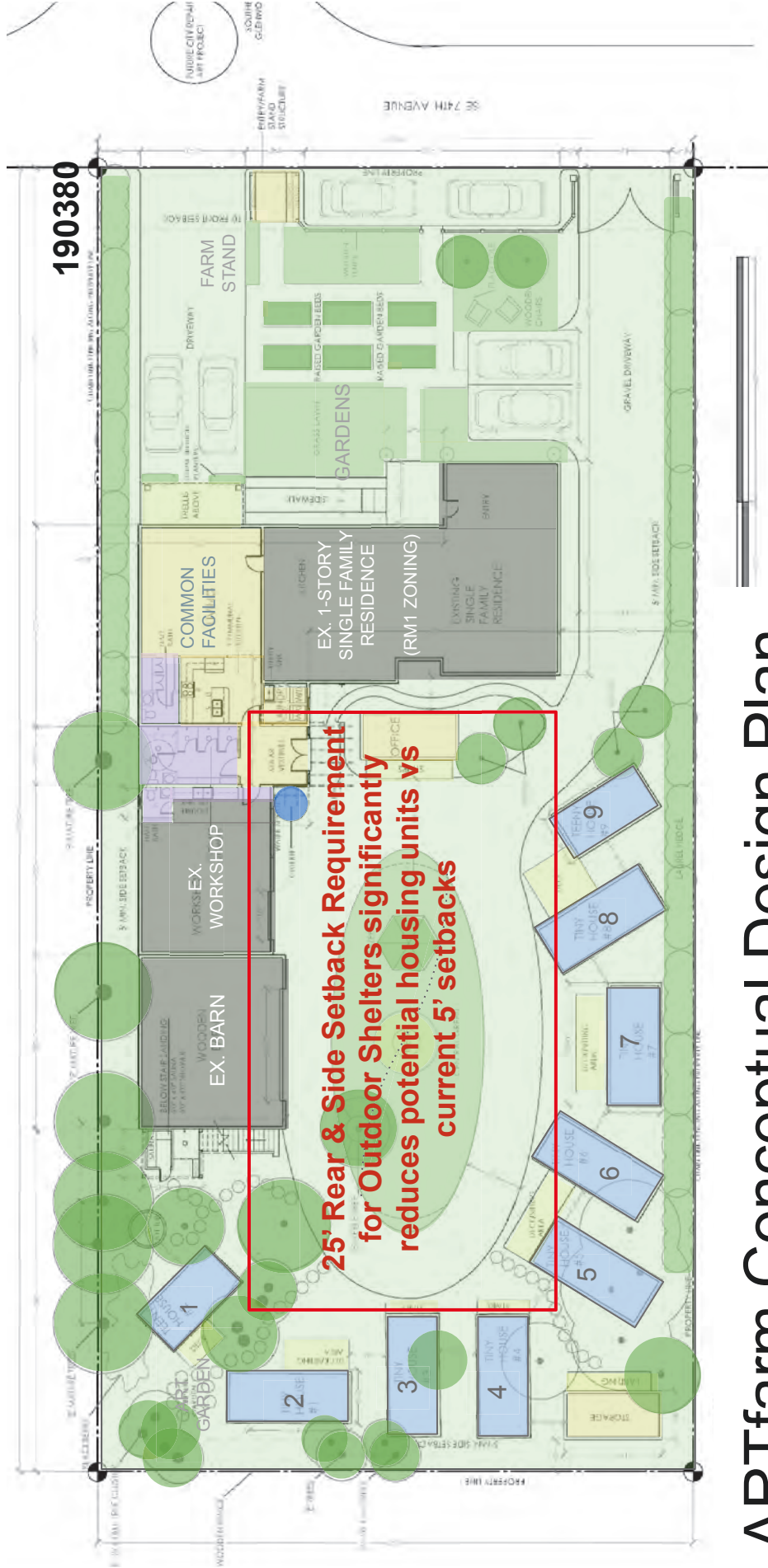
ARTfarm | Existing Site Plan



ARTfarm Conceptual Design Plan

FORAGE DESIGN | PROGRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT GROUP

- TINY HOUSES
- BATHROOMS & SHOWERS
- COMMON SPACES (Office, Kitchen, Living Room, Storage, Laundry)



25' Rear & Side Setback Requirement for Outdoor Shelters significantly reduces potential housing units vs current 5' setbacks

ARTfarm Conceptual Design Plan

FORAGE DESIGN | PROGRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT GROUP

TINY HOUSES
BATHROOMS & SHOWERS
COMMON SPACES (Office, Kitchen, Living Room, Storage, Laundry)

AMENDMENTS

Setbacks in Outdoor Shelters.
To encourage the feasibility of providing tiny home clusters, **side and rear setbacks should be reduced from 25 feet to 5 feet for tiny houses and tiny homes on wheels (THOW) projects.**

The 25' setback significantly reduces the development potential of multifamily sites which otherwise could support greater density in other housing types with a 5' setback required. This would make the project consistent with other housing types and setback requirements.



Significantly Reduced Housing Potential
with 25' Side & Rear Setbacks

Challenge

- The current system does not equitably allow the participation by the significant number of people who want to contribute to the solution.
- There are many sites around the city that are ripe for similar interim development.



- Tiny homes and THOW supports higher intensity interim use for affordable rental housing and can provide an alternative low-bar to entry home ownership
- Retains future potential of higher intensity uses without demolition.



Recommendations

190380



- Reduce requirement for side and rear setbacks from 25' to 5' consistent with typical housing types already allowed under Code
- Create a by-right expedited pathway for tiny house and tiny homes on wheels village clusters that does not require a Conditional Use discretionary process if a minor adjustment is warranted. A Type III review is lengthy and costly, and creates greater uncertainty which may deter more housing projects.
- Allow for off-grid system connections such as solar, composting toilets, water tanks, and greywater planters
- Set up a Low-Cost Innovative Housing Demonstration Project option as part of the S2HC project that would allow for a limited number of Pilot Projects to move forward to demonstrate the viability of alternative options.

20C.30.62-030 Submittal of Innovative Housing Demonstration Project

- (1) Timing. Upon the effective date of the ordinance codified in this division, the City shall immediately begin accepting applications for innovative housing demonstration project proposals. The Innovative Housing Demonstration Program shall expire five years following its adoption, or when five projects developed under this division are completed, whichever occurs first, unless extended by the City Council, or unless the City Council specifically authorizes additional projects as provided for in this division.
- (2) Number of Developments. Except as described below, the City may approve up to five innovative housing demonstration projects, with no more than two projects demonstrating the same single housing type within any calendar

(See City of Redmond Innovative Housing Demonstration ordinance

<https://www.codepublishing.com/WA/Redmond/CDG/RCDG20C/RCDG20C3062.html>



ARTbarnARTfarm 190380

EcoHousing



A Tiny House Artist Eco-Village

A proposed arts-focused tiny house community with a replicable model of affordability, context-sensitive density and adaptive infill, with the greenest design possible

Learn more: foragedesign.org/residential/artfarmecovillage



Amendments

1. **Innovative Housing Demonstrations Policy**
2. **Eliminate or modify the 25’ side and rear setback requirements.** This would severely constrain the development potential of many sites. Current zoning allows townhouses with a 5’ setback so this is unnecessarily restrictive
3. **Allow an “off grid” option by modifying the requirement for utility hookups.**
4. **Reduce barriers to implementation** by the following:
 - a. **create a parallel by-right expedited pathway for tiny house and tiny homes on wheels village clusters that does not require a Conditional Use** discretionary process if a minor adjustment (such as #2 above) is warranted. This would trigger a Type III review which is lengthy and costly, and creates greater uncertainty which may deter more housing projects.
 - b. **reduce or waive permit fees for tiny house and THOW villages** (similar to precedent with ADUs), that provide affordable housing approaches but are not designated homeless shelters. (This would modify Exemptions for 30.01.096)
 - c. **collaborate with community partners to connect applicants in need with free or low-cost technical assistance** for applicants that may not have access to architecture, planning and permitting expertise

ARTbarn | ARTfarm



ARTbarnARTfarm Tiny House Artist Eco-Village

190,380 | Next-sensitive urban density and infill, with the greenest design possible through efficient use of land, water and energy.

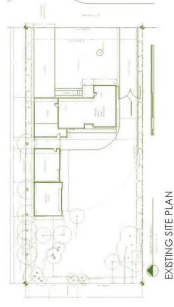
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TINY HOUSE CONCEPT ILLUSTRATION

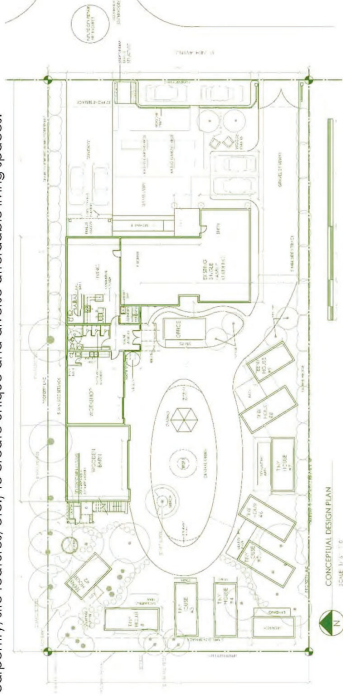


TINY HOUSE CONCEPT ILLUSTRATION



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CONCEPTUAL DESIGN PLAN

ART FARM SITE PLAN

FORGE DESIGN + PLANNING, LLC

FORGE DESIGN + PLANNING, LLC

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Learn more: foragedesign.org/residential/artfarmecovillage



*Housing Oregon
Board members:*

*Sheila Stiley, Board
chair – NW Coastal
Housing*

*Diane Linn, Vice-
chair - Proud Ground*

*Travis Phillips,
Secretary –Catholic
Charities of Oregon*

*Trell Anderson,
Treasurer –NW
Housing Alternatives*

*Wakan Alferes
Homes for Good*

*Rachael Duke -
Community Partners
for Affordable
Housing*

*Ernesto Fonseca -
Hacienda CDC*

*Maria Elena Guerra -
Farmworker Housing
Development Corp*

*Garrick Harmel –
Casa of Oregon*

*Nkenge Harmon
Johnson – Urban
League of Portland*

*Kymerly Horner -
Portland Community
Reinvestment Inc.*

*Foster Martinez – St.
Vincent de Paul Lane
County*

*Richard Morrow –
Columbia Cascade
Housing Corp.*

*Kristy Rodriguez –
Housing Authority of
Malheur & Harney
Counties*

March 17, 2021

Mayor Ted Wheeler
City of Portland
1221 SW 4th Ave, Room 340
Portland, OR97204

Dear Mayor Wheeler and Members of the City Council:

Housing Oregon urges City Council to support the Shelter to Housing Continuum project with a few simple amendments. At the same time, while it is absolutely critical to accommodate temporary solutions for the unhoused, we urge City Council to not lose sight of the need to create a longer-term strategy guiding future investments so that everyone has both a temporary housing solution and ultimately a permanent home they deserve.

Housing Oregon is a membership-based statewide association of 45 affordable housing community development corporations (CDCs) committed to serving and supporting low-income Oregonians across the housing needs spectrum – from homeless to homeowner. We support and strengthen our members by providing training on industry best practices, peer support networks, communications, and advocacy on local and statewide policy issues.

We support easing procedures for the siting of some Group Living uses in existing residential structures without a conditional use, which promotes fair housing practices. We also support the relaxing of conditional-use review requirements for shelters in most zones which have been a significant barrier in the past triggering long and expensive conditional use reviews.

We support legalizing small-scale housing on private property without counting it against ADU limits. By permanently legalizing one RV or tiny house on wheels per private site, this empowers welcoming neighbors to create opportunities to keep roofs over Portlanders' heads. The proposal also expands accommodation types in Outdoor Shelters to include RVs, Tiny House on Wheels, and other types of shelter/housing. This allowance gives providers the flexibility they need to create safe and decent shelter for unhoused people.

P.O. Box 8427, Portland, OR 97207

Housing Oregon endorses amendments proposed by Portland: Neighbors Welcome including:

- **Extend the Housing Emergency** at least until the end of the declared public health emergency, plus six months to help ensure a safe transition back to some version of normal. Although the Shelter to Housing Continuum will make huge strides in codifying the best tools of the Housing Emergency, it is designed for long-term thinking, not an emergency and removes some important tools while the real-world emergency continues.
- **Allow sanctioned Outdoor Shelters in appropriate, approved sites** in Open Space zones and in the right-of-way (ROW). We ask the City to remove the blanket ban on sanctioned shelters in Open Space Zones and the ROW and allow small sanctioned shelters in specific sites, if approved by a vote of City Council. Open Space Zones cover enough viable territory that, if the community identifies an appropriate place, City Council should be able to approve it without going through an onerous rezoning process.
- **Reduce time and cost for setting up Outdoor Shelters.** We support waiving conditional use permit fees in narrow, appropriate circumstances in residential and Open Space zones. In low-density zones, we support allowing churches, faith-based organizations, and other community-based organizations to host sanctioned shelters without conditional use review if they are below 20 accommodations on site.
- **Don't undermine existing vehicle dwellings.** Do not require vehicle dwellings to have sewer connections, which would make many existing dwellings illegal or prohibitively expensive (\$10-20k per connection). Adopt alternative best-practice sanitation solutions, such as establishing dumping sites, a mobile street team, or a pumping service such as those used for portable toilets, as Eugene does.

These proposals are a refreshing change as zoning code has historically been enacted to protect the most monied interests in our community. The S2HC proposal is an important tool to facilitate more equitable temporary housing that better meets the needs of the unhoused.

Again, in addition to enacting the Shelter to Housing Continuum proposal, we encourage the City of Portland to partner with Metro, and the tri-counties to develop a long-term strategy aligning voter approved City and Metro affordable housing construction bonds and the Metro Regional Supportive Housing Program. The public deserves a strategy defining what types of temporary housing solutions – tent camps, pod villages, congregate shelters – and permanent conventional housing solutions we plan to prioritize to deliver the outcomes promised to voters.

Thank you for your service to the public. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions at 503-475-6056 or brian@housingoregon.org.

Sincerely,



Brian Hoop
Executive Director
Housing Oregon

From: [Brian Hoop](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#); [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Commissioner Mapps](#); [Commissioner Rubio](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Commissioner Ryan Office](#)
Subject: Comments - support for Shelter to Housing Continuum proposal
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 10:08:07 PM
Attachments: [Comments Support-Shelter to Housing Continuum-Housing Oregon March 17, 2021.pdf](#)

Comments attached and below

Mayor Ted Wheeler
 City of Portland
 1221 SW 4th Ave, Room 340
 Portland, OR97204

Dear Mayor Wheeler and Members of the City Council:

Housing Oregon urges City Council to support the Shelter to Housing Continuum project with a few simple amendments. At the same time, while it is absolutely critical to accommodate temporary solutions for the unhoused, we urge City Council to not lose sight of the need to create a longer-term strategy guiding future investments so that everyone has both a temporary housing solution and ultimately a permanent home they deserve.

Housing Oregon is a membership-based statewide association of 45 nonprofit affordable housing community development corporations (CDCs) committed to serving and supporting low-income Oregonians across the housing needs spectrum – from homeless to homeowner. We support and strengthen our members by providing training on industry best practices, peer support networks, communications, and advocacy on local and statewide policy issues.

We support easing procedures for the siting of some Group Living uses in existing residential structures without a conditional use, which promotes fair housing practices. We also support the relaxing of conditional-use review requirements for shelters in most zones which have been a significant barrier in the past triggering long and expensive conditional use reviews.

We support legalizing small-scale housing on private property without counting it against ADU limits. By permanently legalizing one RV or tiny house on wheels per private site, this empowers welcoming neighbors to create opportunities to keep roofs over Portlanders' heads. The proposal also expands accommodation types in Outdoor Shelters to include RVs, Tiny House on Wheels, and other types of shelter/housing. This allowance gives providers the flexibility they need to create safe and decent shelter for unhoused people.

Housing Oregon endorses amendments proposed by Portland: Neighbors Welcome including:

- **Extend the Housing Emergency** at least until the end of the declared public health emergency, plus six months to help ensure a safe transition back to some version of normal. Although the Shelter to Housing Continuum will make huge strides in codifying the best tools of the Housing Emergency, it is designed for long-term thinking, not an emergency and removes some important tools while the real-world emergency continues.
- **Allow sanctioned Outdoor Shelters in appropriate, approved sites** in Open Space

zones and in the right-of-way (ROW). We ask the City to remove the blanket ban on sanctioned shelters in Open Space Zones and the ROW and allow small sanctioned shelters in specific sites, if approved by a vote of City Council. Open Space Zones cover enough viable territory that, if the community identifies an appropriate place, City Council should be able to approve it without going through an onerous rezoning process.

- **Reduce time and cost for setting up Outdoor Shelters.** We support waiving conditional use permit fees in narrow, appropriate circumstances in residential and Open Space zones. In low-density zones, we support allowing churches, faith-based organizations, and other community-based organizations to host sanctioned shelters without conditional use review if they are below 20 accommodations on site.
- **Don't undermine existing vehicle dwellings.** Do not require vehicle dwellings to have sewer connections, which would make many existing dwellings illegal or prohibitively expensive (\$10-20k per connection). Adopt alternative best-practice sanitation solutions, such as establishing dumping sites, a mobile street team, or a pumping service such as those used for portable toilets, as Eugene does.

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Thank you for your service to the public. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions at 503-475-6056 or brian@housingoregon.org.

Sincerely,

Brian Hoop
Executive Director
Housing Oregon

--

Brian Hoop
Housing Oregon
Executive Director
P: 503-475-6056
E: brian@housingoregon.org
PO Box 8427
Portland, OR 97207
www.housingoregon.org

Pronouns: He/Him/His

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Open Space Zones
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 9:03:00 AM

Testimony for previous agenda items 165 and 166.

From: Sarah Lincoln <sarah.lincoln@gmail.com>
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 8:55 AM
To: "City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero" <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Open Space Zones

Dear Auditor Hull Caballero,

Our parks and natural spaces—INCLUDING PARKING LOTS—must remain open to the public.

As you consider the language for the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project, I urge you to remove the provision of Open Space Zones, including developed parks **AND THEIR PARKING LOTS**, natural areas, and trails, from consideration for the siting of either temporary or permanent houseless shelters except for a declaration of emergency by the City Council due to a catastrophic natural disaster.

You will hear testimony on this issue, and you should conclude that there is already vacant and underutilized land available. You can conclude that allowing shelters in Open Space Zones is inequitable as it disproportionately affects BIPOC communities living without yards or outdoor spaces. You can conclude that access to parks, natural areas, and open spaces is a fundamental necessity for the physical and mental well being of all Portlanders and should not be infringed upon. This includes access via parking lots, and the likely effect on neighbors, neighborhoods, and local businesses of siting houseless shelters in Park parking lots.

The houselessness crisis in Portland needs solutions, and this is not one of them.

Sincerely yours,
Sarah Lincoln
SE Portland resident and voter

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Regarding Shelter to Housing Continuum Project 1805
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 11:02:03 AM

Testimony for previous agenda items 165 and 166, in case it didn't reach you from the Mayor or other Commissioners.

From: Sean Watkins <watkinsean@gmail.com>
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 9:27 AM
To: "City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero" <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Regarding Shelter to Housing Continuum Project 1805

Dear Ms Caballero,

I write you because your office is Auditor's Office is to promote open and accountable government by providing independent and impartial reviews, access to public information, and services for City government and the public. I have also written all of the commissioners as well as Mayor Wheeler.

I assure you that this is not a robot generated email. I am a homeowner, voter, and taxpayer living in SE Portland. I am following the City's response to solving the houseless crisis, and I have several concerns that revolve around the plans. Specifically, I am extremely concerned that the city commissioners will ignore the citizens regarding camping on the streets. There is a huge uprising among all of us, especially mores in the SouthEast part of the city, as we tend to have many of the houseless population settling here in tents, in parks, school grounds, streets, and sidewalks.

This is extremely important for all of Portland:

We need to let Title 15 housing emergency to expire. No random camping can be allowed within Portland any more. The relaxation of the law due to Covid has created an unsafe, unsightly, unmanageable, unsanitary and inhumane problem throughout SE Portland and beyond, all of which happened because of non-enforcement of no camping regulations. It is utterly unsustainable.

We need to establish a new emergency declaration to allow these new shelter codes to be enacted only under the new emergency time frame. No permanent code changes. Balance all shelter spaces throughout ALL of Portland's neighborhoods. Even if SE has more potential spaces, they should be removed from the map until a balance of ALL neighborhoods, including the West Hills and all of the West side of Portland is shown.

An enforcement plan must be delineated and be expressly coupled to this action so that as new managed shelters are established, random camps are shut down, removed, cleaned up, and then monitored so they can not re-establish.

We need to provide detailed descriptions of what the management plan is for each site, and who specifically is responsible for its implementation. Results need to be published before any vote is taken.

Unfettered camping anywhere anyone wants to camp is unrealistic. It is devastating to Portland and its residents, visitors and businesses.

Thank you for your time. Please hear us, the citizens of Portland.

Sean Watkins

Taxpayer, Voter, Citizen

190380

3519 SE Yamhill Street
Portland, OR 97214

From: [Sharon S](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Proposed zoning changes regarding the homeless
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 11:27:57 AM

We support the proposed zoning changes to enhance greater opportunities to house and shelter the houseless population. We see the problem is worsening and the solutions multifaceted...shelter and services are a good beginning.

We also whole heartedly support the comments made at the council hearing of March 17, by residents of Lents and outer Southeast. As residents and homeowners in this area we are concerned for the stability and economic impact of these placements. At times we feel our area has become a slum and we are ashamed.

Thank you
Sharon and Andrew Szolnoki

From: [Life After Death](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Homeless crisis
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 1:20:22 PM

For the last 5 years I've been trying to figure out, How can I be able to live in a Tiny House and Farm. Homeless for 2 years now, currently in Milwaukie, Or. living in my Tiny House on my truck. I came to the Portland because I have hope that Portland can be the first to lead the world with my vision.

What is my vision? Ecovillages! Tiny houses with a permaculture attitude. My issues I have found it almost impossible to do. With building codes, minimum sqft rules, and zoning rules and regulations, even what material I can use.

I really need to be a part of the council to shape the future. I have so many plans to solve so many issues like homelessness, Hunger, trash pick up and mental health help.

Need affordable housing including alternative housing, primitive, and off-grid living.

Born and raised in Tampa, Fl. And from the Detroit, Mi for the last 10 years.

Call me Ben Howard 810-459-0066 or email me back asap

From: [Andrew Rowe](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony for March 17th Item 165
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 2:53:13 PM

Dear Sir/Madame,

I was unable to stay for more than 2 hours yesterday to testify, so please enter my testimony into the record. Thank you.

Item 165 Testimony to Portland City Council
March 17,2021
Andrew G. Rowe

Good afternoon Mayor Wheeler, Council members and city staff. My name is Andrew Rowe. I live adjacent to downtown and own a business in downtown that employees 70. We have happily supported tax increases including the HereTogether initiative and personally, we have supported steadily increasing taxes on our home, recognizing that we must pay our fair share to make sure Portland remains a vibrant, sustainable community.

Let me also state that I have great compassion for the houseless and support the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project with certain amendments. I also appreciate the unprecedented challenges that leadership faces in trying to address houselessness in Portland and the efforts you are expending to address this. Finally, I appreciate the impassioned testimony of so many of those here today.

Having said that, the city of Portland is at risk of losing the broad support of its business leadership, taxpaying residents and citizens, if we don't make tangible advances on homelessness soon. Both companies and individuals are leaving the city and the vicious circle of downward spiral is at risk of accelerating. My own company is at a crossroads in determining whether or not we stay or leave. In order for us to stay, our employees need to feel safe to park and walk through downtown to our offices.

It's great to hear about the successes of the Kenton and St. Johns communities, but we need hundreds of these facilities to support the houseless in the metro area. How long will it take to provide everyone who needs a place to live?

My main concern is focused on the recommendation that allows temporary shelters in public Open Spaces without a conditional use permit; particularly city parks and other natural areas that need to be reserved for all citizens. I strongly recommend that developed parks, natural areas, and trails, be removed from consideration for siting of either permanent or temporary shelters. I certainly support consideration of open spaces on a case-by-case basis, as recommended by earlier testimony.

I urge city council to better communicate with the public on how these changes will hasten the development of housing options and when we can expect to see significant, visible changes to our city.

Whatever your decisions, I urge our leadership to accelerate the execution of your plans and do everything you can to produce a tangible paradigm shift that is visible to our community. We are running out of time.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew G. Rowe

Andrew G. Rowe

[1485 SW Cardinell Drive](#)

[Portland, OR 97201 USA](#)

Mobile: [+1 \(503\) 816-9727](#)

Home: [+1 \(503\) 245-7303](#)

Stop Shelter to Housing Continuum Project In Its Current Form

What's Happening

Portland Planning and Sustainability is proposing amendments to the current city code to address the current housing and houselessness crisis.

In 2015, the city adopted the "Safe Sleep Policy" which allowed people to legally camp overnight along sidewalks and public spaces with several caveats: groups were limited to 6 people and camps had to be dismantled by 7am. Over the years, police periodically performed sweeps of these camps. During Covid, police and city officials have largely taken a hands-off approach to allow houseless communities to stay in place during the pandemic.

As the houseless population has grown exponentially, the city has found itself in the position of having to address these issues and find longer term solutions. The Shelter to Housing Continuum project seeks to address these issues (link for the entire document is below).

- The new plan allows for temporary shelters anywhere in the city with the permission of the landowner. This includes vacant lots, parking lots and city owned land.
- The current plan would allow for temporary shelters in parks and open spaces for up to 180 days

I realize our houseless crisis is complex and continues to grow. I also realize it's easy for me to criticize from the sidelines without a deep understanding of what's been done and continues to be done to address the problems we are facing, but what I see as a resident of this city appears to be a complete failure. These proposed changes appear to be a short-term fix that amounts to a shell game. And, like many of the short-term fixes, will do long-term harm to the economic viability and livability of this city.

The problems we are seeing around this city didn't start with covid. They've been happening since 2016 when the Safe Sleep Policy was adopted. Not enforcing rules around street camping and allowing camping in open spaces are the same thing and do nothing to address the long-term problem. It simply makes the city less livable for everyone.

A large portion of the population camping on the streets are the "hard to house", people with chronic and serious addiction and mental health challenges. I know this because I'm out there frequently talking with this population. I am asking everyone one of you, if you haven't, please get out and walk around to these camps and talk with these people. Allowing open camping isn't a fix!!! It isn't compassion, it's avoidance and an abdication of responsibility to this community!

Stop Shelter to Housing Continuum Project In Its Current Form

What happens if these changes pass? Is it considered pencils down and no more work is needed? I sincerely wish/hope the same effort and hours that have been put into creating this plan are being put into a long-term plan.

Before anything is passed, I'd like to see the following:

- 1) **This isn't a long-term solution.** What is the longer-term plan to address the needs the houseless and specifically, the "hard to house"? What is the framework for this plan? Is a team in place? Are organizations working together with the same effort that was put into this plan? What is the timeline? How will progress be measured?
- 2) **Existing Camps.** What is the enforcement plan for shutting down existing camps? How will clean-up be managed and on what timeline? What enforcement will be in place to make sure these existing camps don't re-establish? Lack of resources and enforcement of existing camping rules didn't just start during covid. This has been a growing problem since 2016. How will it be managed going forward?
- 3) **Camp Management.** How will camps be managed? Allowing camping in open spaces with no infrastructure to handle the number of houseless we are seeing is creating another crisis. How will sanitation, health and safety, needle disposal, fire hazards and trash and cleanup be managed? Who (what organization) is responsible for camp management? How will that organization be held accountable? The management plan described here is very vague. **A detailed management plan needs to accompany this plan.**
- 4) **Camp locations/distributions.** This plan expresses the desire to evenly distribute camps throughout the city. The argument that most of the designated areas are on the east side is due to the fact that there's more available land is not good rationale or policy. Fair and equitable distribution needs to be found.

Before any changes are passed, I'd like to see concrete answers to the above questions.

Please don't implement another plan that will exacerbate existing problems and create more problems in the future. This will have long term impacts on the economic viability and livability of this city. I am begging you, please pull the necessary resources and organizations together and treat this as the crisis it is. This cannot be treated as a zero-sum game. Please research Rockford Illinois.

Link to Frequently asked questions addresses the main points without having to read the entire document.

<https://www.portland.gov/bps/s2hc/s2hc-faq>

Stop Shelter to Housing Continuum Project In Its Current Form

Link to watch the City Council Meeting live

<https://www.portland.gov/bps/s2hc/events/2021/3/17/city-council-hearing>

Link to provide public testimony (deadline for submission, Mar 17 @ 2pm)

<https://www.portland.gov/bps/s2hc/s2hc-faq>

Mayor and City Commissioners contact Info

Mayor Ted Wheeler

Mayorwheeler@portlandoregon.gov

503-823-4120

Commissioner Mingus Mapps

mappsoffice@portlandoregon.gov

503-823-4682

Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty

joann@portlandoregon.gov

503-823-4151

Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Comm.rubio@portlandoregon.gov

503-823-3008

Commissioner Dan Ryan

Commissionerryanoffice@portlandoregon.gov

503-823-3589

From: [Wheeler, Mayor](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: enclosed letter for testify about shelter to housing 3.17.2021
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 5:17:43 PM
Attachments: [Shelter to housing Continuum Project.pdf](#)

-----Original Message-----

From: info <info@wilfsrestaurant.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 11:39 AM
To: Wheeler, Mayor <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Hardesty <joann@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Ryan Office <CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: enclosed letter for testify about shelter to housing 3.17.2021

See attached letter for testimony for today's hearing, 3.17.2021, concerning *166 and *167 proposed change to land ordinances for outside shelters in Portland.

I agree with all points in this statement from Lyrin Murphy.

Adele' Nofield
3355 NE 130th Ave
Portland, OR 97230
9712215093

From: [Angie Albrecht](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: written testimony for Shelter to Housing Continuum Project
Date: Friday, March 19, 2021 9:12:20 AM

Dear Portland City Council,

I am a lifetime Oregonian and have been a homeowner in Portland for 24 years. I live in outer SE Portland on the border with Happy Valley. I am lucky because I live at the top of a steep butte, which so far has discouraged campers. However, I drive through the city daily and am disgusted at the amount of trash and burned up vehicles on the side of the road. There is a stretch on SE 122nd Ave where you cannot access the sidewalk, which is a violation against ADA. My house was cut off from internet (which my children need for school) for over 48 hours recently due to two RV fires on Foster which destroyed infrastructure, recently someone lost their life close by as well. To say the city has not done their job is an understatement. While many people were working during this pandemic every day, the city decided that it was too unsafe to help maintain our city's health and hygiene. Now you have a real mess, now people do not want to visit Portland. It is dirty and unsafe. My recent visits to New Orleans and NYC prove that other bigger cities do a better job at cleanliness than our "green" state.

I understand that you would like to use parks to host the camps as a way to get the problem that you allowed to skyrocket under control. So families who have bared the tremendous burden of this pandemic are now penalized yet again. First it was the over reaction and keeping the parks and community centers closed last summer. Families have been under huge strain having to limp along their children's education. Now you want to take away parks for the long term. You all may not like to hear this, and I understand that folks who are houseless can be a victim of their circumstances, but families do not want to recreate amongst camps where people congregate who may be on drugs or mentally ill. It is not safe for children.

I implore you to amend this project and take out the ability to camp in parks. I also ask that you add an addendum to scatter these camps out throughout the city. They will inevitably be centered in the same places they are now, along the Springwater corridor, east of 82nd, and downtown. It is not right what the city has done to our families. Please make it right and make a difference to people. People should not be burned alive in Portland because of your mismanagement. My children have been screamed at before by houseless people at the bottle drop. They will not go to our parks if there are people camping there as they will not go to the bottle drop any more, and they shouldn't have to feel afraid in the places that are meant for them paid for by tax payers like myself.

Thank you,
Angela Albrecht

From: [Wheeler, Mayor](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Support for the Shelter to Housing Continuum Proposal
Date: Friday, March 19, 2021 5:52:42 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-ccm1stmd.png](#)
[Outlook-h0jokn0v.png](#)

From: Michelle Sanders <michelle.sanders@cascadiabhc.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 3:58 PM
To: Commissioner Ryan Office <CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Hardesty <joann@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>; Wheeler, Mayor <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Support for the Shelter to Housing Continuum Proposal

Good Evening City Council Members,

I am writing in support of the Shelter to Housing Continuum Plan discussed at yesterday's council meeting. It is my hope that you will also support this proposal and will work hard to explore creative ways to approach this crisis.

As a Program Manager for a Crisis Respite Program in Community Mental Health, I work with many clients who are unsheltered. Experiencing homelessness is tough for anyone, but for those with mental health challenges, it is especially difficult.

My belief is that safe housing is a human right and that housing everyone is not only the most humane, but the most economical approach to resolving this issue. It is what we must do.

We need the City Council to make bold moves for both short-term and long-term solutions to the homeless emergency in the Portland Metropolitan Area. Things like expedited temporary shelter permits will certainly help - but not solve - this problem. Loosening rules to allow more SROs and group homes to be built or established could create more long-term solutions to this housing shortage epidemic.

Thank you for your time and for doing the right thing to support our community!

Warm Regards,



Michelle Sanders, LMFT, QMHP

Program Manager - Tigard Adult Respite

Cell: 503-312-9725

Office: 503-747-4338

Fax: 503-747-4387



"All mental health symptoms are exaggerations of "normal" human traits, behaviors, or emotions." ~Neil Falk, MD

In other words, symptoms are "normal" traits, behaviors, or emotions that become expressed too much, too little, and/or in the wrong context.

Examples...

Normal ~ Pathological

Sadness ~ Depression

Imagination ~ Psychosis

Planning & Organizing ~ OCD

Fear & Vigilance ~ PTSD

Fight, Flight, Freeze Response ~ Panic Attacks

Substance Use ~ Substance Abuse or Dependence

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From: [Jessica Jimenez](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#); [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Commissioner Rubio](#); [Commissioner Mapps](#); [Commissioner Ryan Office](#)
Subject: Shelter to housing continuum
Date: Friday, March 19, 2021 7:57:15 PM

To whom it may concern,

We are writing in regards to the proposed amendment to the shelter housing continuum. I am a Portland native, we both work, own a home, and are the parents of two young children.

We fully support transitional housing options to help alleviate the immense issue of homelessness and the houseless crisis in Portland that has only worsened over the last year.

We do not, however, support the use of our parks or natural areas as a means of addressing the issue of homelessness, be it a temporary ordinance or otherwise.

Portland is a city that prides ourselves on our parks and natural spaces and the taxes we pay support the development and maintenance of these parks and spaces for the enjoyment of our residents.

We worry about the proposed changes to city codes and these spaces being allowed for use by homeless individuals, because unfortunately with many of the unregulated homeless sites come unsanitary conditions, substance use and paraphernalia, which is not safe.

We feel that our city has ample opportunity to expand and develop shelter capacity, increase the availability of SRO's and group homes, and to utilize defined property spaces to develop regulated dignity villages.

These defined and regulated spaces can also take advantage of providing much needed connections to mental health and addiction services, transitional housing services and transitional employment services, something which is very difficult to do in unregulated situations.

It deeply saddens us to witness the current conditions within our city and we want to support reasonable efforts to help alleviate homelessness, however the use of our parks and natural spaces as part of this plan is not a suitable alternative.

Regards,
Jessica



6380



190380

190380



190380



190380





From: [boogiewbb](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Question of shelters allowed in parks and open space zones - NO
Date: Monday, March 22, 2021 12:59:06 PM

Hello City of Portland;

Unauthorized use/camping - homeless persons in undeveloped Portland Park space (150th and SE Division).

Myself and Rick Cottrell live on SE 150th Ave, next to a gated and lock unincorporated space that was gifted to Portland Parks and Recreation. For almost a year, we and our neighbors have had to deal with unauthorized homeless campers on this adjacent property.

There are 4 tent set ups currently and looks like a 5th tent is going up today. We have called the Park Ranger, sent emails to district representative Janelle Bynum, and made multiple complaints to Parking Enforcement and Portland Police. No one has addressed or taken care of this concern. We were promised by the Portland Park planners, during neighborhood forum meetings, that homeless campers would not be allowed and the Park Bureau would deal with the situation if it occurred.

The "campers" are using the grassy area along our fence line for a toilet, we have found hypodermic needles, as well as our fences have been climbed (resulting in breakdown of support posts). There is an increase in rodent (rats and mice) population in our backyards. The non-running cars are blocking the access the gates. There is fighting at all hours among the inhabitants. The campers have threatened us. They have left cars running through out the night on Taggart St. There is a community garden in this lot space and the safety of the crops and the gardeners are in question by the filth and needle disposal.

We have attempted to thwart the installation of the tents by using zip-ties on the jimmed locked access gate, spoke to campers, and cleaned by after previous messes. As of recent a chain and lock was added to the access gate on 150th Ave entrance, which must have been placed by a Park Ranger, but no one addressed the out of control filth of the multiple campsites.

You only need to take a google earth view of the property to see the utter devastation of the field a few years ago, after a cigarette was thrown onto the space. The fire burned right up to our fence lines. The fire company had difficulty accessing the area due to illegally park cars on Taggart. The campers are burning and cooking over open flames, using trees on site to fuel their stoves/fires.

Now you want to consider using the park for homeless shelters - you can't even take care of the unauthorized camping sites that are currently on Portland Parks and Recreation property. You have no experience and no plan, you can't manage the current situations.

This is a HARD NO from us.

Sincerely,

Lori Bond

Rick Cottrell

2905 SE 150th Ave

Portland, OR 97236

503-762-1942

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device

March 22, 2021

Re: S2HC

Dear Mayor Wheeler and Members of Portland City Council:

We appreciated the opportunity to testify on this issue last week.

We continue to support the City to find workable and humane solutions for dealing with houselessness.

We are asking the city to remove the recommendation to use open spaces, which would include parks, natural areas, trails, golf courses, parks-related parking lots and community centers, as temporary shelter spaces, except in the case of natural disasters and short term emergencies. The use of these spaces and facilities should not be allowed during a Shelter Shortage as defined in the proposed code.

These spaces are meant for recreational, not residential use. The citizens of Portland have voted for significant tax measures to support both houseless services and parks. We need to honor the intent of the voters and ensure the ability for all to use our parks for their intended purposes. The use of these spaces would be a band-aid at best, and is not a good solution to our current houselessness challenges.

We are interested in working with the City on alternative solutions.

We also encourage you to rethink your assumptions related to siting of temporary shelters as described in 33.296.030.H. Shelters should be sited so that they can remain in place if they are successful. These sites should be able to evolve, in terms of services and facilities, to meet the needs of the residents. To disrupt all of that and force the entire camp to relocate for no reason, except that 180 days is up, does not make any sense. It is not fair to the campers or the non-profits running the site.

If these “temporary” shelters are sited in open space zones, they would continue moving from one park site to another, doing even more damage. This whole idea seems inefficient, expensive, and unfair to everyone. Instead, “temporary” shelters should be sited in locations where they, if desired, can become permanent. Temporary shelters in parks do nothing but move camps around within the city, disenfranchising other park uses and damaging park landscapes.

There is considerable funding now available from federal Covid relief and the Metro Homeless Services ballot measure. This money should make it possible to lease property in all parts of the city for establishment of mass camps, tiny house clusters, and safe parking for occupied vehicles.

We also ask that you remove Portland Parks & Recreation community centers and other recreation buildings from consideration for use as temporary shelters related to the Shelter Shortage. We support the use of community centers in times of natural disasters and weather emergencies. The use of community centers during a pandemic fit this criteria because Covid is a short-term natural disaster and the community centers are closed—not functioning as intended. Once the pandemic emergency is over, we should all expect our community centers to return to their primary purpose.

By recommending that community centers should be available to provide shelter during a Shelter Shortage, you are suggesting that their highest and best use should be as homeless shelters rather than recreation centers for the entire community. By recommending that community center or park parking lots should be available for managed homeless camps or inhabited vehicles, you are saying that this use trumps general community access to our parks and recreation centers. We strongly reject both of those arguments.

We encourage you to seriously investigate the experience of other cities that have looked to their parks as a solution for sheltering their houseless community. Our own research, which we have already shared with you, showed that in all cases, by trying to solve one problem, another was created that impacted even more people. As we said in our testimony, it is almost impossible to put the genie back in the bottle.

We are not reassured by your oft-repeated promise that you would never approve the use of park grounds or sensitive natural areas for siting mass shelters. Intent does not make law. If this is truly your intent, we need to see proposed changes to the code language that will ensure your intent is actually what happens. Your decisions will be in place long after you are gone.

Please know that we are all committed to helping find alternatives that will be workable and humane.

Sincerely,

Darlene Carlson	97202	Parks Advocate and former PP&R employee	darcarlson@comcast.net
Mary Anne Cassin	97219	Parks advocate, volunteer, and 25 year PP&R employee	cassinmaryanne@gmail.com
Patricia Frobes	97212	Parks Advocate	pfrobes@me.com
Gay Greger	97214	Parks Advocate, volunteer, and 24 year PP&R employee	gaygreger@gmail.com
Michelle Harper	97218	PP&R Citywide Collaborative Services Mgr, retired	harpermichelle.m@gmail.com
Susan Kelly	97212	Parks advocate, City Club Past President	susankilduffkelly@gmail.com
Linda Robinson	97230	East Portland Parks Advocate	lrobinspdx@comcast.net
Mary Ruble	97201	Parks Advocate and Portland Parks Foundation Board Member	mbruble@gmail.com
Zari Santner	97210	Parks advocate and retired Director of Portland Parks and Recreation	zarisantner@gmail.com
Jim Sjulín	97214	Parks and trails advocate	sjulinjim@gmail.com

From: [Gay Greger](#)
To: [Wheeler, Mayor](#)
Cc: [Adams, Sam](#); [Lee, Bobby](#); [Clerk General](#)
Subject: Response to issues raised in the 3/17 S2HC Hearing
Date: Monday, March 22, 2021 1:29:39 PM
Attachments: [Response to Council for 3.24.docx](#)

March 22, 2021

Re: S2HC

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Zari Santner	97210	Parks advocate and retired Director of Portland Parks and Recreation	zarisantner@gmail.com
Jim Sjulín	97214	Parks and trails advocate	sjulinjim@gmail.com

From: [Terry Parker](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Cc: [Gardner, Brooke](#)
Subject: Testimony on agenda items 183 & 184 related to facilitating shelter & housing.
Date: Monday, March 22, 2021 1:36:11 PM

To Members of the City Council,

Think back a few years to the Fall of 2011 when the occupation of Chapman and Lownsdale Squares took place. Do you remember what the park grounds looked like after the slightly more than four weeks when the occupation was forced out? Now visualize what our city parks and public golf courses will look like after 180 days as campsites for the homeless. Let me help you with that visualization. There is trash everywhere with no accountability required by those who created the strewn mess. Grassy areas and vegetation, especially around big trees is now hard bare dirt. Shrubbery, bushes and other plantings are broken and trampled down. There are scorched and burnt areas that are remnants from out of control camp fires. The parks are void of children on the swings and other playground equipment. The parks are also void of families wanting to enjoy the outdoors instead of being cooped up do to COVID. Golfers, especially senior citizen golfers, have no place to recreate.

Allowing homeless camps in city parks and on the city's public golf courses is nothing less than scorched earth policy making. Temporary is rarely temporary in Portland. All a person has to do is look at what PBOT does. What is originally billed as temporary all too often becomes permanent. Moving the camps out of the parks will be difficult, and it will take a considerable amount of time for the ecosystems to recover. Furthermore, the City Council doesn't budget enough money for parks to even keep up with basic maintenance let alone repair the destruction done to the foliage and landscape if homeless camping is allowed.

Now think about allowing homeless camping around schools. Visualize the reopening of schools surrounded by homeless camp tents. Again, trash everywhere, damage being done to the landscape and fires being set. Think about what took place near Sunnyside school where a homeless person was running around waving a machete. And the street response? Now visualize the children having to navigate this environment just to enter the school buildings so they can attend needed in-class learning.

The PSC was off beam with their recommendations. Taxpayers deserve better leadership that disallows homeless camps in our city parks, golf courses and around schools. About a year ago, I recommended to the Mayor that RVs and travel trailers could be placed on some surplus water bureau properties thereby providing temporary housing for small families and seniors attempting to find affordable and permanent housing. There also may be some paved areas such as basketball courts (other than in parks) that could also accommodate mobile types of housing. Spacious shuttered stores such as the K-Mart at NE 122nd and Sandy might also be able to be utilized as shelters. Multiple mobile types of housing could be staged in the vacant parking lot. As for parks, golf courses and on or around school grounds; THEY MUST BE OFF LIMITS AND BE RULED OUT!

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Parker

Northeast Portland

From: [Nikki M](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Our parks and natural areas should not be the default answer for the homeless issue
Date: Monday, March 22, 2021 1:36:43 PM

Dear Mayor Wheeler and members of the Portland City Council,

It has come to my attention that you are voting to change ordinances that would allow homeless to live in open space zones such as parks, trails and natural areas. I was horrified to hear about this possibility.

Our parks and natural areas should be preserved and guarded for the betterment of the entire community and not be allowed to become unsafe zones filled with unhoused people, their trash and their drugs. I live right along the spring water corridor trail with my young toddler, my husband and two dogs. Even though camping is illegal there we still have problems with the homeless continuously camping there. They yell, have fights, do drugs which I can smell, leave trash everywhere and just this past winter during the ice/snow storm they almost caught my house on fire by letting their campfire get out of control (there were sparks flying into my backyard and I had no way to leave the house with my toddler due to the storm). They also often have weapons at their camps (some of which exploded during the fire over the winter). I don't feel safe walking the trail with my family anymore. And sometimes I don't feel safe in my own home when they are camped too close, are doing drugs, fighting or have started a fire. And this is with it being illegal. I can only imagine how much worse the situation will become when the camping is legal.

My husband and I work hard, pay our taxes and vote regularly. We should not have to live in fear because of changes to the law in regards to the homeless. We should not lose the playgrounds, parks and recreation areas we once enjoyed and have to see our child and our dogs suffer as a result. These homeless who illegally camp behind us are not good neighbors and contributing members to our society. They have drug addictions and are violent and living in unsafe and unsanitary conditions. They need to be rehabilitated and given a safe and sanitary place to live not allowed to destroy our natural areas and parks and cause a safety hazard for everyone in the vicinity. That solution is not humane or kind to them and it certainly isn't for those of us living in this community.

Furthermore, many natural areas (including the section of the Spring Water Corridor Trail near my home) don't have access to fire hydrants. If the homeless are legally allowed to camp in such areas and are legally allowed to have camp fires to keep warm when the fire season hits when they have another fire that gets out of hand this is a formula for wild fires in our city, destroying our neighborhoods and lost lives. Camping should only be legal in areas where fire safety can be addressed (access to hydrants etc.).

Additionally, many parks are next to schools. Homeless people are not tracked the way residents are. This means their drugs and potentially sex criminals could be living next to schools in the parks near schools. This is a danger for children walking to and from school.

The homeless crisis needs to be addressed but allowing them to live in areas that will impact children, cause fire safety hazards and destroy our parks and natural areas is not the answer.

Please protect our open spaces, please protect our community. Allowing Open Space Zones to

be used as the homeless for camping is not a responsible or safe option for anyone.

Thank you for your time.

Warm regards,

Nichol McKay

619-549-7582

nnikkisunday@gmail.com

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Keep Our Parks and Open Spaces Safe - They are not the answer to the homeless crisis
Date: Monday, March 22, 2021 1:57:54 PM

Testimony for previous agenda items 165 and 166.

From: Nikki M <nnikkisunday@gmail.com>
Date: Monday, March 22, 2021 at 1:42 PM
To: "Wheeler, Mayor" <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Hardesty <joann@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Ryan Office <CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, "City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero" <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Keep Our Parks and Open Spaces Safe - They are not the answer to the homeless crisis

Dear Mayor Wheeler and members of the Portland City Council,

It has come to my attention that you are voting to change ordinances that would allow homeless to live in open space zones such as parks, trails and natural areas. I was horrified to hear about this possibility.

Our parks and natural areas should be preserved and guarded for the betterment of the entire community and not be allowed to become unsafe zones filled with unhoused people, their trash and their drugs. I live right along the spring water corridor trail with my young toddler, my husband and two dogs. Even though camping is illegal there we still have problems with the homeless continuously camping there. They yell, have fights, do drugs which I can smell, leave trash everywhere and just this past winter during the ice/snow storm they almost caught my house on fire by letting their campfire get out of control (there were sparks flying into my backyard and I had no way to leave the house with my toddler due to the storm). They also often have weapons at their camps (some of which exploded during the fire over the winter). I don't feel safe walking the trail with my family anymore. And sometimes I don't feel safe in my own home when they are camped too close, are doing drugs, fighting or have started a fire. And this is with it being illegal. I can only imagine how much worse the situation will become when the camping is legal.

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The homeless crisis needs to be addressed but allowing them to live in areas that will impact children, cause fire safety hazards and destroy our parks and natural areas is not the answer.

Please protect our open spaces, please protect our community. Allowing Open Space Zones to be used as the homeless for camping is not a responsible or safe option for anyone.

Thank you for your time.

Warm regards,
Nichol McKay
619-549-7582
nnikkisunday@gmail.com

From: [Jo Morris](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: 183-184
Date: Monday, March 22, 2021 2:10:21 PM

Hello my City Council,

I live next to Creston Park. Here are a few thoughts about Agenda items 183-184.

If you decide to allow camping in the parks, cordon off a designated portion of the park that is largely unused by the public. Creston Park is heavily used all along the south and east sides. There's a playground, picnic area and dog park. And an elementary school borders the park on the east side. We have notice (and picked up) used syringes from the area around the bathroom. This is smack in the middle of where all the children and dogs play.

Provide sanitary facilities for those living in tents. They need toilets, handwashing facilities and showers.

Provide trash and recycling services for them, as well. Otherwise, we all have seen the health and ecological disasters that emerge around camps.

Provide a monitoring service to make sure the camping area is clean, healthy and that the campers don't spread out all over the park but stay in the designated zone.

Homelessness is a horrible problem for our city and an even worse problem for those experiencing it.

Thank you for your hard work and for considering my comments.

Mary Jo Morris
4419 SE Francis St.
Portland

From: [Luisa Simone](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Comments on the Shelter to Housing Continuum
Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2021 11:22:38 AM
Attachments: [luisa_simone.vcf](#)

Before I get into the substance of my comments, I would like say that I am in favor of humane and creative solutions that address Portland's homeless problem. We should be coming together as a community to shelter and support our houseless neighbors.

However I worry that we are creating a plan that once again will disadvantage East side neighborhoods while protecting areas of privilege. And I worry that without sufficient reassurances residents (both renters and homeowners) will feel unsafe and dispossessed from those amenities that make Portland a desirable city. Too often city policy pits different groups of people against one another. It's time to come up with a plan that is inclusive of all groups and that fosters a sense of shared responsibility and true community.

In the interest of brevity, I will simply list my suggestions (in no particular order).

1. Requiring expensive sewer hookups for tiny homes or RVs is counterproductive. Instead Portland should invest in composting toilets and waste pumping services. Here's a link describing a waste pumping service in Seattle, as well as a pilot program right here in Portland.

<https://www.kpbs.org/news/2021/jan/03/homeless-in-seattle-get-help-from-city-waste/>

<https://www.kgw.com/article/news/local/portland-pumping-waster-rvs-houseless/283-cd84dd85-4258-4683-9881-19fb04cbc23b>

2. Determine the appropriate number of shelters for each neighborhood in Portland. This would mean that shelters (RVs, tiny homes, group homes, tents and other approved structures) would be located in EVERY neighborhood in Portland: East Moreland and the Pearl as well as Richmond and Lents.

3. Admit that homelessness has many causes, and provide the appropriate screening and support services. For example, provide orientation training for both nearby neighbors and for shelter residents so that the communities can start to understand one another. Institute neighborhood beat cops to build relationships between police and people. Beat cops have the potential to prevent vandalism and drug-related crimes. Insist that anyone receiving the benefits of a shelter also be enrolled in drug and mental health counseling if necessary.

4. Respect the sanctity of everyone's home. That means that unsupervised shelters should not be located near schools, along highly-trafficked pedestrian right-of-ways, or infringing on neighboring property lines.

5. Site shelters with respect to services. In the case of city parks and public sidewalks, we must ensure that these areas remain available and safe. This plan will fail spectacularly if our parks and public spaces become dangerous or degraded. But the general term "services" also include those services (bathrooms and showers, addiction recovery programs, mental health professionals and job counselors) that are essential to the welfare of our houseless neighbors. The living accommodations we provide must not be located so far out of the city, nor

populated so densely that they in effect become ghettos.

6. Integrate our newly sheltered neighbors into the larger community. This is probably the most atypical suggestion you will receive. I think it is also the most hopeful suggestion that you will receive. I truly believe that rather than restricting contact between the homeless and the rest of the community we need to interact with each other in ways that are mutually beneficial. Here are some ideas that pop to mind.

* **Hosting:** If a small pod of shelters are set up in or near a city park, could the shelter residents participate in a hosting program similar to the Park Hosts found in State Parks? Having a caretaker living in a park, discouraging drug use and learning about conservation could be a win for the person seeking shelter and a win for families who long for needle-free playgrounds. Check out this link to the State Park Hosting program: <https://stateparks.oregon.gov/index.cfm?do=getinvolved.volunteer-apply>

* **Language:** Too often language is a barrier that prevents homeless folks from getting the services they need. Imagine workshops, hosted by the city or non-profit agencies, that teach English to non-native speakers, and teach Spanish (or Vietnamese, or Russian) to those who speak only English. Native English speakers learn a new skill, and maybe they also learn that people in shelters only want a safe place in which to build a better life.

* **Food and Music:** Nothing brings people together like food and music--whether it is barbecue or Pho, blues or rock. Periodic pop up events could have benefits far beyond social interactions. First, it could be a stigma-free way to feed people who are hungry. But if we involved houseless folks in the preparation, performance and cleanup these events might also provide job training. I can even envision an evolution of this idea where the city pays wages to the houseless people (and maybe even local teens) who work them.

* **Labor:** My gut feeling tells me that there are a lot of homeless people who are living on the streets because they can't get a job. But there are lots of opportunities for day labor and manual labor that could be presented to the homeless community. It would provide the dignity of work, and maybe give them a path toward regular employment and stable housing. I recently read about a group here in Portland seeking to empower day laborers. I can easily see a partnership between the city of Portland and Voz that would build a true support structure for those seeking employment. Here's a link: <https://portlandvoz.org>

* **Mentoring:** An increasing number of our houseless population is comprised of children and victims of domestic abuse. A program that includes reading aloud or helping with homework could set children more firmly on the path of education and economic opportunity. Coaching and counseling for survivors of domestic abuse could help these women to find a new direction in their lives.

I'm sure I haven't even scratched the surface of all of the issues related to Portland's increasing homeless problem. And I am humbled by the hard work and sincere efforts of so many government officials, non-profit organizations, religious groups and caring citizens. I would be thrilled if the City Council provided ordinary citizens, like me, with a way to participate in building a safer, more inclusive community for all of us.

Thank you,

Luisa Simone

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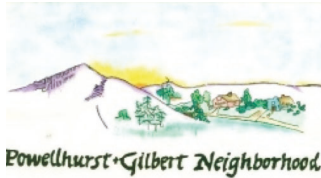
Luisa Simone

Tadpole Graphics, LLC

503-752-8450

luisa_simone@tadpolegraphics.com

Powellhurst-Gilbert Neighborhood Association



East Portland Neighborhood Office,
1017 NE 117th Avenue, Portland, OR 97220

pgnaboard@gmail.com

March 22, 2021

Dear Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners Hardesty, Mapps, Rubio, and Ryan,

The Powellhurst-Gilbert Neighborhood Association (PGNA) is appreciative that the City of Portland is working to find solutions to its present homeless and houslessness crisis. This said, the PGNA board wants to express dissatisfaction with the way that the code for the current Shelter to Housing Continuum is drafted. Our concerns are twofold: 1) we disagree that allowing temporary shelters of any sort in areas zoned as Open Space is appropriate, even for temporary housing up to 180 days, and 2) we are quite concerned that the burden of the problems associated with houselessness in the City of Portland will fall on East Portland, an area of the city that continues to not enjoy the level of infrastructure and support extant in the rest of the City.

East Portland has enduring problems associated with a different City of Portland plan that simply changed zoning code but never institutionalized the level of infrastructure and funding necessary to support the increased density that we were asked to absorb: The 1996 Outer Southeast Community Plan. The history of this failed plan seems to fall on deaf ears in a system of governance not represented by our area. Residents of East Portland clearly understand that our schools are over capacity, that we have a woeful lack of appropriate infrastructure such as sidewalks and well-connected streets, that pockets of our neighborhood that are true food deserts, and that we do not have the resources to support even our current zoning and population. **The intent to situate shelters evenly across this City is not enough**, our area has been burned by good intent in political and economic systems that reinforce wealth and privilege. The BPS website claims that the "Map App" shows only where potential shelters will be located, but our area knows that cheaper open land, greater language barriers, and poverty make us a target. We should not talk about situating shelters where there is "need" when homelessness moves in response to resource availability and coercion; rather we should identify areas that have infrastructure and capacity.

We can and need to do better than allow shelters, temporary or permanent, in areas zoned as Open Space. The degradation of the Springwater Corridor and some of our present parks and open spaces like Beggar's Tick Marsh are witness to the fact that camping, even for a short period of time, negates years of investment in these common spaces. We need these areas now more than ever. We need to find impervious surfaces to park and camp on, buildings to live in if possible, and sanitation, medical services, and addiction support to address some of the root causes of homelessness.

We live in a society where poverty is self-reinforcing, where it takes money to make money, and where those with affluence and privilege have more say and benefit than the rest of us. We need to generate systems where those who benefit more contribute more to the common good. We asked that RIP not be applied to our part of the City, and now this. Please come up with a better plan that does not change the code for Open Space or exacerbate Powellhurst-Gilbert's lack of infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Richard Dickinson
Co-Chair, Powellhurst-Gilbert Neighborhood Association

From: [Powellhurst Gilbert](#)
To: [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Commissioner Mapps](#); [Commissioner Rubio](#); [Commissioner Ryan Office](#)
Cc: [Lee, Bobby](#); [Miranda, Adriana](#); [Meyer, Katie](#); [Edwards, Karly](#); [Torres, Kellie](#); [Adams, Sam](#); [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: PGNA Concerns regarding Shelter to Housing Continuum
Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2021 12:58:23 PM
Attachments: [PGNA Concerns - Shelter to Housing.pdf](#)

Dear Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners Hardesty, Mapps, Rubio, and Ryan,

The Powellhurst-Gilbert Neighborhood Association (PGNA) Board is quite concerned and wants to express dissatisfaction with the way that the code for the current Shelter to Housing Continuum is drafted. Our concerns are twofold: 1) we disagree that allowing temporary shelters of any sort in areas zoned as Open Space is appropriate, even for temporary housing up to 180 days, and 2) we are quite concerned that the burden of the problems associated with houselessness in the City of Portland will fall on East Portland, an area of the city that continues to not enjoy the level of infrastructure and support extant in the rest of the City.

Please consider our attached letter as formal testimony.

Sincerely,

Richard Dickinson
Co-Chair, Powellhurst-Gilbert Neighborhood Association

From: [Heidi Koenigsmann](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Cc: [Robert Augur \(RAUG\)](#); [Lori Bond](#); [Lori Freiley-Salinas](#); [Laura & Mark Long](#)
Subject: Question of Shelters in Parks & Open Space Zone - NO
Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2021 3:46:18 PM

Good Afternoon City of Portland,

Unauthorized use/camping - homeless persons in undeveloped Portland Park space SE 150th & Division.

Myself & Robert Augur live on SE Woodward right off of SE 148th. There is a big field behind our home that is now owned by the City of Portland & has a large section that is a community garden but the space closest to our homes has been inhabited by unauthorized campers. This has been going on for the last year.

There are currently 5 tents right behind our fences not even 10 feet from behind our homes. Photos attached showing the mess/filth that has been accumulating with each new camper along with a new rodent issue that is affecting us homeowners/taxpayers because of all of the garbage these unauthorized campers are piling up. When Portland Parks had meetings with us in regards to the plans to develop this space into a Park we were told that each & every day a park ranger would come by & patrol the area to ensure nothing like this would happen. They were supposed to lock the main entry gate from dusk until dawn - none of these things has ever happened & this problem right behind our fences keeps growing every day.

Photo attached of the toilet paper & feces that they are now using the space behind our fence line as their toilet. Photos attached of the junk pile that continues to grow along with propane tanks - very unsafe. In the background of a couple of the photos you can see their broken down cars parked at the end of SE Taggart that they "work on" every day & or let idle at all hours - you can also see that there are apartments near this area with many little children who play in this area - unsafe/disgusting conditions for children or anyone to be subjected to. Hypodermic needles have been found & last summer, one of the tents either was set on fire or had something explode in it at 2am - the fire department had a struggle accessing the space because of the broken down cars blocking access. Unsafe conditions for all - completely unacceptable & threatening the homes of taxpayers but nothing has been done.

We have all consistently been reporting these unauthorized campers - they are heard fighting & yelling at all hours - recently one of them threw two bags of women's clothing & a large duffel bag over our fence onto our property which then WE had to clean up & deal with. Photo attached of two rats that our neighbors, Rick & Lori, have caught in their basement due to all of the garbage collecting behind our homes - unsafe & unclean conditions that we're being exposed to.

We are 100% against the proposal of using parks & open city spaces for shelter space for homeless - Now you want to consider using the park for homeless shelters - you can't even take care of the unauthorized camping sites that are currently on Portland Parks and Recreation property. You have no experience and no plan, you can't manage the current situations.

This is a HARD NO from us.

Sincerely,
Heidi M. Koenigsmann
Robert Augur
14925 SE Woodward St
Portland, OR 97236
503-830-5585











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-HK.

From: [Jacquelyn Brown](#)
To: [Wheeler, Mayor](#)
Cc: CommissionerRubio@portlandorgeron.gov; [Commissioner Mapps](#);
CommissionerHardestyjoann@portlandoregon.gov; CommissionerRyan@ryanofficeportlandoregon.gov; [Clerk General](#); Hullcaballero@portlandoregon.gov
Subject: Our Parks and open spaces are not the answer - Testimony
Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2021 8:04:13 PM

Re: Proposed code changes to the Shelter to
Housing Continuum Project

Dear Mayor Wheeler and members of the Portland City Council,
Our parks and natural resources must remain open to the public.
As you consider the language for the Shelter to
Housing Continuum project, I strongly recommend the removal of open space zones including developed parks,
natural areas and trails
from consideration for the siting of either temporary or permanent shelters EXCEPT for a
declaration of emergency or natural disaster.

You will hear testimony on this issue and you should conclude that allowing shelters in open
space zones is inequitable as it disproportionately affects BIPOC communities living without yards or outdoor
spaces that access to parks, natural areas or open spaces is a fundamental necessity
for the physical and mental well-being of all Portlanders and should not be infringed upon.
The houseless crisis in Portland needs solutions, but this idea is not a good one.

Very sincerely yours,
Jacquelyn Brown

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Mary Ann Schwab](#)
To: [McClymont, Keelan](#)
Cc: [City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero](#); [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Commissioner Ryan Office](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Mapps, Mingus](#); [Commissioner Rubio](#)
Subject: Testimony on agenda items 183 & 184 related to facilitating shelter & housing.
Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2021 11:15:47 PM

Quick reminder,

In a February 8 KGW news article, Joanne Zuhl, the executive editor of *Street Roots*, stated, “One reason why these laws are so contentious is because of the disparity between what people define as reasonable,” Zuhl said. “And that perspective is weighted by whether or not you are experiencing or have experienced homelessness.”

The League urges that the criteria for “objectively reasonable” behavior should be judged with an empathetic eyes to what homeless individuals are up against as they struggle to survive on the streets on a daily basis.

On this I agree, but what about the struggles when school children running on the playground slip and slide on spent needles, broken bottles, and missing grass where bond fires kept unhoused toes from freezing. And listening to screaming mentally ill, and fighting between campers. Portland’s School Children have basic rights too.

Something to consider when selecting 180 day unhoused camping sites on public property located within neighborhoods.

Best wishes in finding a win-win solutions... .

Mary Ann Schwab, Community Advocate
Sunnyside Neighborhood Resident since 1971

From: [Mary Ann Schwab](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Cc: [Kotek Tina](#); [City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero](#)
Subject: City Council agenda items 183 & 184 vs pending HB 3115 sit/li on PUBLIC PROPERTY
Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 12:41:31 PM

Something to consider today is the public's last opportunity to testify on House Speaker Tina Kotek sponsored SB 3115 and the City Council agenda items 183 & 184 related to facilitating shelter & housing.

Thanks in part to Mayor Wheeler's compassion for unhoused individuals -- effective March, 2020 -- we Portlanders continue to serve those camping and parking RV and vehicles next to PUBLIC PROPERTY — starting with the Sunnyside Environmental School campus.

The City of Portland, Office of Management and Finance Homelessness and Urban Camping Impact Reduction Program and Sunnyside Neighborhood Volunteers continue to assist moving Campers only to have them return. Currently, volunteers are preparing and serving daily to the Campers and a few individuals drive by to pick-up meals from their vehicle. The public sidewalks are blocked on the corner of SE Umatilla and SE 35th Avenue.

The public has yet to hear how many times Engine 9 Firefighters have been putting out warming fires, administering life threatening first aid, and/or police responding to gun fire. I'm told that is not within their job descriptions to remove unhoused trespassers sleeping on public and/or private church property. I'm told, Firefighters and Police have no league authority to remove trespassers sleeping next to the main entrance to The Grove Church, 3520 SE Yamhill. Nor can they stop drum practice at 9:00 p.m. coming from inside their building. Immediate households need their sleep too!

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Schwab, Community Advocate
Sunnyside Neighborhood Resident since 1971

What can we Portlanders do to protect children on public and school property when House Speaker, Tina Kotek sponsored 3115 unknowingly may blindsides Portland City Council's efforts still listening to public testimony on agenda items 183 and 184 related to facilitation shelter & public housing, Wednesday, March 24th please note —SB 3115 is scheduled on the same date.

My concern is keeping Campers from setting up tents the next 180 days on publicly owned property including public and private school campus, golf courses, river front marine property, forest park —and yes — the secluded Pittock Mansion property.

From: [Michael Stine](#)
To: [Clerk General](#)
Subject: Homeless Plan Input
Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 1:08:58 PM

Please put this urgent request to the Council. Delay the vote on The Shelter to Housing Continuum 2-4 weeks. I and many, many of my neighbors are just learning of it's dire impacts on the future of our city. Thank you, Michael Stine, SE Portland

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From: [Gina Nelson](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Shelter to Housing Testimony
Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 1:11:05 PM

Dear City Council,

I appreciate the opportunity to comment and your commitment all of our residents.

I cannot support the proposal without a few amendments because, as written, it has the potential to create more chaos and it also misses some opportunities to create a more permanent solution for safe and accessible emergency services/shelters for Portlanders.

My practical and compassionate voice comes from being a resident of SE Portland with a school aged child as well as a work history including YWCA's Transitional housing services and Habitat for Humanity.

Proposal considerations

-

Centralize the Shelter to Housing Continuum under one agency:

1. **Oversee and approve the placement of all new emergency camps and shelters based on spatial equity metrics.** Families getting evicted due to COVID and other reasons need to be allowed to stay in their neighborhood, schools and social networks and not clustered in SE and E Portland or because that is where the most allowed zoning is.
 - a. Create a central map that divides Portland into its 6 sections and site shelters based on population density and spatial equity metrics.
 - b. Hire adequate staff to Manage and Track the current existing camps/shelters as well as a central place where all new potential sites are placed to see if it fits into the below guidelines.
 - c. Exclude city parks and trails to site homeless camps and shelters. Keep these facilities for all residents (including those who we are trying to serve)to use as a very needed place to recreate.
2. **Create distinctions between the needs of those struggling with 1) low/no income, 2)drug addiction and 3)mental health crisis for each emergency shelter/camp.** These crises can overlap in our houseless population, but they are certainly separate needs worthy of distinction as we site locations for more shelters/camps. Limit the number of certain types of shelters/camps
 - a. **Create at least a two-block radius around schools where shelters and camps (other than family shelters) are not allowed. This** will give added security, safety from needles in playgrounds, exposure to drugs and those who are homeless whose actions are sadly driven by addiction or mental health challenges. It also gives children and families options for safe choices of walking routes to and from school.
 - b. Each of the 6 sections would equally as much as possible (since current service accessibility is a factor) share the need , not only for family and individual shelters, but also share responsibility to create shelters/camps for those with mental health and addiction needs.
3. **Create a communication and coordination service network for these new camps and shelter**

areas.

- a. Create volunteer positions within each of the 6 sections of Portland to communicate with the City Shelter to Homeless Continuum Manager.
 - i. These Volunteers can outreach to neighborhood associations, neighborhood schools and local social services to begin to weave together a very localized web of relationships to begin to serve these new shelters and camps in each neighborhood. They can also give voice to local concerns from that neighborhood. It is imperative for all involved , those needing shelter and those housed to see how we are connected.

4. The city needs to expend political capital to adequately fund these amendments.

The crisis is immense. We all need to do our part. I am available for questions, clarifications on any of the above or continuing to find solutions.

ginaknelson@msn.com

Thank you for your time.

Gina Nelson

4528 SE Clay Street

Portland, OR 97215

From: [Rev. Luke A Shootingstar](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: I wanted to suggest you consider this idea also
Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 2:54:25 PM

Greetings to all whom this regards,

In my travels in the USA I have noticed the vast amount of space that is wasted beneath bridges because of lack of interest in accommodating the disadvantaged among us. It is a symptom of the deeper issue-wound in my understanding.

In my opinion it would be a better idea to consider how we can more efficiently use the space we have rather than taking the space from parks and other similar valuable resources in the city. I see that successes in this area of wiser land use could further position Portland as a trailblazing leader in the nation.

The ability for agencies to provide services at such locations would likely create a new first responder profession, or further develop existing ones, to be more beneficial to our society. Furthermore, I am a member of the Multnomah County Behavioral Health Resource Center (BHRC) Peer Advisory Council and I see that this resource, if integrated into the landscape, could be very helpful in this emerging design when utilized by first responders.

Thank you for your time and attention in considering my input.

<bows deeply>

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Rev. "Luke A. Shootingstar" Walters, Matakite
 ROWAN {{{*Ripples of Wellness*}}} Ambassador
 Founder and CEO of [Global Community Designs](#)
 (971) 301-4743 admin@globalcodesigns.org

A Member of [Fellowship for Intentional Community](#),
[NCMHR](#), [Oregon Consumer Advisory Council](#),
[AMHPAC](#), [OPP Stakeholders Advisory Team](#),
[PDS Core Team](#), and [Fellowship of Reconciliation](#).

~ *Omnipresence is a very tall order, possible for us
 through working and playing together...as allies* ~

From: [Anna Bar](#)
To: [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Commissioner Rubio](#); [Commissioner Ryan Office](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Commissioner Mapps](#); [Clerk General](#)
Cc: [Todd Borus](#); [David O'Brien](#); [Kevin White](#)
Subject: Camping/shelter in parks is a terrible idea
Date: Sunday, March 14, 2021 12:55:22 PM

Hello commissioners and mayor,

I used to play sand volleyball in Delta Park on a regular basis, however the homeless camp moved in. Residents of the homeless camp would come over and harass us while we were playing and we did not feel safe continuing to play volleyball there. This is just one example of how our beloved parks have been ruined by the homeless camping situation. These are parks that taxpayers pay for and expect to use. The homeless people ruin the parks with their trash, drug use, and random acts of violence and assault.

It's not safe to send our kids to the playground at the park anymore if homeless people are allowed to live there. Please do not expand homeless sheltering option to include our parks.

I'm from New York and there is Not a single person living in Central Park. Or Prospect Park. Or any of the parks. New York has shelters and homeless people are moved to a shelter where they can live humanely and not use drugs. Portland has a lot to learn.

Sincerely,
Dr. Anna Bar

Sent from my iPhone

March 17, 2021

Dear Mayor Wheeler and Portland City Council,

Thank you, the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, and the Planning and Sustainability Commission for your efforts to help address our city's housing crisis through the Shelter to Housing Continuum project. I support many of the options proposed, but I oppose the proposal to allow and sponsor temporary (180-day maximum) shelters and sanctioned camps in vegetated parks and natural areas, except on a temporary basis in response to a FEMA disaster declaration. My reasons:

- Portlanders from all over the city flock to local parks and natural areas for active and passive recreation and respite. There is a rapidly growing body of publications that attest to the public health (physical and mental) benefits of being in green spaces and nature. Bringing shelters and camps and associated people and dogs will change the character of our parks and natural areas, from places where one can escape the urban scene, to populated public space. Where we have deficiencies in parks and green spaces, the city should invest to create more of them, while also implementing strong measures to prevent green gentrification.
- Our parks and natural areas are degraded due to human-caused impacts due to foot traffic (human and dog), litter, and waste, causing erosion and sedimentation, soil compaction, and land and water pollution. These impacts are exacerbated by the proliferation of homeless camps in these spaces. Bringing more people and dogs into public parks and natural areas will exacerbate those impacts and change the nature of our parks and natural areas.
- Trees, vegetation, streams, and wetlands in Portland's parks and natural areas, and on some public golf courses as well, are also integral elements of our public infrastructure, contributing to water quality and stormwater management. As a significant part of Portland's urban forest, they are also the lungs of the city, helping clean the air and sequester carbon. And, they are also home to birds, fish, and wildlife species, most of which are already in decline from loss of habitat, climate change, and other impacts.
- This proposal flies in the face of significant public and community-based investments to create green spaces, like Cully Park and Gateway Green, and Westmoreland Park, that provide peaceful open space for people, habitat for fish, wildlife and pollinators, culturally important elements such as first food gardens, and nature-based playgrounds for kids and families.
- Allowing temporary shelters or camps for 180 days is problematic. It sends the message that it is appropriate for humans to reside in public open spaces. And once situated, people will not want to leave, creating additional conflict and pain. The damage to land, water, and wildlife, will be done, creating additional costly restoration needs.

We need a creative, multi-faceted citywide strategy to address disparities in housing and services. That strategy should also focus on assisting people who are already living in city parks, natural areas, and open spaces, to relocate to less-damaging locations. We need to preserve and enhance our parks and natural areas without converting them to permanent or temporary shelter or camp sites. And again, we need to invest in creating more parks and greenspaces in neighborhoods where that are park-deficient, while also implementing measures to maintain housing affordability and prevent green gentrification.

From: [James Harris](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Homeless encampments in Portland public parks.
Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 5:02:37 PM

I am writing this in support of the Sunnyside Neighborhood and the parents who are concerned about the huge homeless camp in the park which is adjacent to the school. This has gone way too far. There has already been one episode of an individual going into the auditorium and subjecting the children there to something they have no business being subjected to.

If the homeless or houseless folks were at least relatively clean and tidy and willing to keep their camp sites so and not defecate and urinate anywhere they want to and were not threatening to the population around them I might consider this in a different light. HOWEVER, these individuals show no evidence of their desire for community and getting along and trying to fit in rather than "stake their claims" often in a most terrifying way. Our city has done little or nothing about arriving at a solution which would be at least somewhat satisfactory to both sides. They have been so darn namby pamby that it makes me ill! Why on earth would it be OK for folks living in the manner in which these people live and allow them to take precedence over the children of a community/neighborhood made up of people who pay their taxes and work hard to make their community/neighborhood a safe and pleasant place to live. It is no wonder I have read letters to the editor in the Oregonian opinion section from people who are either never coming back to Portland or Portlanders who are seriously considering leaving. Driving down the freeways is shocking and very unpleasant. So much trash and all these tents and sloppy campsites EVERYWHERE and ANYWHERE is just plain disgusting!!!! Who would want to come and visit Portland when you are welcomed by such a sight.

Something has to be done and done soon. Both to the Sunnyside school park and to the City of Portland. In the 70 plus years I have lived here I doubt I have ever seen anything like it. Come on Mayor Wheeler, Joanne Hardesty and the rest of the city council. Get with it. Put on your adult pants and do something besides the wishy washy approach you have taken to this problem.

Thank you for your attention, Sincerely Patricia (Pat) Harris 7514 SE Market St. Portland OR. 97215-3541 503 -775-1369

From: [Jacqueline Marie](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Cc: [Jacqueline Marie](#)
Subject: Homeless Camps
Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 5:19:45 PM

Greetings ~

I am an East Mid-Multnomah County resident (Lents-Powell-Gilberthurst) & would like to submit my perspective on the on-going homeless camps that have overtaken our public sidewalks, streets, many parks, & vacant lots all over Multnomah County.

I was, and am still, compassionate for those folks who are displaced, are mentally ill, &/or are addicted & are homeless. I've given cash to people panhandling, donated to organizations dedicated to helping the homeless, signed portions & voted for funds to help them. None of this seems to have helped their situations & have, in fact, exacerbated the problem, enabling people to continue w/living illegally in & on public spaces, accumulating massive amounts of garbage, including biohazard materials such as used syringes, used condoms, fast food packaging, urine & feces. Property crime is WAY up, as is assault, harassment, even murder. Because there has been virtually no repercussions for illegal behavior, many homeless people from other cities have relocated here in knowing that they can camp virtually anywhere, use drugs publicly, litter, steal, harass passers-by, cause scenes in stores, pollute ponds & rivers, commandeer parks & open spaces so no one else can use them, virtually ruining our once beautiful city & generally demoralizing our citizenry.

The time for meetings & rhetoric is over. There needs to be an expedited PLAN for relocating homeless campers Off of public streets & parks. Metro has Lots of unused land where campers can be relocated, organized, with the services they need. Portlanders have already paid for Leadership to address this issue & implementation needs to happen Now. If campers do not want to relocate to a designated area, that's their choice, but they should Not be allowed to camp on public streets, parks, wetlands, or private property w/o the owners consent. We Pay taxes to keep our city clean, to keep it safe, And to help those less fortunate than we who are blessed to have a job & a home. Please find a way to address this issue w/o punishing Portland's citizens.

Thank you,

~ Jacqueline Marie
97266

From: [Peggy McDaniel](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Camping in Portland
Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 5:41:36 PM

Hello,

I am a homeowner in SE Portland and am writing to express my extreme disappointment in how PDX leaders have dealt with homelessness in our once beautiful city over the past two years.

First, I must state that I am completely against the latest plan to allow camping in open spaces, neighborhoods, public spaces, and the rest, even if it is “blessed” by the property owner. This is unacceptable. Period.

I voted for the last tax initiative to support monies for homeless assistance (I also make enough money to actually pay the tax) and have seen ZERO done to help these people. I only see more camps, more garbage, more tagging, more aggressive and inappropriately behavior... must I go on?

I am an RN and believe that we can do better. How have we allowed any camping to be acceptable and have allowed it as a viable option. People are living like animals and they need help, support, safe spaces, services, etc. The city needs to expand the tiny home lots that have been started, have enough for everyone-along with bathrooms, showers, garbage pick up, social and health services and then mandate a ZERO tolerance to camping policy and ENFORCE it! This is just one idea. I’m sure you’ve heard of many that would be better than what we are doing. Let’s find the money, make it happen and make PDX beautiful again.

Thank you,
Peggy McDaniel
503-801-9611

From: [Hanna Hallman](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Camping in Parks
Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 6:49:09 PM

Absolutely NOT. This is absurd. Do your job and figure out a better way for EVERYONE to enjoy what our city has to offer.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Deepti Shinde](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Allowing camping/shelters in open spaces
Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 7:18:34 PM

Hello,

I would like to voice my opposition to allowing camping/shelters in Portland parks, camps and open spaces. I understand that this requires prior authorization by a public agency but the city doesn't have the resources to enforce this if that authorization isn't gotten. These spaces were not designed to have people living on them, they were designed to be enjoyed by all residents. Allowing people to live on them is going to damage the ecosystem and make some places unusable for city residents. One of the best things about Portland is the parks in the city and around, why would you consider allowing this to ruin them?

Best,
Deepti Shinde

From: [Rachel](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Please no homeless camping in parks and golf courses
Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 7:39:40 PM

To City Council:

Please, please, please do not allow camping in Portland parks and golf courses! I am a lifelong resident of Portland, a NE Portland homeowner, and mother to two school aged children. I have watched the livability, cleanliness, safety, and beauty of Portland rapidly decline over the past few years. The trash, graffiti, abandoned cars and tents, and crime is so disheartening. Opening Portland parks and golf courses up to camping is NOT a solution. Portland residents will lose even more of our safe, green, community park spaces.

Please come up with a different solution and work to safeguard and restore the livability of Portland or I honestly do not know how much longer I can live in Portland— which is heartbreaking because this is my home.

Sincerely,

Rachel Smith

From: [Lynda Peel](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Homeless camps proposed to be in parks
Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 10:08:32 PM

Hi my name is Lynda Peel I am a primary care physician in Portland Oregon. I am strongly against placing any temporary shelters in Portland parks or golf courses. Homeless encampments currently on the streets of Portland are not good for the health of the people living in the camps or the health of the public living around the camps.

This is not a solution but is just digging Portland deeper into a problem that conyinues to go unchecked in our city.

Lynda Peel, MD

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From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Proposed code changes to the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project - Our Parks and Public Open Spaces are not the answer to the housing crisis
Date: Thursday, March 25, 2021 8:43:00 AM

Testimony for agenda items 183 and 184.

From: "conradmyers@myers-co.com" <conradmyers@myers-co.com>
Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at 10:34 PM
To: "Wheeler, Mayor" <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Hardesty <joann@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Ryan Office <CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, "City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero" <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: RE: Proposed code changes to the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project - Our Parks and Public Open Spaces are not the answer to the housing crisis

Dear Mayor Wheeler and members of the Portland City Council:

Portland's beloved parks and public open spaces were endowed or acquired for the public use and benefit of its citizens by the wise and generous founders of our city. Our city parks are a unique resource for our children and for the sanity and health of our adult population needing open space and natural environment. We as residents, citizens and tax payers are horrified (as those founders would also be horrified) at the very notion that the City's present day government would even consider legitimizing the desecration and destruction of these parks by turning them into homeless encampment sites.

A decision to do this to our parks will be one more nail in the coffin of our once beautiful, suffering city. It would be one more motivating reason for residents to decide that there are better places to live and pay taxes. Something we as proud Portland citizens once thought inconceivable. It will be yet another reason why tourists would decide to give Portland a wide berth. One more reason for our beleaguered business community to decide not to reopen a shuttered store or restaurant or invest.

The city governments' policies for dealing with the homeless have been an abject failure. Our downtown streets and freeway verges and yes some park areas have become unsanitary, dangerous eyesores. Now you consider dumping these unfortunates in our parks. We who have supported all manner of charitable causes and property tax funding initiatives for the homeless implore you not to make this code change. We cannot foresee any future enjoyment by our kids and grandkids of the city's parks if they are to become the infested, trash littered, alien places that our streets have already become.

Destroying our parks is not a solution to the city's homeless problems.

Very Sincerely Yours

Conrad & Abby Myers

From: [Tom Scott](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Housing Crisis and Camping in the City
Date: Thursday, March 25, 2021 8:04:23 AM

To the City of Portland Council and Honorable Mayor:

I moved to Portland, from Colorado, 31 years ago. I remember then, thinking how bad the houseless situation was in 1990. Since then, as we all know, the situation has gotten exponentially worse! I wrote the Mayor when he first elected about possible ideas and solutions. I've offered to volunteer to use what skills I may have, to help. I used to be proud of our City, and would love to show it off to out of town friends, but I am now truly embarrassed how bad the situation has gotten.

I've bicycle commuted from SE Portland to the Airport area, and to the furthest East point of Portland, for over 25 years. As a healthy fit man, I've never worried about safety. My main commute route has incorporated sections of the I-205 bike path. You hear stories all the time about people being attacked, but again, I've personally never worried, until this year.

There are sections in the bike path that are now physically blocked by homeless camps, large camps with a half dozen people or more. I get they are just trying to survive. Some areas of concern on the 205 path is the section between Stark and Burnside, Burnside and Glisan, and the worst, under the railroad bridge just N of Sandy. There is no easy alternative at this point on the path, to avoid the blocked bike paths. Just yesterday, under the railroad bridge 2 guys blocked the path as they were disassembling more than a dozen bikes, hanging from the fence.

We as citizens of this community need to take back our streets! There are at least 5-6 "camps" with more than a dozen people in each camp within a 1 mile radius of my office. What concerns me the most is the trash, and destruction of what should be protected natural areas. Not sure what it will take, but with nightly shootings, the trash and graffiti, our city has very quickly become almost unlivable. I think BOTH the political "left" and the "right" have had enough, and we all need to do more than S.O.L.V.E this. We need competent compassionate leadership to deal with the homeless and clean up our city.

Mayor Wheeler ran on this issue of dealing with the homeless. I enthusiastically voted for him the first time, and VERY reluctantly voted for him again to give him a second chance. While I understand Portland is trying to do Progressive things like the Inclusionary Zoning that was implemented a few years ago, but it is having the OPPOSITE effect. Developers have stopped building, because this law is too strict, and makes building the housing not profitable and therefore no incentive to build. This will exacerbate the cycle of a housing crisis, higher rents, and more homelessness.

I believe that as Obama did, at the beginning of his first term when dealing with the financial melt-down in 2008/2009, the City's elected leaders need to bring in Private city leaders outside of the current political establishment. Get key City Housing Developers, mental health leaders, addiction specialists, police leaders, religious leaders, and even conservative critics to think outside the box to help solve the situation before tax paying citizens flee the city creating an even worse cycle of livability, and urban blight. I would be happy to volunteer to help serve to solve this situation.

Sincerely,

Tom Scott

Construction Executive

CSI Construction Company

Work: 503-907-0070 | Cell: 503-969-7406 | www.csigc.com | [Linkedin](#) | [Facebook](#)



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Past-Chair <http://www.abcpnw.org/>



From: [Candace Laska](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Homeless camping in parks
Date: Thursday, March 25, 2021 8:53:24 AM

Absolutely not! Our families roam free in our taxpayer-supported parks! We need to REMOVE loitering and camping in our beautiful parks, not ALLOW them.
Not safe, not clean.

Please don't pass this!! The homeless will take over the parks and there'll be no way to reverse it.

Thank you.
Candace Laska
bobswillow@gmail.com
2121

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: [User Approved] Testimony: Portland Shelter to Housing Continuum Legislation
Date: Thursday, March 25, 2021 9:13:49 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Testimony for agenda items 183 and 184.

From: RWE <richard@goodgrowthnw.org>
Date: Thursday, March 25, 2021 at 9:09 AM
To: Interested Parties <interested@macsolve.com>
Subject: [User Approved] Testimony: Portland Shelter to Housing Continuum Legislation

Testimony S2HC Submitted 3-24-21 by

Richard Ellmyer
 9124 N. McKenna Ave.
 Portland, OR 97203

Author of more stories on the politics, players and policies of Public Housing in Oregon over the last twenty years than all other journalists and elected officials combined.

Author of [The Ellmyer Report](#), a newsletter that informs, educates and influences on public policy. Occasionally distributed to more than a quarter of million readers in Oregon and beyond. Facebook, [Portland Politics Plus](#) . Opinion contributor to [Patch.com](#) news.

Please consider the following before you vote on the proposed Shelter to Housing Continuum legislation:

1. *Metro/Oregon Public Housing Location Maps*, <https://www.goodgrowthnw.org/maps>, and the data it provides and the issues it raises e.g.

A. **Equity. Parity. NIMBY.** These terms can and should be considered with every decision to spend public funds on Public Housing throughout Oregon. **Where Public Housing is located** has not been a consideration in the placement of Public Housing because there was no authoritative source that all parties could use as a common factual basis. Now there is.

B. Metro has declared Public Housing Policy to be a **regional issue** for which it now has *responsibility* and *accountability*. All public jurisdictions within Metro's purview, including Portland, must acknowledge **parity** of Public Housing *locations* among the Metro Regional Government counties.

C. Explaining and justifying the disproportionate percentage range of Public Housing units to total housing units within Multnomah county neighborhoods from zero to 100%?

D. Determining which neighborhoods are **overloaded** and which **underserved** with Public Housing.

2. Which of these policies will your vote encourage?

A. **Equitable** Distribution of Public Housing?

B. Targeted, UNLIMITED neighborhood concentration of Public Housing which allows governments to load the neighborhoods of its choosing with up to 100% Public Housing clients, which includes the homeless?

3. Establishing Public Housing policy **goals** of a 5% minimum and a 15% maximum of Public Housing households within every neighborhood throughout Portland and Multnomah county.

4. Recognize that simply MORE Public Housing *anywhere* at *any cost* is NOT a defensible Public Housing Policy.

5. **Location** and **cost effectiveness** must be included in every public discussion involving the planning, funding, policy and distribution of Public Housing, which includes the homeless.

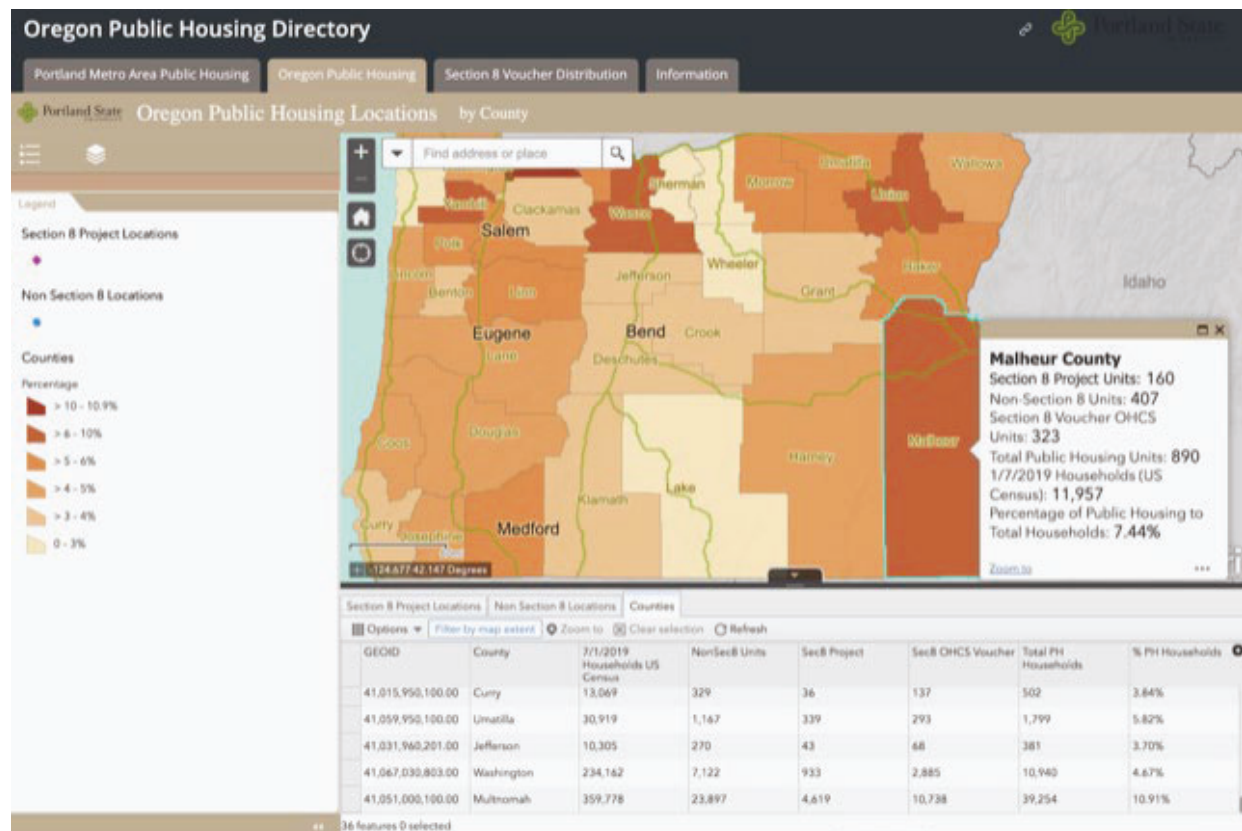
6. First priority and consideration for homeless outdoor accommodations must be given to Public lands that are **not** parks nor alongside public pathways.

Attachment Submitted:

Metro/Oregon Public Housing LOCATION Maps - Now Available To All Oregonians

Hi Fellow Oregonians:

On behalf of the Metro/Oregon Public Housing Location Maps team*1 at Portland State University I am proud to announce the Public Housing Location Maps, the first of its kind in Oregon and the United States of America. It is a set of interactive maps showing the types, numbers, percentages and locations of Public Housing Units in every county in Oregon. Click on the map image below or [here](#) to access.



The purpose of this map is to provide a common touchstone of Public Housing Location Data. Elected officials and all Oregonians can use these maps to discuss, debate and decide on the best, reasoned, defensible, equitable policy decisions related to Public Housing locations in Oregon.

We can NOT have a credible, fact based public debate with defensible arguments for or against any Public Housing Policy without credible data. Now we Oregonians, all of us, have it. In fact, it gets better than that. We also have easy to understand interactive maps that visually tell us the story of Public Housing Locations within every county in our Oregon.

The Oregon Housing and Community Services department and other county housing authorities have identified approximately 107,385 Public Housing households connected to Public Housing Authorities and related agencies in the state of Oregon. All of these households meet the following criteria: PUBLIC HOUSING i.e. a class of housing defined as, Means Test ($\leq 80\%$ MFI) + Government Subsidy (any government any type) + Rental Agreement.

There is no publicly available evidence that any of these 107,385 Public Housing households are currently occupied by households that meet the following criteria: AFFORDABLE HOUSING is a mathematical construct defined as, Rent/Mortgage + Insurance + Taxes + Utilities $\leq 30\%$ Household Income.

Research has revealed that most Public Housing is NOT Affordable Housing.

Government is in the Public Housing business NOT the Affordable Housing business.

Metro/Oregon Public Housing Location Maps Enable Equity, Parity, NIMBY Debate Equity. Parity. NIMBY. These terms can and should be considered with every decision to spend public funds on Public Housing throughout Oregon. Where Public Housing is located has not been a consideration in the placement of Public Housing because there was no authoritative source that all parties could use as a common factual basis. The Metro/Oregon Public Housing Location Maps will make conversations and decisions possible.

We hope that after examining the Metro/Oregon Public Housing Location Maps and the included data files you will ask these questions:

A. Which policy is more dominant among and within Oregon counties, Equitable Distribution of Public Housing or Targeted, UNLIMITED neighborhood/city/county concentration of Public Housing?

B. Do you see parity of Public Housing locations among Oregon's counties, the Metro Regional Government counties and Multnomah county neighborhoods?

a. How do we explain/justify the percentage range of Public Housing units to total housing units within Multnomah county neighborhoods from zero to 100%?

b. How do we explain/justify the percentage range of Public Housing units to total housing units within Metro's three counties from 3.25 to 10.91%?

c. How do we explain/justify the percentage range of Public Housing units to total housing units within all Oregon counties from 0.11 to 10.91%?

C. Is your county/city/neighborhood overloaded or underserved with Public Housing?

Please feel free to copy and past the map image above or this URL, <https://www.goodgrowthnw.org/maps>, to public jurisdiction web sites or other places where interested citizens can easily find it.

Thank you for your interest. Enjoy the exploration.

Send comments to Richard Ellmyer<ellmyer@pdx.edu>

Richard Ellmyer

Portland State University Senior Adult Learner, Project Champion and Data Wrangler
Author of more stories on the politics, players and policies of Public Housing in Oregon over the last nineteen years than all other journalists and elected officials combined.

Author of [The Ellmyer Report](#), a newsletter that informs, educates and influences on public policy. Occasionally distributed to more than a quarter of million readers in Oregon and beyond. Facebook, [Portland Politics Plus](#) . Opinion contributor to [Patch.com](#) news.

*1 Who's Responsible And Deserves Credit For This Public Service? The Metro/Oregon Public Housing Location Maps Team

Taylor Allen - Portland State University graduate, Project Primary GIS Analyst and Cartographer

Richard Ellmyer - Portland State University Senior Adult Learner, Project Champion and Data Wrangler

Randy Morris - Community GIS Project Leader Population Research Center Portland State University, Project Coordinator

<https://www.goodgrowthnw.org/maps>

From: [Mary Vogel](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Cc: [Engstrom, Eric](#)
Subject: Re: Shelter to Housing Continuum
Date: Thursday, March 25, 2021 10:29:21 AM

Here's an idea! Deal with the Open Space issue separately--outside of changing the zoning code. Otherwise, you risk a legal challenge that will hold the entire policy up. Allow the rest of S2HC minus Open Space to be implemented ASAP and see how that works. I bet that we will not need Open Space!

Although it is people I have most closely associated with through P:NW (including Slack) and Interfaith Alliance on Poverty who are promoting a stronger Open Space amendment, **I disagree with them strongly**. And Tim McCormack's group seems to be composed largely of my friend Tim McCormack--who left P:NW to do his own thing--largely because P:NW discourages dissent once the inner circle has adopted a policy position.

Besides the legal challenge, I believe it is a terrible idea to include Open Space because:

- Some members of the media--especially its headline writers--are not very nuanced. Even before last week's hearing, we were seeing headlines like **Portland Set to Allow Homeless Camping in Parks** (KOIN). I can assure you that that headline saw lots of anarchists, who would prefer not to pay rent or be held to any societal conventions like work or even camp rules, packing their backpacks and duffels and loading up their vans to head our way.
- It makes so many of our parks **unusable to people who pay for the parks** but have a less bold attitude than my own--e.g. I am perfectly willing to go down into Oaks Bottom despite the number of homeless tents there--though it turns the trip into one of sorrow and lament rather than renewing my spirit. Most women (or men) of my Boomer generation would NOT be comfortable doing this.
- It **would NOT lessen** the number of campers destroying habitat, rather **it would increase them**. I wish I believed that my friends were correct, but I know that many of our current natural area campers would prefer to be there rather than in other options where there are rules and expectations.
- Like many others in Portland, I have kept my good health and my energy to fight for housing justice and climate justice by getting out to South Park Blocks or Washington Park on a near daily basis. Because I don't have a car, I don't get to the mountains or coast anymore. I need a place where I'm not constantly affronted by the ills of our current housing system. All of us do!

Thanks for listening!
Mary

P.S. I am going to send you photos of campers in SPB and in Oaks Bottom via separate email. I have been unable to get into my Map App account, nor to get a response from IT to help me do so. It may be just as well, because this testimony may not make me popular amongst my young friends in P:NW (who will eventually see this)

Mary Vogel, CNU-A



Bringing services nature provides to community design & planning

A Woman Business Enterprise/Emerging Small Business in Oregon

503-245-7858

mary@plangreen.net

<http://plangreen.net>

PlanGreen Blog: [Brave New US Housing Policy](#)

Facebook: [PlanGreen commentary and events](#)

On Wed, Mar 17, 2021 at 8:40 AM Mary Vogel <mary@plangreen.net> wrote:

Dear Mayor and Commissioners,

My latest PlanGreen blog (linked below) is about one of the root causes of the lack of housing affordability--which is at the heart of our housing crisis. As a person with profound hearing loss, I am deeply empathetic with the homeless who have been priced out of housing. I offer some policy solutions to that in my blog. And I hope that you will join me and Alan Durning of Sightline Institute in helping us change federal policy.

But I believe that lack of affordability is not the reason that all who are homeless are in tents or other temporary shelters are camping along my downtown street and many commercial streets, along our riverfronts, along/under our freeways and bridges, etc.

This brief story may be illustrative of why I DON'T BELIEVE YOU SHOULD OPEN OUR PARKS TO CAMPING. I used to have a close friend in my building who I confided in more than anyone else in my life. She was a college-educated liberal with a Masters Degree with her own disability. She once heard a group of rough-looking guys on public transit bragging about how much they liked Mayor Charlie for letting them camp just about anywhere. Linda was not a shy or retiring person. In fact, she had a unique gift to be able to strike up a conversation with anyone. They also told her they expected to see alot more folks from out of town like themselves arrive to take advantage of his open door policy. Linda claimed she was accosted by these out of town homeless one too many times to be comfortable living downtown. She made fun of me for continuing to take their side. And she ultimately became a Trump supporter--ending our friendship--then packed her belongings and moved on to North Carolina.

What Linda had encountered was the aggressive anarchist set amongst the homeless who don't want any authority over them, who actually prefer to live on the streets without paying rent or being beholden to others.

Like many others in Portland, I have kept my good health and my energy to fight for housing justice and climate justice by getting out to South Park Blocks or Washington Park on a near daily basis. Because I don't have a car, I don't get to the mountains or coast anymore. I need a place where I'm not constantly affronted by the ills of our current housing system. All of us do!

PLEASE DO YOUR BEST TO KEEP OUR PARKS FREE OF CAMPERS. Otherwise, I urge you to pass the Shelter to Housing Continuum proposal with that amendment.

THANKS!

Mary Vogel

Downtown Portland (where I see at least a dozen tents from my balcony and a dozen more once I step outside)

Mary Vogel, CNU-A



[Bringing services nature provides to community design & planning](#)

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Facebook: [PlanGreen commentary and events](#)

From: [Dennis Johnson](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Park/Golf Course Camping
Date: Thursday, March 25, 2021 10:36:24 AM

To whom to may concern;

I consider myself a native Portlander and golfer"

I am very concerned the city is considering allowing camping on our Parks and Public Golf courses. Only drive down any major street in Portland and witness the trash and discarded items from homeless/survivors camps. Allowing persons to camp in Parks an Golf Courses will also cause even more homeless to travel to Portland as the word will get out that we are accommodating and encouraging camping here in Portland.

This will undoubtedly to more pressure on our our already limited resources.

**Dennis Johnson, Concerned Resident and Tax Payer
Voter and Charitable Giver**

From: [lindsey marsh](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Public Testimony Re: homeless encampments
Date: Thursday, March 25, 2021 10:38:15 AM

I am writing today to provide public testimony regarding the city council's proposed rule to allow homeless individuals to set up encampments in parks. It appears that the public overwhelmingly disapproves of this portion of the rule. While we all have sympathy for the plight of the homeless population, that does not mean we are willing to let our neighborhoods and our parks fall into squaller in order to provide them a place to live. We pay taxes in order to maintain our parks, and the citizens of Portland have been especially reliant upon those parks during the pandemic. Allowing people to indiscriminately camp in public parks would cause an increase in the trash problem that Portland has suffered, and increase crime and drug use in areas that are meant for all residents of Portland, including families and children, to enjoy.

The park are meant for the tax payers to enjoy, and when I voted to increase the budget to care for our parks, I was never made aware that it included taking care of homeless encampments as well. In fact, thanks to the voters of Portland, I'm not only paying more for parks but also forced to pay for homeless services that the majority of portlanders are not similarly responsible for. Those taxes for homeless services are meant to provide housing to homeless individuals. So why am i being asked to pay for more money for homeless services and being asked to allow homeless individuals to camp in parks? Doesn't that defeat the purpose of the homeless tax? Get more housing for these individuals instead of allowing them to camp wherever they want indiscriminately, because allowing the latter just creates trash and crime. We don't need nor want this spilling over into our beautiful parks. The city council knows this is wrong and they need to do something about it.

From: [Robbin Isaacson DeWeese](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Do NOT allow camping in our parks!
Date: Thursday, March 25, 2021 11:08:02 AM

What happened to Portland being the "most livable city"?

Our parks are a precious resource for all who live and visit here, regardless of their housing situation. Parks should not become homes for the houseless. Camps in our parks and golf courses diminish their beauty, usability and the safety of recreational users. As taxpayers, we have generously funded our parks to provide green spaces for all, keep our city beautiful and provide peaceful recreational spaces.

While homelessness is a crisis we must solve in our city, sacrificing our parks is not the best answer.

We need to fund real housing projects. People living in parks is not sharing our wealth as camps impede access to the space.

We must immediately find more dignified solutions to the homeless crisis.

Thank you.

Robbin Isaacson DeWeese

From: [Mary Vogel](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: South Park Block camper with small cooking fire
Date: Thursday, March 25, 2021 11:14:57 AM



From: [Mary Vogel](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Add to S2HC testimony of 3-25-21 from Mary Vogel
Date: Thursday, March 25, 2021 11:32:19 AM
Attachments: [IMG-0352.MOV](#)

These were taken by me with my iPhone on a weekend so there were other hikers around. There were lots more camps than I photographed. The boat in the river appeared to be a homeless camp too. I didn't realize that the final image was a video. It's of a sign in OB prohibiting camping.



190380



190380



Which Amphibians Call Oaks Bottom Home? 190380

Pacific Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris regilla*)

Chorus frogs are the most common frog at Oaks Bottom. Despite a variety of skin colors, they can all be identified by their small size and black eye-stripes. Toe pads on their feet are used to climb into small trees and shrubs.

Fun Fact: Chorus frogs have strong voices and are easily heard throughout the day and evening. Their familiar croaks are often used during nighttime movie scenes.



Red-legged Frog (*Rana aurora*)

"Aurora" refers to the reddish undersides of this frog's legs and abdomen. Gold-colored eyes look to the side rather than to the front. The largest native frog in our area, it often spends the cold weather months in the water.

Fun fact: The red-legged frog croaks only underwater.



Frogs and salamanders are amphibians, animals that need a moist, humid environment to survive. "Amphibian" means "two lives" and refers to how the animals start life in water-filled egg sacs with many species developing as tadpoles before maturing into land-dwelling adults.

An amphibian undergoes changes in order to live in both water and land environments. Can you think of ways their bodies are adapted for breathing, eating, and moving in each habitat?

(amphibians shown approximately life size)



Long-toed Salamander (*Ambystoma macrodactylum*)

A long fourth toe on its hind foot identifies this salamander. It is the earliest amphibian to breed, beginning in January, it lays eggs in water and leaves them to hatch on their own.

Fun fact: The long fourth toe helps the female hang onto underwater blades of grass when she is depositing her eggs.



Western Redback Salamander (*Plethodon vehiculum*)

An orang-ish stripe, rounded tail, and short legs identify this terrestrial (land-dwelling) salamander. Occasionally no stripe is seen. Without lungs, these animals breathe through their skin and live in moist underground worm holes.

Fun facts: *Plethodon* means "many teeth" and *vehiculum* refers to the male's habit of carrying the female as she holds his tail during courtship.



Oregon Salamander (*Ensatina eschscholtzii var. oregonensis*)

This terrestrial salamander is best identified by the constriction at the base of its tail. Females lay eggs in damp places underground and remain near them until they hatch. The hatchlings look like miniature versions of the adults.

Fun fact: *Ensatina* means "sword-like" and refers to the way the salamander raises its tail to protect itself. If the tail is lost, it re-grows in about two years.



UNWANTED: Bullfrog (*Rana catesbeiana*)

DESCRIPTION OF SUSPECT Eye color: gold Skin color: green to brown, spotted Length: 8-10 inches Eye color: gold Skin color: green to brown, spotted Length: 8-10 inches

Distinguishing feature: cardrums are as large as eyes. Distinguishing feature: cardrums are as large as eyes. Oaks Bottom's largest amphibian, bullfrogs were introduced from the eastern U.S. because of their large, tasty legs. They are invasive pests throughout the West and feed on insects, young water birds, and other amphibians.

(Last seen eating a duckling.)



Observing amphibians: Please watch amphibians without interrupting their normal activities. Their moist skin is used for breathing and is very sensitive. Listed in the Federal Endangered Species Act, Red-legged Frogs are protected and research on them requires a permit. Contact Portland Parks & Recreation at frogs@ci.portland.or.us for more information.



PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION

Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland

Habitat improvements and signage funded by Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board 2006

190380



CITY PROPERTY

NO TRESPASSING/CAMPING
PROHIBIDO EL PASO/ACAMPAR
(O.R.S. 164.245)



From: [Holly Lutz](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Camping in parks and golf courses
Date: Thursday, March 25, 2021 11:43:46 AM

I live inner city and already have to deal with tons of human sewage in my yard, my neighbors yards on the sidewalks and tons of garbage... not to mention the complete up rise in violence and theft. There has to be other solutions!!!

Homeless shelters are needed and there are vacant large buildings. Permits and regulations should not be stopping large dry spaces from becoming shelters.

Holly Lutz, Laurelhurst

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Lisa Long](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony concerning using public parks and golf courses to house the homeless.
Date: Thursday, March 25, 2021 12:50:33 PM

My name is Lisa Long and I am a Portland Tax Payer.

Please submit this e-mail to the public testimony.

I strongly oppose the proposal to use public parks and golf courses to house the homeless.

Public space belongs to the general public. This proposal seeks to privatize parks and other public spaces for the use of private individuals. This is in direct conflict with the purpose and intent of public space. The fact that the private individuals seeking to take possession of public space are homeless does not in any way excuse or negate the private appropriation of public space. This is clearly a privatization of public space for personal use. If a developer sought to use a park to put his mobile headquarters and store his equipment, the effect would be exactly the same and equally inexcusable. This is not an issue of morality but an issue of law. To give some individuals more rights than others regarding public space is inequitable and bias.

On a personal note, I live near Sunnyside Park and Laurelhurst Park. The ongoing illegal camping at these two PUBLIC parks has in many ways denied the public use of the park. Human waste, used needles, excessive garbage, fighting, shouting, and criminal behavior has made these parks places of fear and filth instead of places where residents can come together in a public space. Homelessness is a complex issue which needs to be addressed through multiple solutions including safe indoor accommodations, mental illness treatment, and addiction treatment. Simply warehousing the homeless population in public spaces serves neither the homeless individuals nor the community at large.

Concerning the proposal to use golf courses to house the homeless, this would deny athletes their right to practice their sport. The Cleveland High School girls golf team practices at East Moreland Golf Course. Their Spring 2020 season was cancelled, and they are gearing up for their 2021 season. Their coach is a dedicated woman who attended Cleveland and earned a golf scholarship to college. She was from a single parent family and never would have been able attend college without the scholarship. There are players on the team who are hoping for golf scholarships and to enter the paid internship caddying program to help them afford college. East Moreland is very generous to high school golf players. Students can get free balls at the driving range before 9 a.m. and have greatly discounted fees to play a round. My daughter has been going to golf course every day to prepare for the season. Our young athletes deserve to be able to compete in their sport. There are many youth golf programs in the summer that use all the public courses. They are very affordable, the kids learn the sport, control, focus, and they have fun. Our young athletes deserve to be able to play and practice their sport. It is unconscionable for City Council to consider depriving our golf athletes an opportunity to perform. The private golf courses are extremely expensive and without Portland's public golf courses, these young athletes will not be able to play, compete, and earn scholarships.

I urge you to vote against this short-sighted proposal.

Lisa Long
lhl@teleport.com

From: [JoLynn Maleah](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: re: camping in parks
Date: Thursday, March 25, 2021 1:45:57 PM

While I understand the urgency of this situation please do not exacerbate the problem by ruining Portland Parks. This situation has been coming on for years with our economic structure, lack of support for mental health/middle class/ BIPOC community/ devaluing of communities in federal leadership (Reagan administration- even Nixon). This requires systemic change. Please look at what it will take to turn around these inequitable and harmful systems- not easy to do, I understand. I am a long time Portland resident and value our parks, green spaces, natural environment. Please do not allow our parks to be ruined and spread the homeless problem onto more “flatland” without the support they need.

Thank you for listening.

From: [Laura Dunne](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Public Parks
Date: Thursday, March 25, 2021 3:11:49 PM

I want to submit my two cents worth regarding allowing the homeless to use Portland Public Parks, but also would like to know how this plan would be implemented before I make judgements. Will small sections of city parks be cordoned off for homeless or will it be a free for all with hordes staking territory within a park ? Who will be responsible for keeping the parks clean, safe and sanitary? I am leaning more towards voting this idea down, but also want to hear input from both sides.

Thank you

Laura

From: [Stephen Kemp](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Homeless camping.
Date: Thursday, March 25, 2021 4:31:59 PM

Are you people out of your mind? Trying to take my kids (5 and 7) to Laurelhurst is bad enough already. We cannot go to the kids park after finding needles and watching people dedicate/shoot up feet from the play structure.

Now, you want to allow camping in the park and make the whole thing unusable except for the homeless?

Since the illegal camps have showed up at Laurelhurst and Sunnyside, crime has gone through the roof in the neighborhood. Many of these houseless are sick and mentally ill
There are not enough police as it is to handle all the new scary situations the neighbors have to endure due to the illegal camping.

Now, the city wants to make it legal and bring more in. You all should be ashamed of yourselves. If this would affect your family directly, you would never vote for it.

Stephen Kemp

From: [Elizabeth Alvillar](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Against homeless housing in parks
Date: Friday, March 26, 2021 5:34:54 AM
Attachments: [linkbanner.png](#)

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to say that it's a horrible idea to allow camping in our local parks. These parks are where families play, community gathers, and nature is at peace. If you allow overnight camping our parks will be hot spots for crimes that will spread into our neighborhoods. I've witnessed a man passed out with a syringe in his arm on 7th near Irving Park as well as people shooting up at the tables near the tennis courts at Irving Park. Those 2 experiences were it in the past 2 years I've been running with my dogs there. If you allow camping it will no longer be safe for tax payers to enjoy their neighborhood parks and the parks will soon be filled with garbage.

There are many other alternatives in ways to clean up our streets and help serve the house less population in Portland that could serve all who live here, including the tax payers. Why not put together a large group of citizens to create a think tank to help do the job of government officials who clearly need extra help. I believe there are more than enough educated, willing citizens who have decades of business experience who would be more than happy to support Portland for free by offering REAL solutions to the ever growing issues this city is facing. It's important to look at any idea full circle and this requires a sharp mind towards business.

Sustainability is incredibly important and this plan being offered to open our parks to campers will cost the city and its citizens far more than it will solve any problem and it is clearly not sustainable for the citizens or the environment.

Thank you for taking the time to read my message and consider it's content.

Kindest Regards,
Elizabeth Alvillar
Owner/Creator
Portland, Oregon 97212
www.isvaraorganics.com
(831)566-8334



From: [Patty Wilson](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Homeless Encampments
Date: Friday, March 26, 2021 6:44:43 AM

City council should address a viable solution for the “houseless” population in Portland. I do not mean moving the population from one neighborhood to another or to public parks. The encampment near our home has housed criminal activity for months going on a year. City council members asked to join the council and PDX constituents elected you. Do as Biden suggested and be for everyone including those with whom you do not agree. The reason Ted Wheeler was reelected is because the majority of the PDX population want more conservative viable solutions that address the ENTIRE population not just special interest groups. Living with large piles of trash along the interstate and streets is disheartening. Seeing boarded up windows everywhere reminds me of city of Detroit I visited in the early eighties. Surely you do not wish for the population to abandon the city?

Thanks

From: [allen.koshewa](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: the new authorized camping law
Date: Friday, March 26, 2021 9:17:54 AM

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this to urge everyone involved in this legislation to prohibit camping near schools and parks and to limit the distance from businesses. In addition, I feel that any designated camping area should provide sufficient toilet facilities, counseling and mental health resources, as well as drug treatment access. Ideally incentives can be granted for self-management, cleaning and maintenance of these areas.

Allen Koshewa

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ahmed Kelso](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Cc: [Ahmed Kelso](#); [Allen P Koshewa](#); [Kathee Davis](#)
Subject: The house less population situation
Date: Friday, March 26, 2021 10:06:23 AM

Honorable City Council,

I am a resident of the SE area of Portland and I would like to present you all with the following considerations regarding the situation of people without housing:

- 1) The location of these sites should not be near schools, universities, parks or near sensitive environmental sites, like Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge.
- 2) The designated areas need to provide basic amenities: toilets, showers, dining space, etc.
- 3) In addition to providing shelter sites, there should be programs in place to support them. For example: drug rehabilitation programs, vocational training and educational programs aimed to provide opportunities and independence.
- 4) This plan needs the participation of all community members since it will not only require the levy of taxes but also the involvement of the private sector. The medical community could also be involved by establishing clinics within the areas. No less important will be the regular presence of the police in order to guarantee safety for everyone.
- 5) We need to locate people without housing in long-term facilities, so these camping sites should be seen as temporary solutions and should be augmented by legislation that will provide more permanent housing options

I hope you find the time to read my suggestions. Thank you in advance for your attention.

Respectfully,

Ahmed A Kelso
3036 SE Sherman St
Portland, OR 97214

From: [Comcast](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Camping in Parks and Golf courses !
Date: Friday, March 26, 2021 10:21:05 AM

To Those who Are supposed to Know

Please do not offer up our Parks and Golf Courses to Tent cities. Already we cannot afford to maintain these areas and must use volunteers from neighbors to help.

Tent dwellers have proven to be disrespectful in not using facilities provided and crapping in gardens. We must do better.

Where in the World can we find COMMON SENSE serving all of us. Thinking Reparative Justice for each and all. Not punitive. Start with teamwork, caring for each other, appreciate our differences.

COMMON SENSE ISN'T YOU KNOW. It does not grow in everyone's garden. FIND IT AND START THERE.

Sincerely,

Clearly someone very disappointed with our current Representatives. I cannot call them leaders.

MaryLou Andersen. Laurelhurst

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jessica Goehring](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Feedback on Camping in Parks and Golf Courses
Date: Friday, March 26, 2021 1:04:57 PM

We have an elementary school here in sunnyside with a very small "pocket" park (24 hrs) located on the same city block. The park is essentially on school grounds and is not separate from the school grounds in any meaningful sense (no barriers).

It is absolutely unacceptable that elementary age children are witnessing open drug abuse , garbage piles, human feces, mental crisis, threatening behavior such as waving pipes and machetes, etc from those camping in the pocket park which again is not separated from the school in any way with boundaries.

The park residents are not catalogued, we dont know if they have weapons or if they are convicted of any crimes that would prohibit their residence near a school.

If you implement this plan, you need to reclassify that pocket area as a part of the SCHOOLGROUNDS so that campers are no longer able to live on this teeny tiny park that is essentially located on a school yard for Elementary aged children with no barriers whatsoever between the public park and where our children play and learn. Beyond that, that block needs a fence. I have no idea who manages liability insurance for sunnyside school but they need to take a second look at the liability you all are taking on- dereliction of duty.

There are plenty of golf courses and parks with meaningful space for facilities to support campers. If you dont fix the sunnyside elementary school /park loop-hole situation, im against your proposal.

Jessica Goehring
3137 SE Yamhill Street

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From: [Susan Ferguson](#)
To: [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Houselessness and Parks
Date: Friday, March 26, 2021 1:33:09 PM

Dear Mayor Wheeler,

The houseless situation in Portland is a crisis—one of many I know you have on your plate. I appreciate both your compassion and sense of urgency in getting this complex problem addressed.

In reviewing the many proposed solutions, there is only one I am unable to support—permitting camping in parks, golf courses and other open green spaces. Green spaces support the mental and physical health of all of our citizens, including our houseless neighbors, and the health of our planet and as such we must protect these precious resources. I am not wedded to the support of 18 hole golf courses but see it as a grave mistake to eliminate their green spaces. I have converted my garden into a Backyard Habitat in support of Portland's commitment to the environment. Perhaps 18 hole courses could be reduced to 9 holes and the remaining 9 holes could be enhanced as an arboretum, adding more native plants and trees and promoting it as a hands on learning environment for Portland schools and the public at large? In our increasingly technological world, such places provide relief and refreshment right in the City.

I support allowing faith and other community organisations to permit managed camping on their parking lots and to provide managed shelter in their buildings. Has the Catholic Archdiocese been approached about temporarily allowing managed camping in the parking lot of the recently vacated Our Lady of Lavang Church on Alameda at Sandy Blvd. ? They also have the church and former residential facility which might be used to temporarily house the houseless.

It is critical that the solutions to houselessness are spread throughout the city, equitably—in every neighborhood. And protect all green spaces.

Sincerely,

Susan Ferguson
Rose City Park Neighborhood

From: [Cathy Spofford](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Title 33
Date: Friday, March 26, 2021 3:05:19 PM

Mayor Wheeler and City Commissioners,

I would like to comment in support of Title 33 Planning and Zoning to Facilitate the Provision of Shelter and Housing Options for Portlanders in Need. It saddens me to see tents and trash dumped and strewn around our beautiful city. But it also saddens me that people find themselves having to live in these conditions. As a social worker I worked with low wealth and unhoused persons for 25 years. When I started working it wasn't too difficult to help people get into low-income housing or get a Section 8 Voucher or find a room in an SRO. Sadly, after the Reagan years HUD was decimated and subsidized housing wasn't being built or Section 8 Vouchers issued. We tore down many SROs in Portland or turned them into trendy boutique hotels. Sections of Portland that low-income people could afford became gentrified and rents increased. This left low income people few options. People end up without housing for a multitude of reasons. Yes, some because of addiction to drugs or alcohol. But people lose housing due to job loss, physical and mental illness, medical debt, family breakup, and rent increases. I wish I had the answers to this situation. Right now, we need temporary shelter for people in need and plans to build or create affordable permanent housing. If a temporary shelter needs to be located at my community center, I will be there to find out how I can help.

Respectfully,

Catherine Spofford
SW Portland

①

I'VE LIVED IN OREGON MY ENTIRE LIFE, THE PAST THIRTY PLUS IN AND AROUND PORTLAND. I LOVE THIS STATE AND I LOVE PORTLAND, ~~THE~~ THE COURSE OF THE PAST 7 OR SO YEARS I HAVE WATCHED THIS BEAUTIFUL PLACE OF OURS TURN INTO A PERVERBIAL SHIT HOLE. YES I SAID SHIT HOLE... GREENSPACES, PARKS AND OPEN SPACE. COMMUNITY COMMONS NOW PILES OF TRASH, HUMAN WASTE AND SQUALOR. YOU CANNOT WALK DOWN ANY PATH, DRIVE DOWN ANY MAIN STREET OR EXPRESS WAY WITHOUT SEEING WHAT OUR STATE IS LETTING BECOME THE NORM. TENTS TARPS, PILES OF TRASH, ITS SICK AND DISGUSTING. IT SETS A PRECEDENCE OF WHAT THE FUTURE OF THIS STATE AND OUR CITY WILL BE.

WHEN OUR STATE & CITY BUDGET FOLKSS CUT SOCIAL PROGRAMS & CUT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES THINGS BEGAN TO DESINTIGRATE IN A HORRIBLE WAY. YOUR MENTALLY ILL FOLKSS WERE PUSHED TO THE STREETS AND WITHOUT SUPPORT OF NEEDED PROGRAMS. NOW ARE SELF MEDICATING WITH STREET DRUGS AND NOT IN A GOOD WAY. BECAUSE AS WE ALL KNOW STREET DRUGS MAKE PEOPLE F-ING NUTS. SO NOW HERE WE ARE

②

YOUR OTHER MESS IS THE DRUG ADDICTS & CRACK HEADS. ITS IN THE NEWS EVERYDAY THEIR PILEAGE OF CRAP, TENTS, THEFT TRASH. NEEDLES. POOP EVERYWHERE.

THEY CANT WORK BECAUSE THEYRE SO STRUNG OUT, SO THEY ARE SUCKING OUR RESOURCES DRY ITS NOT A HOMELESS PROBLEM ITS A DRUG PROBLEM.

ALL YOU ARE DOING IS ENABLING THE BAD BEHAVIOR. GIVE THEM MONEY CARDS.

GIVE THEM TINY HOMES. LET THEM LAY WASTE OF EVERY GREEN SPACE AND REWARD THEM BY BY PASSING LAWS THAT IF ANY OTHE CITIZEN OF THE STATE WAS TO DO WOULD BE CITED OR JAILED. WHATS WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE? NOT TO MENTION SQUATTING IN VACANT HOMES BULDINGS, IN SEVERAL CASES VACATION HOMES THE SOLUTION IS SIMPLE

STOP WORRYING ABOUT YOUR FRICKING RATINGS AND WHAT THE PUBLIC WARM FUZZY FOLKS ARE CRYING ABOUT.

~~BE THE~~ INSTEAD OF TALKING EQUITY AND COMMUNITY BLA BLA BLA. MAKE IT HAPPEN THATS WHAT WE ELECTED YOU FOR CREATE IT AND MAKE IT HAPPEN PUT YOUR FOOT DOWN AS CITY OFFICIALS AND MAKE DECISIONS TO FIX THIS PROBLEM.

③

SET UP EVENTS TENTS IN 3 OR 4 (CIRCUSTENTS)
SPOTS IN THE CITY. OUT OF
NEIGHBORHOODS ON VACANT LOTS.

- WITH TRANSIT SERVICE
THEY CAN PICH TENTS UNDER THEM. ON PALLETS
- HIRE SOCIAL WORKERS FOR EACH
AND RESOURSE PERSONELL

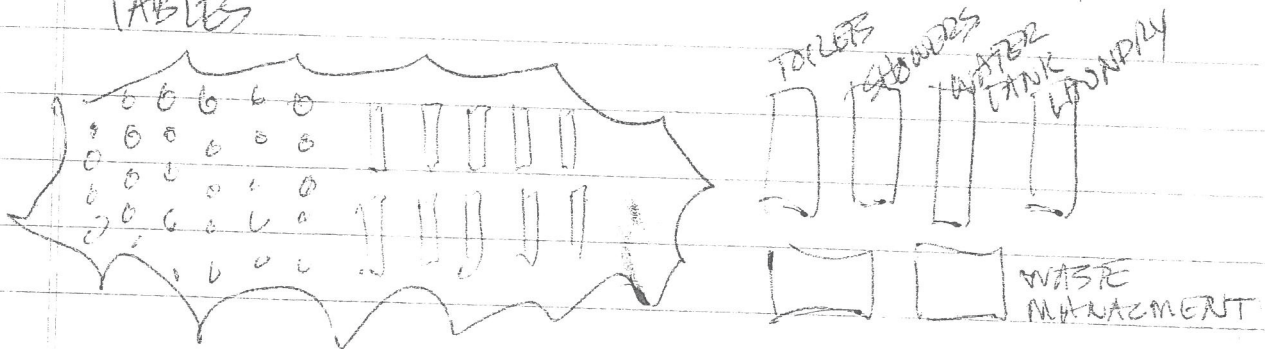
THERE ARE FUNDS. YOU'VE SPENT MORE
MONEY ON CLEANUP? PUTTING ROCKS UNDER
OVERPASSES TRYING TO BLOCK THEM.
TO PAY WAGES. NOT TO MENTION TIME JUST
TALKING ABOUT IT

- OUTLAW PAN HANDLING
- OUTLAW CAMPING IN GREENSPACES?
IN NEIGHBORHOODS? CITY PARKS
- OUTLAW GIVING TO PAN HANDLING FOLKS
UNLESS IT FOR ~~CHARITIES~~ TAX EXEMPT
CHARITIES
- OUTLAW SQUATTING IN VACANT BUILDINGS: HOMES
NOW THAT EVERYONE IS CONTAINED IN
WORKABLE AREA'S
NOW YOU CAN START TO SORT AND
TEND TO THEIR NEEDS
MENTALLY ILL
VETERANS (PTSD)
CRACK HEADS DRUG ADDICS
DRUNKS

④

GET FOLKS INTO REHAB PROGRAMS
 ACCORDING TO THEIR NEEDS
 IF YOU DONT HAVE PROGRAMS
 GET THEM IMPLIMENTED.

YOUR CIRCUS TENT AREAS
 WILL PROVIDE PORTABLE REST ROOMS
 SHOWERS-LAUNDRY, TRASH MANAGEMENT
 PUT PALLETS DOWN FOR THEIR TENTS
 TO KEEP THEM OFF THE GROUND. DRY
 TABLES



IF CAUGHT CAMPING OUTSIDE OF PROVIDED
 AREAS PACK UP THEIR JUNK! MOVE IT TO
 A PROVIDED AREA. ADVISE THEM 2 STRIKES
 AND ITS TO THE DUMP. THEYLL FIGURE IT
 OUT. STOP BABYING THEM! THEY ARE
 ADULTS HOLD FOLKS ACCOUNTABLE.

★ YOU ARE IGNORING THE ISSUE. ITS NOT A
 HOMELESS CRISIS - ITS A DRUG CRISIS

5

UNTILL YOU GET THESE FOULS INTO
THE TREATMENTS THEY NEED.

MENTAL ILLNESS SERVICES

VETERANS SERVICES

DRUG & ALCOHOL TREATMENT

THERE IS NO SOLVING THE PROBLEM.

JAILING FOLKS FOR SELLING DRUGS
ISN'T WORKING. THAT HAS BEEN MADE
VERY APPARENT. ITS STILL HAPPENING
AT A FAST AND FURIOUS PACE.

GOOD GOD - PASS ANOTHER LEGALIZE DRUGS LAW!
YOU NEED STRONGER DRUG LAWS

DEALERS ARE MURDERERS DESTROYING LIVES
FAMILIES, CHILDREN, HOMES

AN EASY SOLUTION IS THE DEATH PENALTY
AND ACTUALLY USE & IMPLIMENT IT BY
FOLLOWING THRU BY THE BLUE JUICE

SHOT. IT ONLY TAKES A FEW EXAMPLES FOR CHANGE
TO TAKE PLACE. I ASSURE YOU ~~THE~~ ELIMINATING A FEW WILL OPEN EYES

VETS. THERE ARE APPROX 2000 (IN PORTLAND)

HOMELESS VETS. GET THEM THE
ASSISTANCE THEY FOUGHT FOR. THEY
GAVE EVERYTHING FOR YOUR FREEDOM GOOD
GOD! TAKE CARE OF THEM.

PUT THEM IN LITTLE HOMES SOMEWHERE.

AND GET THEM TREATMENT FOOD & HEALTH SERVICES

⑥

- IF CHILDREN ARE INVOLVED GET THEM INTO A SMALL HOME
- IF THEY ARE SUBSTANCE ABUSERS GET THEM TREATMENT. IF THEY REFUSE TREATMENT? ~~THEY ARE~~ BEING A DRUG ADDICT IS A CHOICE. WE ALL KNOW THE OUTCOME AND THE RISK YET THEY DO IT ANYWAY. IGNORANCE IS JUST THAT. SOCIAL LEACHING IS JUST THAT. SOCIAL LEACHING - TAKING FROM YOUR COMMUNITY AND NOT CONTRIBUTING. THEY CAN LIVE IN TENTVILLE BUT NOT IN OUR GREEN SPACES & NOT IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS. AND NOT ON OUR CITY STREETS

MENTALLY ILL FOLKS NEED TREATMENT AND SERVICES. IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY AS A COMMUNITY TO TAKE CARE OF THESE FOLKS. THEY ARE NOT SICK BY CHOICE THEY ARE JUST BROKEN.

WE THE COMMUNITY HAVE BECOME A PERSONAL WAIT STAFF FOR THE LAZY & DRUG INFESTED. THEY LEAVE ONLY SHIT & SQUALLOR IN THEIR WAKE WITH NO ACCOUNTABILITY FOR THEIR ACTIONS AND THE CITY STATE JUST LETS IT HAPPEN

⑦

CLEAN UP THE CITY AND SURROUNDING
 YOU HAVE HUNDREDS OF FOLKS IN JAIL
 ! FOLKS SERVING COMMUNITY SERVICE
 GET THEM OUT SHACKLE THEM IN TEAMS
 AND HAVE THEM CLEAN UP THE SHIT &
 SEWAGE. THEY HAVE A TON OF TIME
 ON THEIR HANDS AS YOUR (OUR)
 ETCIPENCE. USE THEM TO YOUR ADVANTAGE
 WE FEED ? HOUSE THEM. MAKE THEM
 WORK ! GET THEM THEIR SHITS, GLOVES
 AND A TRASH PICKER - A SHARPS CONTAINER
 AND PUT THEM TO WORK !

POOL RESOURCES. YOU'VE CONTRACTED
 MILLION TO CLEAN UP MESSSES
 FROM THE HOMELESS ISSUE NSW
 ABOUT YOU APPLY IT TO ALLOCATING
 THEM TO ONE AREA, RUN A BUS LINE
 TO IT, IMPLIMENT SERVICES AND
 SORT IT OUT.
 THEY HAVE ESSENSIALLY DESTROYED YOUR
 OUR CITY. GIVE THEM A HOVERVINE
 IF THEY WANT TO LIVE THAT WAY

THANK YOU CARULA

15012 SE CAROLINE
MILWAUKEE OR 97267

PORTLAND OR 972
27 MAR 2021 PM 3 L



FOREVER / USA

MARY ANN CABALLERO
1221 SW 4TH AVE
PORTLAND - OREGON 97204

97204-15021



From: [Joseph Cifelli](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Question on Open Spaces 3/28
Date: Sunday, March 28, 2021 8:48:24 AM

Hello,

My name is Joey and I live in the cully neighborhood. I watched the city council session where the members clarified that parks would not be used for homeless shelters, but I'm still unsure if the parking lots for the parks can be used. Can you please clarify?

I'll tell you my little story here. I go to the wonderful Fernhill dog park every day. But unfortunately I've had to deal with campers in the park, which is extremely dangerous for dogs and people in a number of ways. The idea of shelters being around the park really has me worried that the danger will increase.

I appreciate the attempts of the council to fix the problem. That's admirable. But the proposal of shelters in and around parks won't fix the problem, and will likely create new ones.

Thanks,
Joey

From: [rlorwoll](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: written comment
Date: Sunday, March 28, 2021 1:48:18 PM
Attachments: [RLO letter to city council March 27.docx](#)

Dear County Clerk,

Thank you for distributing this to the city council members.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Orwoll

FROM: Rebecca Orwoll, NE Portland
rlorwoll@gmail.com
TO: Mayor Wheeler
Commissioner Rubio
Commissioner Ryan
Commissioner Hardesty
Commissioner Mapps
SUBJECT: Portland City Council Agenda Item 166

Portland needs to be a city where no one sleeps in the streets or on the sidewalks.

First, let me say that I am well aware that this is not an easy problem to address.

I was pleased to read in the Oregonian on Saturday March 27, 2021, that the city council plans to make clear that the new temporary regulations to help our homeless will not “allow shelters to pop up” in city parks, golf courses and open spaces.

I was not bothered that the council might look – very carefully – for whether there might be any sorts of open spaces that might be used to help the homeless by careful re-zoning, perhaps temporary. I say this with the understanding that these would be city or approved charity-run encampments with proper sanitation, adequate trash disposal, and ability for people to clean themselves in a dignified manner.

However I was very distraught to read that “the associated parking lots to those sites could still be fair game,” in reference to parks, open spaces and golf courses.

The idea that the parking lots of parks, golf courses, trails and other open spaces would become homeless encampments is just as unacceptable as use of those spaces themselves.

I do not understand how the council could consider the parking as not *integral* to those spaces, as that is where the PEOPLE of ALL of Portland will park, and if walking or using bicycles, will pass. The issue continues to be that the PEOPLE of ALL of Portland need and deserve for the parks, open spaces and golf courses to be available through this hopefully temporary/time-limited crisis of our less fortunate in our community.

I also strongly support the necessity of providing and/or requiring sanitation, such as for RVs or tiny houses. If proper sanitation is not provided when such is on private property, the homeowner must allow free, 24 hour a day, use of the facilities of the home. All encampments allowed in a community space such as a church parking lot must also be required to provide proper sanitation, and safe facilities for washing of the body – I think of the kinds of facilities offered at state parks for more longstanding encampments, and temporary showers and toilet

facilities, plus easily available handwashing facilities and fresh water, for more temporary encampments.

It is also necessary to plan for safe needle disposal (whether from prescribed medications or drug use) and trash disposal for all situations/groups of people.

The council needs to think of the overflow and temporary shelter issue as temporary, as everyone involved aggressively and thoughtfully plans for and executes long term solutions. In fact, if there are to be long term encampments, additional on-site services must include electric power, ability to charge phones and such, and other services considered necessities by most people.

For perspective, in many countries of the world, as well as some places in the United States, housing, perhaps only of a most basic level, is provided for everyone.

As we care for this vulnerable population, please know that it is also the duty of the city council to preserve the safety (think here about hygiene, drug paraphernalia, trash including food and toilet-use associated trash, safety for children and people using these spaces as individuals, in the evening or early morning hours, etc. etc. etc.) and livability of our city for ALL the people who live in Portland.

Hopefully the city, and all the taxpayers, will provide enough support to provide safe and sanitary housing to essentially all those who need such, over the relatively near future.

Portland needs to be a city where no one sleeps in the streets or on the sidewalks.

From: [Sheila Marian](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Camping in city parks
Date: Sunday, March 28, 2021 3:19:01 PM

To Whom It may Concern;

It is my impression that the city is so fearful of being held libel that you refuse to find indoor accommodation in empty buildings for homeless people. Homeless people are mostly ill and addicted so arrest and jail are not the answer. They need to put their tents up inside empty buildings, taken off the street by force, and obliged to receive treatment. If they refuse, then they can be jailed, but allowing them to break the law and camp on public land is not an answer. Put your fear of being sued away, and provide folks with places to put their tents up in empty buildings where they will be provided with heat and water. Get them off the street and address the mental health and drug problems but first put them inside buildings and stop being afraid of them.

No use of parks for camping.

Regards,
Sheila Ruhland
2134 NE 41st Ave.
Portland, 97212

From: [Cheryl Olson](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Camping in Portland parks and golf courses
Date: Sunday, March 28, 2021 7:49:29 PM

SE Portland has been my home for over 40 years. I live several blocks away from Sunnyside Environmental School and a few more from Laurelhurst Park. I've always been proud of my city, its values, reasonable resolutions to problems, and how beautiful and historic is it.

I don't feel that sense of pride anymore. In fact, I feel frustrated and ashamed of what our leaders have allowed Portland to become. With the boarded store fronts, graffiti on every surface, scary (and likely mentally ill) folks who roam around, I don't enjoy my walks any longer. As an Airbnb host, I'm hesitant to even recommend guests visit Portland right now.

I'm an empathetic person. My daughter and I have spent years stopping under the Morrison Bridge to give the folks camping there food, clothing, and blankets. The people I met were always kind and appreciative. We never felt threatened at any time while "donating."

In those days Portland had Dignity Village and other similar sites for homeless folks. But during the term of Mayor Charlie Hales, he chose to allow folks to camp on sidewalks, as well as closing Dignity Village. This was the first step in a downward spiral. No other site was set up to take the place of Dignity Village. So there is no longer a central site with targeted services (bathrooms, employment assistance, substance abuse help), and the homeless population dispersed to all areas of Portland.

I believe that another site similar to Dignity Village needs to be opened. The homeless population (from stats I've read) is only 1 - 2 % of our population. Yet they have taken over city parks, hiking/biking trails like Springwater Corridor, and made these community spaces dangerous. Of course, we have civic responsibility to provide help and services to the homeless population. But not at the expense of being able to enjoy the city we love and support with our taxes. A "solution" that doesn't consider the well-being of 98% of our population, is NOT a solution. Parks, sidewalks, parking strips, and golf courses must be clear of trash and human feces, and be welcoming to the majority of Portland's population. We are NOT paying taxes to have common spaces trashed by a small minority.

I voted for Ted Wheeler because resolving the homeless dilemma was his major campaign promise. I am not seeing any of this happening. This is very disappointing.

So, NO NO NO to the city allowing people to camp in our parks and golf courses. We must go back to what was working 10 years ago and set up Dignity Villages with centralized services.

I read one of my neighbor's ideas to use the Arts Tax to go into a common fund for the homeless. Being a teacher, I'm not in favor of eliminating the Arts Tax. But I am in favor of adding another city tax similar to the Arts Tax which would be earmarked for homeless environments. I'll bet there would be a big majority of the Portland population which would be happy to vote for this.

Let's make Portland the lovely city it was in the past. And not the non-functioning urban mess it has become.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Olson
3122 SE Yamhill St.
PDX

From: paola.dooly@comcast.net
To: [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Commissioner Rubio](#); [Commissioner Ryan Office](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Commissioner Mapps](#)
Cc: [Clerk General](#); [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: NO Homeless Shelters in Portland Parks
Date: Sunday, March 28, 2021 10:22:37 PM

Dear City Counsel,

As a tax paying citizen of Multnomah County I'm writing to voice my ***strong opposition*** with regards to allowing homeless shelters in Portland Parks. Our parks are paid for by **us**, and under **no circumstances** do I agree with this proposal.

As you should already be aware, homeless camps bring huge amounts of garbage, used needles, human feces and more. And where would you expect Portland's children to then play? Play amongst the garbage and needles?

Our parks are one of the last remaining things in this city that are still beautiful, and allowing homeless camps will **completely destroy** them.

Do you really want to completely trash our parks because voting "yes" will *ensure that outcome*.

Paola Dooly
4223 SE 32nd Ave
Portland OR 97202
503.449.7682

From: [I Jeffrey](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: WE DO NOT WANT NEEDLES AND TRASH IN OUR PARKS
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 8:46:45 AM

PLEASE DESIGNATE SAFE CAMPING GROUNDS (AWAY FROM PARKS)
FOR THE HOMELESS. PLEASE PROVIDE TRASH/ WASTE FACILITIES,
SUPERVISION AND MUCH NEEDED MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT. CLEAN UP
PORTLAND

IzayahPortland

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: PLEASE DO NOT EXPAND SHELTER FOR HOMELESS TO PARKS & RESIDENTIAL AREAS!!! STOP THIS MADNESS!!
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 4:52:12 PM

Testimony for agenda items 203 and 204.

From: susan jean <susanajean@gmail.com>
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 at 9:40 AM
To: "Wheeler, Mayor" <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Ryan Office <CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, "City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero" <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Hardesty <joann@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: PLEASE DO NOT EXPAND SHELTER FOR HOMELESS TO PARKS & RESIDENTIAL AREAS!!! STOP THIS MADNESS!!

I am writing this to respectfully request you do not vote to expand the homeless camps to more park & residential areas!!! PLEASE!

I have seen this beautiful city of Portland become more rundown with litter & homeless camps infringing on the rights of those of us that pay taxes and have worked hard to keep our neighborhoods safe & clean all the while seeing government ignore our needs in order to make it easier for those who are homeless encroach rapidly into our neighborhoods littering violently with dangerous discarded needles, human waste, and actual tons of debris.

I can no longer take my grandson on a bike ride along the bike paths as they are just unsafe - I cannot take walks along the river without fear of being assaulted - I cannot take visitors on a tour of Portland without being embarrassed by the way this city has allowed the debris to pile up all over. This has affected our quality of life to the point that many neighbors have moved out, and I do not blame them.

I am sympathetic to the plight of the homeless but many other cities have found ways to provide an area for them to reside, empty plots of land are abundant in many areas of the city - help them move camps to those areas & provide them with bathroom / shower facilities instead of allowing the random expansion of camps throughout our neighborhoods. Pay them to keep roadways clean by offering a dollar amount for each bag of trash they pick up. Simple, inexpensive solutions to help the homeless without making it more challenging to us hard working tax payers. I beg of you to address this before these problems become insurmountable.

Respectfully,
Susan Jean

--

Susan Jean
susanjean@gmail.com

From: [Nicolas Clark](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony Homeless in Parks
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 11:08:41 AM

Please don't vote to allow people to live in the parks, dispose and strewn garbage, needles and feces in the bushes of parks, in the grounds, near or around elementary schools, high schools, establish more camp/bases from where they raid properties at night and eventually pile this stolen property up into garbage piles, creating garbage for rodent nests, and disturbing the feeling of stability.

The situation is out of control and even when One Point of contact is contacted , months can go by if anything will get done. Recently, Rapid Response came out to Jefferson St. Park and cleaned garbage up from that site , never completing the job. The camp never moved, and the garbage continues to build. They made more than 5 trips that I witnessed. Central city concern came out and pulled up a tarp last week, tying it to a tree a week ago. This camp has been here for over 18 months. The dog that lives there with the owner gets loose once and a while. The police have witnessed this. This is not a park people enjoy, but it is an example of how city resources are ineffective.

People going to parks want to enjoy the park, not be driven crazy by more piles of garbage.

I am beginning to think that our city council members cannot see or recognize the issue behind the camps. There may be people that point to homelessness, but I see hives of theft, needles, garbage.

Please stop the spread of garbage, theft, conflict, needles into our neighborhoods, zombie like behavior, garbage along the roadways, in the doorways of businesses, in parks. I am dealing with this everyday.

Ugh. I cannot believe that any of you would think this is a good idea. Rapid Response and Central City Concern are a fraction of what is needed to manage the already out of control problem with the garbage, theft, needles, hazardous waste.

The City of Portland cannot provide a habitable space for the homeless on the streets or the parks. By allowing these camps already, it is failing to address Life Safety issues. Life Safety violations are on the city to address when these issues persist to exist in neighborhoods, parks, streets, etc.. How can the city enforce these codes on home owners and Landlords if it cannot address these issues on streets, under overpasses, along neighborhoods, in front of businesses, in parks, etc...?

Please, create laws that reduce camps, not invite them to portland.

From: [alan armstrong](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#); [Wheeler, Mayor](#)
Cc: [Commissioner Mapps](#); [Commissioner Rubio](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Commissioner Ryan Office](#); [City Auditor](#),
[Mary Hull Caballero](#)
Subject: proposed code changes to the Shelter to Housing Continuum
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 12:20:36 PM

Dear Mayor Wheeler and members of the Portland City Council,

Our parks and natural spaces must remain open to the public. As you consider the language for the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project, I strongly recommend the removal of Open Space Zones, including developed parks, natural areas, and trails, from consideration for the siting of either temporary or permanent houseless shelters EXCEPT for a declaration of emergency by the City Council due to a catastrophic natural disaster.

You will hear testimony on this issue, and you should conclude that there is already vacant and underutilized land available. You can conclude that allowing shelters in Open Space Zones is inequitable as it disproportionately affects BIPOC communities living without yards or outdoor spaces. You can conclude that access to parks, natural areas, and open spaces is a fundamental necessity for the physical and mental well being of all Portlanders and should not be infringed upon.

The houseless crisis in Portland needs solutions, and this is not one of them.

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Alan Armstrong
3309 SE Sherrett St,
Portland, OR 97222

From: [Susannah Hill](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Cc: [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Commissioner Mapps](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Commissioner Rubio](#); [Commissioner Ryan Office](#); [City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero](#); [Engstrom, Eric](#)
Subject: Homeless camps: March 31 agenda items 202-204 3pm time certain
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 1:44:56 PM

Please consider this my written testimony on the above matter.

As a high taxpaying Portland resident I strongly resent the toleration and indeed encouragement of homeless camps throughout the city. Providing "tiny houses" and other "temporary" (read semi-permanent) structures will do nothing to stem the tide of burdensome individuals who do not need to be in our city and are draining our precious resources. It will only encourage more people to come here. Who will pay for this? I want my community center and parks back for the use of taxpaying residents. If removing people from our streets is the objective, why not ban public homelessness and arrange for the building of permanent homes somewhere else in Oregon where there is more space, eg Salem? Surely the state capital is ultimately responsible? And before you step on our parks and other cherished public spaces, perhaps you could have the city's hundreds of churches open their heavily under-used car parks and properties for the use of those in need?

Yours sincerely,

Susannah Hill

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Homeless and parks vote Wednesday
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 4:51:31 PM

Testimony for agenda items 203 and 204.

From: Bernie Buckle <bernie@stevesimports.com>
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 at 1:45 PM
To: "Wheeler, Mayor" <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Hardesty <joann@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Ryan Office <CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, "City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero" <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Homeless and parks vote Wednesday

Mr Mayor and Commissioners,

I humbly ask if you all have lost your sense of what is right for Portland and its citizens regarding the homeless population? You are about to vote on a temporary bill that would allow homeless of portland to set up camp in any city park or open space throughout the city? Seriously this is a really bad idea to put it mildly. This means ball parks, soccer fields where our children meet and play would be over run by mentally ill, drunk, drugged and child abuser types in the homeless community.

Yes they are people too but you are not helping anyone by opening these spaces. You are enabling them as unproductive people in society. Keeping their drug and alcohol infused lives as a viable option. Allowing mentally ill people to wander out streets putting everyone at risk. Crime will increase and property values plummet due to your foolish panderings to just a few that protest. You are not doing what is right for Portland. You are turning this town into a third world country and it is just sad.

I was born here in 1962. This was a beautiful city. A fun city. Well it's no longer fun or functional. It's a disaster!

Think long and hard about what you are about to approve. Portland wont survive it. You only need to look north to Seattle to see what a failure the mayor of that city is when she approved this. Its a mess.

Clean up this city Mr. Mayor and Commissioners. Do your jobs. You can make this city a beautiful city once more. Solve the homeless issue. Clean up the trash. Do these two things and you will solve a ton of environmental issues you are about to unleash.

You only need to look at Foster Road, Division street to see what your policies are doing. How

about Marine Drive? It is an ecological disaster. Garbage as far as you can see. You put up these porta potties and they are a mess. an eyesore. What are you people thinking? Change your ways. Change portland.

Bernie Buckle

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Bernie Buckle - Manager

Steve's Collision & Restoration



From: [Shannon Hamilton](#)
To: [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Commissioner Rubio](#); [Commissioner Ryan Office](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Commissioner Mapps](#)
Cc: [Clerk General](#); [Clerk General](#); [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: NO Homeless Shelters in Portland Parks
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 1:57:02 PM

Dear City Council,

As a tax paying citizen of Multnomah County I'm writing to express my **strong opposition** with regards to allowing homeless shelters in Portland Parks. Our parks are paid for by **us**, the taxpayers and under no circumstances do I agree with this proposal. Measure 26-213 was passed in November to protect and maintain our parks - a \$45 million annual property tax levy to maintain the city parks system. How do you renege on a measure that will increase property taxes and allow the parks to go to the wayside? Do you really expect homeowners to be ok with this nonsense? Giving the parks to the homeless is the wrong answer or move. As you look around our city it is clearly evident that there is absolutely NO RESPECT from the people living in these spaces who dump garbage and leave mounds of crap everywhere around the city. Our environmentally protected parks will turn into dark dirty spaces with dangerous activity.

Homeless camps bring huge amounts of garbage, used needles, human feces and more. And where would you expect Portland's children to then play? Play amongst the garbage and needles? For city council to even consider this as an alternative is slap in our face. ENOUGH already! Get the mentally ill off the streets and into facilities, the criminals in jail, and the TRUE homeless people in housing or programs.

Our parks are one of the last remaining things in this city that are still beautiful, and allowing homeless camps will completely destroy them.

Do you really want to completely trash our parks because voting "yes" will *ensure that outcome*. You need to stop chasing out the citizens of this city who help keep it functioning. Stop allowing the homeless, drug infested people of this city to overrun our city. You have a \$200 Federal Tax fund to FIX IT!

Shannon Hamilton
2824 NE 51st Ave
Portland, OR 97213
503.624.5022

This email has been scanned for spam and viruses by Proofpoint Essentials. Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.

From: [Will Greene](#)
To: [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Commissioner Rubio](#); [Commissioner Rubio](#); [Commissioner Ryan Office](#); [Commissioner Ryan Office](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Commissioner Mapps](#); [Clerk General](#); [Clerk General](#); [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Cc: [Will Greene](#)
Subject: Has to be a better option to allow to allow Shelters in Portland Parks
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 1:59:25 PM

Dear City Counsel,

I understand our homeless situation is a difficult task to manage and address. As a tax paying citizen of Multnomah County I'm writing to voice my ***strong opposition*** with regards to allowing homeless shelters in Portland Parks. The purpose of parks is to have a space that can be enjoyed by our community and are funded by the tax payers. I believe there has to be a better option.

As you drive around Portland, and see the homeless camps, there are large amounts of garbage, used needles, human feces and junked out vehicles. This is not safe for our children to be around to play amongst the garbage and needles.

Our parks are one of the last remaining things in this city that are still beautiful, and allowing homeless camps will completely destroy them.

Do you really want to completely trash our parks because voting "yes" will *ensure that outcome*. I ask that you delay this vote and come up with a better solution.

Will Greene
4241 SE 32nd Ave
Portland OR 97202
503.913.0199

From: [Luke Masha](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Proposal to house homeless in city parks
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 2:52:45 PM

I am not in favor of the proposal to house portland's homeless in portland parks. It's a terrible idea. Not only will they likely destroy portland's beautiful parks (see what has been done with many trash filled homeless encampments on portland's highways or in the downtown area) but it poses a health and safety risk to the public and to homeless themselves. All it takes is one kid getting hurt by a needle or glass and the entire thing will be shut down. It also doesn't actually help the problem of homelessness and is a shameful attempt to rectify the situation. There's a reason why other cities aren't doing this.

Please go back to the drawing board on the homeless issues. Ask experts on the topic to weigh in, and find funding rather than using half baked ideas that will ruin one of the best assets of the city. Portland's homeless situation is dire and needs steps to improve it but this is not the way.

Sincerely

Luke Masha

From: [Jes Sothern](#)
To: [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Commissioner Rubio](#); [Commissioner Ryan Office](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Commissioner Mapps](#); [Clerk General](#); [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: NO to City Parks as a Homeless Shelter
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 5:17:49 PM

VOTE NO to our City Parks as a Temporary Homeless Shelter

Our once beautiful city has become a cesspool of filth and garbage, in large part due the chronic homeless problem. Our city parks, many garbage filled, no longer safe for YOUR CONSTITUENTS whose tax dollars pay to fund and care for these parks. Crime rates sore. Needles. Humane excrement. Theft. Assault. Drug use. Prostitution. Violent crime. All on the rise.

Do not continue to take away public areas from those who pay for them. Do not continue to pander to the ever growing homeless problem that plagues the city.

STOP THE MADNESS. Enforce the laws. Stop the crime. Insist our DA PROSECUTE criminals and return our city to the beauty it once was known for, it's PARKS.

The national shame of our city falls on your shoulders and your policies. Stop the continuation of those policies.

JSothern

From: [Betty Ramage](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Continuing homeless housing in community centers
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 5:35:45 PM

I understand that there is a proposal to continue to use community centers for homeless shelters. While I am sympathetic to the homeless situation, please do not continue to place homeless in community centers. I am 73 years old and attended the community center fitness classes twice a week regularly. This has now been taken away because of COVID and the placement of homeless in the community centers. Portland does not have senior centers, like other cities. Rather the community centers have served as de facto senior centers, offering classes, lunches, etc. So when you take away community centers, you also take away senior centers.

Please don't do this. Betty Ramage

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Linda Itami](#)
To: [Clerk General](#)
Subject: Homeless
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 7:35:37 PM

Please do not allow our parks, that our taxes pay for, be used for the homeless. They will start to look like our streets and honestly, homeless people don't appreciate it and will just trash them. Where are our families supposed to go?

Respectfully

Linda Itami

From: [Linda Itami](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Homeless
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 7:36:34 PM

Please do not allow our parks, that our taxes pay for, be used for the homeless. They will start to look like our streets and honestly, homeless people don't appreciate it and will just trash them. Where are our families supposed to go?

Respectfully

Linda Itami

From: [Lupton, Sukey \(Portland\)](#)
To: [Wheeler, Mayor](#)
Cc: [Commissioner Rubio](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Commissioner Mapps](#); [Clerk General](#); [Commissioner Ryan Office](#)
Subject: Camping in Creston Kenilworth Park
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 8:05:27 PM

Hello,

Our neighborhood park is dear to us, a place we frequent often, bring our kids to play, exercise and meet friends for get togethers. We love our park. Myself and neighbor already pick up garbage. Allowing public camping would make a safe community gathering place feel unsafe. In my observation of homeless camps in other areas there are mounds of garbage, gathered items and drug needles. There are not public bathrooms in the park. I feel that the Portland government is doing a general disservice to homeless people by not providing safe housing to those unhoused. Are there not numerous hotels empty? How can someone correct their drug addiction problem if they are wet, cold, worried about food and bathroom access? A roof, a safe place is needed. By letting people camp on the street, essentially turning a blind eye, does not help anyone. Kenilworth park is right across the street from Grout Elementary. This is an urgent issue, one I care deeply about, but allowing camping outside and letting garbage pile up on our streets is not the answer.

Sukey
4201 se 32 ave, 97202
5034424128

From: [Cynthia O'Hara](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Parks
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 8:57:24 PM

Hell no to using our Parks for the homeless! It's bad enough there is garbage and feces on every street corner.

You have been given millions to alleviate this homeless problem so do your job!

No to using our Parks!

Sent from my iPhone

From: [samanthaapsmith](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Please Save Portland
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 9:18:29 PM

To The Portland City Council,

Our city is dying. The once clean and beautiful Rose city is choking on garbage, human waste and desolation.

I urge the city to work towards a vision of Portland where the filth and crime are not tolerated. Continuing to treat the symptoms of the houseless without addressing the root cause of the problem will only cause our city to continue to decline. Mental health and drug addiction treatments are needed far more than tolerating urban camping, theft and destruction.

Please bring lawfulness, respect and safety back to our city. End the practice of accepting urban camping in public areas, set up sustainable solutions that include services for mental health and drugs and stop allowing such a small population to choke the city.

Portland is one of the best cities I have ever lived in in my life, and at the same time is one of the worst. Please, I implore you, restore the respect this city deserves. End the tolerance of its destruction and decline.

Sincerely,

Samantha Smith

From: [Rebecca Garcia](#)
To: [Clerk General](#)
Subject: NO CAMPING
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 9:20:22 PM

How could this even be a consideration at this point? The city is embarrassment it's disgusting. Are used to be proud to live here now I dream of the day of moving away and now you want to ruin the few places that we have left that are full of garbage.

From: [Jim Sjulín](#)
To: [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Clerk General](#); [Commissioner Rubio](#); [Commissioner Mapps](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Commissioner Ryan Office](#)
Subject: Shelter to Housing Continuum
Date: Tuesday, March 30, 2021 10:00:27 AM
Attachments: [Sjulín letter 2021.03.30.docx](#)

Thanks for your work on the Shelter to Housing Continuum project. All Portlanders by now must understand how important, how urgent, and how difficult it is to mitigate our houselessness crisis.

However, as a parks advocate, and as a follow-up to my testimony given on March 17th, I join many who are speaking up to ask that the Open Space zone and public parks not be used for shelters whether temporary or permanent.

Please see my attached letter for the record.

Respectfully,
Jim Sjulín
4028 SE Salmon Street
Portland, OR 97214

Jim Sjulín
4028 SE Salmon Street
Portland, Oregon 97214

March 30, 2021

Mayor Wheeler and Portland Commissioners
City Hall
Portland, Oregon

Dear Mayor and Commissioners:

I have been following with great interest the Shelter to Housing Continuum project and process. I applaud efforts to provide shelter to Portland residents who need it and to provide permanent housing solutions in a quantity that addresses our housing crisis.

As I testified on March 17th, I am personally very familiar with the impacts to our parks, trails, natural areas, and public rights-of-way from unsanctioned camping. I am also aware that some of you may want to retain the option of using park parking lots for siting outdoor shelters and to retain the option of using park community and cultural centers for mass indoor shelters. I oppose both for five reasons.

1. Temporary or quasi-temporary use of park parking lots and park community / cultural centers is not the fix that's needed. It is a band-aid that obscures the real need to find suitable housing and treatment for those who need it, and the need to help people find employment at sustainable income levels.
2. Use of public parks land park facilities for shelters precludes the use by other citizens for their intended purposes. In addition to the loss of the areas and facilities directly used for shelters, the use of adjacent parks facilities will diminish because people will be concerned about their personal health and safety.
3. Spillover impacts will occur. Ask any front-line parks worker what will happen. They will tell you that there will be serious impacts to public park areas adjoining shelter facilities. Abandoned property, needles and other drug paraphernalia, and human waste will increase in adjacent park areas.
4. Other areas are available. Planning and Sustainability's own study indicated that no part of the Open Space zone was needed to meet the needs of the current houselessness crisis.
5. Open Space zoning does not accommodate the conflicting use of long-term shelters. **The proposed code language begs for a land use challenge.** The City will no longer meet all of the

State's land use regulations if it takes the step of allowing a long-term conflicting use in the City's Open Space zone. The Open Space zone is the only zone intended to allow park uses and to protect park land and parks and recreation facilities from other uses and development.

Cities, Counties, the State of Oregon, and the Federal Government must address the houseless crisis that is particularly acute in climate-friendly western states. Yet, I join thousands of citizens who agree that there is no need and no justification for sacrificing parks and parks facilities. And there is no legal justification for re-purposing the City's Open Space zone.

Respectfully,

Jim Sjulín

From: [Vlad Yurlov](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Shelter to Housing Continuum Testimony
Date: Tuesday, March 30, 2021 3:16:29 PM

Hello,

Please submit this written testimony for Portland City Council item 203 on March 30, 2021.

Extend Construction Freedoms to All Residential Development

Portland City Council,

I'm Vlad Yurlov, policy analyst at Cascade Policy Institute. It's time to free all residential development from design review.

Since 2015, Portland has been operating under consecutive housing emergencies. Under the emergency declarations, the city has expedited the design review process for affordable housing. The Shelter to Housing Continuum you are now considering would exempt outdoor shelters from design review.

I am glad that the City Council has recognized design review as one of the key roadblocks to increasing the supply of housing in Portland. Design review does not just stand in the way of supplying affordable housing and shelter for our homeless residents. Design review stands in the way of providing market rate housing too. I urge City Council to go further and **remove design review requirements for all residential development in Portland.**

As the Council knows, the design review process adds delays, expenses, and confusion to all types of housing, not just affordable housing and shelter for homeless residents. The delays, expenses, and confusion that affect residential developments are a key reason for Portland's continuing affordability and homelessness crisis.

Design review for residential developments typically takes between 42 and 90 days. That's up to three months that could have been spent building more housing units. These burdens apply to the City's affordable housing bond projects as well. Developers are left to appeal to the subjective whims of Portland's design commission.

I hope you remember Landon Crowell's proposed development at 1122 SE Ankeny Street. Starting in 2016, Crowell spent an absurd 18 months and \$200,000 in fees trying to meet the design commission's demands. Even after the commission agreed the project was consistent with Portland Zoning Code, Crowell was denied his right to supply Portland with more housing. The design commission's main concern was that building in accordance with "development standard allowances" was incompatible with the unique lot that Crowell had to

work with. In September 2017, Portland City Council unanimously overturned the design review commission's decision and allowed Crowell to build.

Although Crowell still hasn't found the right mix of financing to complete the project, his journey through the regulatory spin-cycle of design review revealed the flaws in the process. Many developers have decided that the risk isn't worth the effort and have shifted their investments outside of Portland. Portland Business Alliance warns that the "pipeline" of apartment construction was cut in half between 2019 and 2020. We need all the housing we can get, lest more people fall into homelessness due to rising rents.

The Shelter to Housing Continuum intends to increase shelter capacity by exempting outdoor homeless shelters from design review. This is the first step to meeting the requirements of our housing emergencies. I urge Portland City Council to take a second step and exempt all residential development from design review. Clearing the delays, expenses, and confusion of design review from residential development will cement every resident's ability to pitch in and make Portland more affordable for everyone. Councilors, please bring the housing portion of the Shelter to Housing Continuum up to speed with shelters and exempt all residential development from design review.

From: [Patricia Cliff](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Cc: [Commissioner Ryan Office](#)
Subject: Shelter to Housing Continuum
Date: Tuesday, March 30, 2021 3:19:36 PM

I should like to comment with respect to the extension of the Shelter to Housing Continuum.

Portland is not the only city in the U.S. that is wrestling with homeless issues, but it has been dealing with these issues poorly and ineffectively, much more so than other cities facing similar issues.

Clearly the bill passed in 2015 has been ineffective and has only increased the number of unfortunate individuals who are living like feral animals under deplorable, unsanitary conditions. Increasing the land available for a continuation of this “temporary solution to the problem” is unadvisable. Further increasing the burden on the community by allowing tent cities to occupy tax pay funded parks is also a terrible idea!

Real, realistic solutions to increased houseless conditions can only be solved by addressing the individual needs of each individual and family and then securing the necessary and appropriate help that they are entitled to, and helping them to access these resources, whether these be mental health issues, addiction issues, aging out of foster care issues, family violence issues, etc. Once these issues are addressed, and treated, long term affordable housing can be procured. The model which the city should learn from and follow is: Homer Williams’ “Harbor of Hope” model, which should be studied and funded by the City.

Having spent years of my life working as an attorney pro bono in NYC with these issues, I know from that which I speak.



PATRICIA CLIFF

311 NW 12th Avenue, Apt 1502

Portland, OR 97209

patricia@patriciacliff.com

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: NO to Allowing Homeless Camps in City Parks, Trails and Natural Spaces, Including Parking Areas
Date: Tuesday, March 30, 2021 3:26:09 PM

Testimony for agenda items 203 and 204.

From: misterhassel <misterhassel@gmail.com>
Date: Tuesday, March 30, 2021 at 3:22 PM
Subject: Fwd: NO to Allowing Homeless Camps in City Parks, Trails and Natural Spaces, Including Parking Areas

To Whom It May Concerns,

As a Portland resident that believes the City of Portland needs to work for all residents, I trust that you will clearly vote NO to allow any kind of housing - temporary or otherwise - in city parks, open spaces or trails, including the parking areas and/right of way spaces adjacent to these spaces. Especially in a time where parks and open spaces have been vital to the health and well being of Portland families, encroaching on these spaces with temporary shelters and the waste associated with them would be a slap in the face to Portland residents and businesses that fund "the City That Works."

I recognize that homelessness is a major challenge, and one that is not going away any time soon. But allowing these temporary shelters and other camps to spread even further into our public spaces is only going to turn the residents against the city leadership and any efforts to solve the crisis. The issue of housing affordability needs to be addressed through structural reforms - such as making it easier and more affordable to build housing, removing NIMBY rules that favor established well-off homeowners (such as myself) and changing the tax structure so that new buyers in "Economic Development Zones" pay taxes that reflect their home's true market value, using those funds to support initiatives that address housing affordability.

Allowing housing in parks and other open spaces is only a band aid for the symptoms of our homelessness crisis. I hope as a community that we can challenge ourselves by asking ask "Why?" as many times as necessary to get to the root cause of our problems, and then take the steps to help address them.

Thanks for your time and please stay healthy and sane during these challenging times.

Best,
Shaun

From: [skip barton](#)
To: [Clerk General](#)
Cc: [City Info](#)
Subject: opposition to changing law restricting camping around parks
Date: Tuesday, March 30, 2021 3:26:05 PM

To City Counsel of Portland,

I wanted to voice my opposition to changing the law and allowing camping around the parameters of Public parks. I live in the Foster Powell neighborhood where currently there are houseless people living around the parameter of our park, rendering it unusable to anyone due to all the trash, human feces and unpredictable behavior of some of the people encamped there. I realize that there is no easy solution to the homeless situation but letting people camp on the streets and around parks is not a reasonable solution. As a home owner AND tax payer, I feel unheard when it comes changes that the city council has made in my neighborhood.

I hope I have sent this letter to the correct address and that my voice is heard by the city couple on this subject.

Regards,
Skip Barton

Skip Barton
skipbarton@gmail.com
503-866-5436

From: karlvonfrieling@gmail.com
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Cc: [Commissioner Ryan Office](#)
Subject: Shelter to Housing Continuum
Date: Tuesday, March 30, 2021 3:49:24 PM

My name is Karl von Frieling. I live in the Pearl, where I have lived for the past ten years, during which time, I have watched the homeless population and the deplorable conditions under which these people live exacerbate without any meaningful plan by the city government to solve the situation. The present effort to extend the failed policies of the Portland City government in dealing with these dire circumstances offer no meaningful solutions. Further complicating matters by even suggesting that publicly funded parks be made available for “temporary” tent cities, is an affront to the generous, tax paying residents who are sympathetic to the homeless problem and who have voted to fund appropriate affordable housing solutions.

When living in NYC, my wife and I were active on a pro basis with Community Solutions: www.cmtty.org, founded by Roseanne Haggerty.

Roseanne is a world renowned specialist in dealing with these issues. Familiarizing yourselves with her website would be a good first start to appropriately addressing this pressing issue. She has worked with great success in many U.S. cities with her “Built to Zero” program. It would behoove the Portland City government to hire her as a consultant. She is pragmatic and effective in her mission, which has virtually solved the homeless situation effecting veterans in many U.S. cities.

Since the Shelter to Housing Continuum has done little to solve these problems, it is advisable to bring in an expert from elsewhere who has been instrumental in actually effectuating solutions.

Sincerely,

Karl von Frieling

311 NW 12th Avenue

Portland, OR 97209

From: [Penny Hung](#)
To: [Clerk General](#)
Subject: Consider Schools
Date: Tuesday, March 30, 2021 4:34:40 PM

Hi,

I would like to add a comment for the city council meeting.

Regarding allowing camping in public spaces I hope that there is discussion and consideration to limit camping in all pre-k to 12 school areas for the safety of children in our community.

Thanks!

Penny

--



Penny Hung
Administrative Assistant/Senior Advocate
503-721-6757
phung@impactnw.org
impactnw.org

From: [Amy Rathfelder](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Portland Business Alliance's Testimony on Council Agenda Items #203 & 204
Date: Tuesday, March 30, 2021 4:56:04 PM
Attachments: [20210330-S2HC_PBA_3-2021-letter-FINAL.pdf](#)

Good afternoon,

Please include the attached testimony as part of the official record on both these Council items.

Thank you,
Amy

Amy Rathfelder (*she/her/hers*)
Director, Government Affairs
PORTLAND BUSINESS ALLIANCE
p: 503-367-9554 | arathfelder@portlandalliance.com

Greater Portland's Chamber of Commerce
DowntownPortland.org | PortlandAlliance.com | PartnersinDiversity.org

[Be here for Portland.](#)

From: [PEGGIE](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Camping
Date: Tuesday, March 30, 2021 5:17:16 PM

Camping in park parking lots is camping in parks. Please do not allow it for the safety of everyone involved.

Peggie Schwarz

Sent from Xfinity Connect Application

From: [NANCY HURLEY](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: No to enabling Houseless camps in parks
Date: Tuesday, March 30, 2021 7:32:58 PM

To City Council Members

I am another long time Portland resident that is appalled at the idea of permitting houseless camps to be erected in our city parks. Our parks are for tax paying citizens, the same tax paying citizens that have agreed to multiple tax increases to address the homeless issue that the city clearly can not get under control.

While I understand houselessness is not a crime, we all know there is significant crime and drug use that is associated with many of these camps- one only need to walk by the needles littered on the ground or see 4-5 bikes at each tent that clearly do not belong to the occupants to know that these camps have no place in our neighborhoods or our streets.

As a 25+ year resident, I am appalled at the state of this city right now, particularly the garbage lining our streets and highways, much of it a result of the camps. How anyone can propose that we, as taxpaying citizens, should agree to let these camps become a fixture in the parks that we all need for our own well being, particularly in times of Covid, is beyond me.

Our city, state and federal leaders have all failed Portland in not dealing with this crisis in an appropriate manner, however you alone can stop it from becoming even worse by turning down this very misguided proposal. We have provided plenty of tax dollars to address the issue and I for one have also donated to many a non-profit organization to help the houseless people, however we as citizens of Portland are absolutely fed up.

Do Better!!

Nancy Hurley
2608 N Winchell St
Portland, OR

From: paola.dooly@comcast.net
To: [Engstrom, Eric](#)
Cc: [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Commissioner Rubio](#); [Commissioner Ryan Office](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Commissioner Mapps](#); [Clerk General](#)
Subject: Measure 203/204
Date: Wednesday, March 31, 2021 9:24:16 AM

Hi Eric,

I'm a Multnomah County tax paying citizen, and I ***strongly oppose*** Measure 203/204, allowing camping in our city parks. Our parks are paid for by us and heavily used by families, their children, dogs, etc. Allowing camping in parks would create dangerous situations for those currently enjoying them, and parents shouldn't have to worry about their children being hurt by a used needle or human feces.

The problem at hand is complicated, and I want to help solve it because this city's "wack-a-mole" approach is ineffective and expensive.

I am a "problem solver" type person who is solutions-oriented and here are 3 of my ideas (I have more):

- Designate a *specific area* where they can legally camp and make camping where ever they want illegal like over 100 cities have already done in this country
- Provide services at this designated area = toilets, showers, garbage pick up, mental health access
- It must be either located on a bus line, or a designated bus to transport them to the closest bus line

We *must clean up our city*, it's negatively affecting every one personally and professionally, and simply throwing more money at the problem will not solve it. We need to creatively take a different approach because the \$31 million spent last year obviously failed miserably.

Opening our parks to camping is the worst idea possible, they must be preserved and maintained for the people who actually pay for them, and for the next generation.

Thank you.

Paola Dooly
503.449.7682

From: [LOUANN BENNETT](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: No Managed Houseless Shelters in/near Parks
Date: Wednesday, March 31, 2021 1:07:11 PM

Please protect our schools, parks and space where children come/go, learn and play!

Thank you,

Lou Ann Bennett

3820 SE Alder St Portland OR

503-805-2373

From: [Sheryl Riley](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Shelter to Housing
Date: Thursday, April 1, 2021 9:43:40 AM

To our public stewards,

As a long time resident of Portland I have watched the city deteriorate the past 5 years to a point where my husband and I are considering moving. One of the most beloved aspects of Portland to us was the beauty and usability of the city parks and community centers.

Turning those places into homeless camps would represent the City's choice to disregard of the Housed residents in favor of the Houseless. It would sharply decrease the already questionable livability of Portland. For many it is already at the breaking point with every bit of our public space occupied by filthy camps.

Why does the city refuse to address the problem in a sustainable way?

Normally sympathetic residents have lost patience that our elected officials have the ability or courage to provide a long term solution.

Will your next mandate be that each resident allow one Houseless person on their sofa?
It's reached a point of absurdity.

Please reconsider the proposed take over of our community centers, as this is grossly unfair to the tax paying citizens of Portland. Unless, of course, your goal is to empty the city of its law abiding and tax paying constituents.

Do the right thing, please, not just another short term fix.

Sheryl Riley

From: paola.dooly@comcast.net
To: [Clerk General](#)
Cc: [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Commissioner Rubio](#); [Commissioner Ryan Office](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Commissioner Mapps](#); [Engstrom, Eric](#)
Subject: To Keelan re: Tristan
Date: Friday, April 2, 2021 9:35:25 AM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
[image.png](#)
[image.png](#)
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[image.png](#)
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Hi Keelan,

I'm writing to convey my appreciation for Tristan because I understand you are her Manager. She's incredibly responsive to my communications, exceptionally helpful, and listens well.

Thank you Tristan!!

As a voting, taxpaying citizen of Multnomah County (\$ 15k in property taxes), I'm disgusted with the state of our city which is negatively affecting everyone. What's being allowed is not only an environmental disaster, but a serious biohazard with all the used needles, human feces and garbage.

Portland spent \$31 million dollars to "fix" this, and their "plan" **failed miserably**. Now our elected officials want more (\$55 million), and I do not support increasing this budget. I would feel differently if that \$31 million had made a positive impact, but clearly it hasn't based on the photos I took (below) during a 1 hour bike ride.

I've cc'd everyone whom I've emailed and called about this, and no one has ever responded except Tristan. In the "real world", their lack of response coupled with the state of our city would be grounds for *immediate termination*.

We need a real plan to deal with what's being allowed:

1. Dedicate a *legal camping zone* for everyone living on the streets
2. Provide services such as toilets, showers, garbage pick up, mental health, and access to transportation
3. Relocate *all homeless related services* currently downtown to the *legal camping zone*
4. **Ban ALL other camping** (*hundreds of cities across the US have already done this*)

I have many "solutions-oriented ideas" and realize what I'm suggesting above is simplistic. There's obviously a lot more involved, and a massive project like this needs to be managed by someone with *exceptional organizational skills*.

The bottom line is we need to get these folks the support they need, and *out of the city* because it's financially impacting business owners. Cleaning it up is the KEY to revitalizing Portland if we want tourism to return.

Thank you.

Paola Dooly
503.449.7682

















On 03/31/2021 9:23 AM paola.dooly@comcast.net wrote:

Hi Eric,

I'm a Multnomah County tax paying citizen, and I ***strongly oppose*** Measure 203/204, allowing camping in our city parks. Our parks are paid for by us and heavily used by families, their children, dogs, etc. Allowing camping in parks would create dangerous situations for those currently enjoying them, and parents shouldn't have to worry about their children being hurt by a used needle or human feces.

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I am a "problem solver" type person who is solutions-oriented and here are 3 of my ideas (I have more):

- Designate a *specific area* where they can legally camp and make camping

where ever they want illegal like over 100 cities have already done in this country

- Provide services at this designated area = toilets, showers, garbage pick up, mental health access
- It must be either located on a bus line, or a designated bus to transport them to the closest bus line

We must clean up our city, it's negatively affecting every one personally and professionally, and simply throwing more money at the problem will not solve it. We need to creatively take a different approach because the \$31 million spent last year obviously failed miserably.

Opening our parks to camping is the worst idea possible, they must be preserved and maintained for the people who actually pay for them, and for the next generation.

Thank you.

Paola Dooly
503.449.7682

From: [Angie Wise](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Cc: wiseang@comcast.net
Subject: HB2367
Date: Friday, April 9, 2021 12:50:46 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

I love our parks! I am in my local park 4-5 times a week, walking my dog. It is so beautiful! I feel like I am on a hiking trail in the gorge or at Mt. Hood and I only had to walk from my house. It brings me peace, calmness and tranquility. It has especially done this during this pandemic. It is medicine. Nature's medicine for my mood, my health, my brain...and I am not alone in this...it has saved many of us who visit parks (during the pandemic especially) from having to get counselors or medical help due to the extreme stress the pandemic has caused.

On another note, when I am driving and enter Interstate 84 going West from my neighborhood, my mood changes. I get upset, saddened, mad and my heart rate goes up...because that is when I begin to see the trash...piles of trash...broken tents, grocery carts, tons of food containers strewn all over the bank, the road and continuing through the tunnel you have to drive through to get on 84 and the trash continues onto the interstate. The trash is all along the road, on the banks, by the railroad tracks, up the hills, everywhere. It is horrible! Sad. It makes me mad. Mad at you...elected officials, city council, mayor, our city. You do not clean up the trash, you do not make the ones who made the trash clean it up, you do nothing...at least in the area I am talking about. But when I drive up and down I-5 it is the same. I drove over the Hawthorne bridge yesterday and the trash by all the tents by OMSI was horrible! It does not get better! It gets worse! I am mad at you and YOU are making my heart rate go up, my mental state get worse. You are especially doing this when you threatening the one thing that makes my heart rate calm, my brain calm and my avenue of "normalcy" during this pandemic and otherwise: you are threatening our parks. I don't trust you. I see the trash around the tents, in the streets by the roads. That's what will happen to our parks. How do I know? Because it is all over the city. You are untrustworthy. You do not do what you say.

We gave you TONS of money from the parks bill that was passed this past November-measure 26-213. Use it for a PERMANENT, safe, clean place for our homeless who need the help they should get if you want. According to projections, you should get 45 million dollars just this year from this bill that was passed! So, use it to help the homeless but DO NOT USE OUR PARKS for them. I know what will happen from what I have seen around the city. I promise you, there will be an uproar, a fight you have never seen if you let homeless people camp in our parks. You need to clean up the city, the streets, and the areas I mentioned, to just begin to build back our trust. Yes, find a place for the homeless, but NOT OUR PARKS. Or else there will be more people with the need to go to doctors because YOU will be messing up our health, our minds, our bodies, our lives. YOU will be one ones with even more people to help if you take our parks. Plus, I don't feel safe when I am walking by homeless tents. I walked in the Laurelhurst park when the camps were on the edge of the park. I felt unsafe, it was dirty, feces was everywhere, trash everywhere. I walk along the river front where our beautiful cheery trees are blooming now and I feel unsafe! There is trash, needles and scary looking people lolling about. This is like the 80's in NYC! Horrible. And you've allowed all this. I have seen actual CAMPFIRES in downtown Thompson park and in North Portland at homeless camps. Fires downtown! When it gets dry again this summer, the city could burn down! I was shocked to see these fires! I am sad, mad, angry! Stop this! Move these people to a safe, permanent place where they MUST put trash in the trashcan, pee in toilets and NOT DO DRUGS! They have to be held accountable and you do too! People do not want to visit our city it is so dirty and scary looking and UGLY. Again, YOU are to BLAME. Our beautiful public spaces are being ruined because YOU ALLOW people to throw trash anywhere, use the bathroom anywhere, camp anywhere, get drunk or high anywhere...horrible. You are horrible! YOU did this! Find a PERMANENT PLACE FOR OUR HOMELESS. NOT OUR PARKS. I do not want to see our parks with trash strewn and also feel unsafe when walking there. Now, I can walk all hours of the day and evening and feel 100% safe in my local park. This will change if you pass HB 2367. FIND A PLACE FOR OUR HOMELESS THAT IS PERMANENT. NOT OUR PARKS. We trusted you and gave you 45 million dollars this year to make our parks, OURS. Not camps. Not trashy. Not dirty. We need our places of NORMALCY. SAVE US. SAVE OUR PARKS, PLEASE.

Sincerely,
Angela Wise

From: [Kat Simons](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Written Testimony of Maria Abad - April 14
Date: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 2:26:26 PM
Attachments: [Abad Letter to Commissioners April 2021.docx.pdf](#)

Hello. Attached is the accompanying written testimony to Maria Abad's oral testimony today, April 14.

Thank you.

Katharine Simons
Marketing & Communications Director
The International School
2305 S Water Ave
Portland, OR 97201
www.intlschool.org | 503-226-2496 x109





The International School

SPANISH • CHINESE • JAPANESE
INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

April 14, 2021

Dear Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners Hardesty, Mapps, Rubio, and Ryan;

My name is Maria Abad, and I am the Head of Early Childhood at The International School, an independent preschool and elementary school. I am now in my 26th year at the school. Our mission is to foster “global citizens;” we offer an International Baccalaureate approach and full immersion programs in Mandarin Chinese, Spanish, and Japanese. Almost half of our students identify as either minority or mixed-race; most being of Asian or Hispanic ethnicity. The majority of our faculty and staff – including myself - are native Chinese, Japanese, or Spanish speakers.

For thirty years, we have proudly operated our school here in Downtown Portland. **We have a current enrollment of approximately 350 preschool and elementary students ages 3 through 11. All but a small handful of students are on campus in-person, full-time, five days a week.**

Our school is bordered on three sides by city-owned open fields, which are located just on the other side of the boundary on SW Harrison, which leaves us unserved by Clean & Safe. While we embrace our location within the complex and vibrant tapestry of urban Portland, the past several years have brought an increasing number of problems with vandalism, fires, drug paraphernalia, human waste, and intoxicated and mentally ill citizens who camp on our campus and these surrounding fields.

The situation around our campus has become increasingly hazardous and untenable. The past few years have been the worst in memory. Here are just a few examples:

- On October 5th, we picked up 135 needles in one day. We currently are picking up a 45 gallon trash can of garbage per day.
- Numerous Individuals have been found to be either naked or partially naked and unconscious in plain sight by our staff and 3- to 11-year-old students.
- People regularly defecate and urinate in plain view of our classrooms.
- Individuals openly possessing, dealing, and using drugs in close proximity to campus.



The International School

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INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

- Our exterior plumbing is often cut to take water from the irrigation pipes.
- Abused birds with their wings ripped off and left on our playground.
- The Portland Police have declined to enforce trespassing notices issued according to law.

Due to the state decriminalization of drug possession, there is little guidance about enforcement of drug use at or near school zones. This - combined with the cancellation of the School Resource Officer program - has left us feeling very vulnerable in terms of keeping our students safe. Our staff and community have appealed to city police, ODOT, and have filed hundreds of claims in PDX reporter. We know that the sheer magnitude of issues has left law enforcement and community agencies overwhelmed and under-resourced.

We as a school commend you for your efforts to serve, shelter, and assist Portlanders who are experiencing houselessness. The Shelter to Housing Continuum Project is a significant step towards expanding support and sheltering options. **However, on behalf of the safety and well-being of Portland's schoolchildren, we request that a 300 yard boundary zone be established around all schools that prevents city-owned or leased land from being used for encampments or designated as short-term or outdoor shelters. We feel that a boundary zone around schools is the only way to reasonably balance the needs of the city's houseless population with those of its schoolchildren.**

Our school believes that global citizenship begins at home. We desire to be good partners and neighbors within the city, and share your vision for a Portland that supports long-term sustainability and fosters well-being and happiness for all of its residents.

Thank you for listening.

Maria Abad

Head of Early Childhood

The International School

mabad@intlschool.org

503-226-2496

From: [Kim McCarty](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Fwd: Shelter to Housing Continuum
Date: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 2:48:45 PM
Attachments: [Shelter to Housing Continuum CAT Testimony.pdf](#)

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

From: **Kim McCarty** <kmccarty@oregoncat.org>
Date: Wed, Apr 14, 2021 at 1:51 AM
Subject: Shelter to Housing Continuum
To: <stimony@portlandoregon.gov>

Hello Portland City Council,
Please see the attached testimony from the Community Alliance of Tenants regarding the Shelter to Housing Continuum.

Regards,

Kim

--



Kim McCarty, Executive Director
[Community Alliance of Tenants](#)
She | Her
Address: 1320 NE 63rd Ave.
Portland, OR 97213
Phone - [503.460.9702](tel:503.460.9702) x150
Cell phone - 503.780.3771
Renters Rights Hotline - 503.288.0130 | www.oregoncat.org



To: Portland City Council
From: Community Alliance of Tenants
Regarding: Shelter to Housing
Date: April 14, 2021

Dear Portland City Council;

I am writing to you on behalf of the Community Alliance of Tenants (CAT) in support of

- **Pass the Shelter to Housing Continuum**
- **Adopt amendments that give greater flexibility to provide shelter, and**
- **Extend the Housing State of Emergency.**

CAT formed in 1996. CAT is Oregon's only statewide, grassroots, tenant-controlled, tenant-rights organization. CAT educates, organizes and develops the leadership of low-income tenants. We believe that housing is the basis of a strong community. So, we bring tenants together to organize and collectively advocate for fair and equal protections in housing practices and policies.

The Shelter to Housing Continuum specifically needs to:

- **Legalize THOW & RVs on residential property.**
- **Codify the current rules from BDS for utilities; don't make them more restrictive.**
- **Use the loan program to incentivize sewer hookups but don't pretend it's a replacement for flexibility.**

Homelessness disproportionately affects people of color in Oregon and across the nation. Many of the people of color served by CAT are experiencing a disproportionate harassment and housing instability. The Housing Crisis, is made much worse by the public health crisis of COVID-19. Adopt sensible housing policies that give us the flexibility to adapt to changing situations.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kim McCarty

Kim McCarty
Executive Director

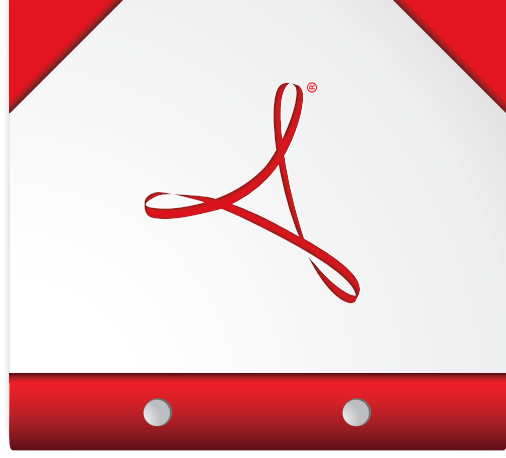


community
alliance of
tenants

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Community Alliance of Tenants

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PROGRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT GROUP, INC
P.O. Box 14953
Portland, OR 97293

telephone:(503) 235-2396

email: paul@progresspdx.com

March 16, 2021

Paul Niedergang - S2HC Testimony

City Council Members & Staff - My name is Paul Niedergang. I have lived in Portland since 1975 and have a small RE Investment and Development company called Progressive Development Group that has been involved primarily in redevelopment and adaptive reuse projects in SE and NE Portland.

I am supportive of the changes being proposed by the S2HC project and am hopeful that the changes will provide a greater range of shelter alternatives for unhoused people. I would like to commend BPS and BDS for the changes that have already been made to the S2HC project. While much progress has been made, I believe there are still a few other changes that should be considered.

In general, I believe the focus of the S2HC should not be limited to providing housing for houseless people in institutional and group living situations. The City of Portland declared a "housing emergency" in 2015. In many ways the crisis has only worsened since then, so it is crucial that we encourage greater innovation to address the crisis. If we keep doing the same thing, we will achieve the same results. It's time to think differently!

To help unleash the power of the greater Portland community I strongly **recommend that S2HC project incorporate an Innovative Housing Demonstrations Pathway (IHDP) as part of the code update.** This would allow a limited number of Pilot Projects to demonstrate the viability of alternative options with low risk while studying options to reduce code barriers.

We have been working on a model tiny house village project on a 20,000 SF RM1 site in SE Portland that we acquired in 2017. The concept is to create an affordable non-profit Arts Focused Tiny Home Eco Village (Art Farm). The site came with a house, workshop and barn and we have since added one tiny home. Despite our best efforts, we have been unable to figure out a permitting path for the concept. We are hoping the proposed S2HC changes to allow Tiny Houses on Wheels (THOW's) will enable a path forward.

The idea behind Art Farm is to demonstrate one possible affordable housing solution. While not as critical as providing homes for houseless people this type of project is still an important waypoint on the continuum. **The idea is to demonstrate the viability one alternative development modality with the hope that other people will utilize and refine the model.**

This project arose out of the realization that over the past decade many artists have been displaced from their workspaces by the redevelopment of old warehouse buildings in the urban core and have also found themselves priced out of the housing market. If we want to have art in our community, we need to have affordable spaces for artists to live and work.

Our proposed design is described in the attached 2-page overview and would allow for up to 10 Tiny Homes with Common Kitchen and Rest Room facilities. The proposed S2HC code revisions bring this type of development closer to reality but there are still a few issues that need to be resolved:

1. Eliminate or modify the 25' rear and side setback requirements. This would severely constrain the development potential of many sites. Current zoning allows townhouses with a 5' setback so this is unnecessarily restrictive.
2. Allow an "off grid" option by modifying the requirement for utility hookups.
3. Reduce barriers to implementation by the following:
 - a) create a parallel by-right expedited pathway for tiny house and tiny homes on wheels village clusters that does not require a conditional use discretionary process if a minor adjustment (such as #2 above is warranted). This would trigger a Type III review which is lengthy and costly and creates greater uncertainty which may deter more housing projects.
 - b) reduce or waive permit fees for tiny house and THOW villages (similar to precedent with ADUs), that provide affordable housing approaches but are not designated homeless shelters. (This would modify or clarify Exemptions for 30.01.096)
 - c) collaborate with community partners to connect applicants in need with free or low-cost technical assistance for applicants that may not have access to architecture, planning and permitting expertise.

There are currently many unpermitted tiny home cluster developments in Portland because there has been no practical and affordable way to permit this particular use. I believe it is better to create a legal path for this type of development rather than have it proliferate in an arbitrary, under the radar manner. I encourage you make additional changes to S2HC to enable permitted projects of this nature to be built.

We expect the Art Farm site will be a prime development site in 10 to 20 years. Our concept allows for higher intensity interim use while retaining future higher density development potential and avoids wasteful demolition. By siting tiny homes on this property, we can provide affordable housing and workspace for a significant number of people for a 10- to 20- (or longer) year time period.

Why is this important?

- There are many sites around the city that have potential for similar interim development.
- Supports higher intensity interim use for affordable rental housing.
- Can provide an alternative low-bar to entry for home ownership.
- Retains future potential of higher intensity uses without demolition.
- The current system is not equitable to many people who want to contribute to the solution.

As a developer - there needs to be a clear permitting pathway:

- The more complicated it is, the more expensive it is, how do we simplify?
- How do you create something safe and desirable with a process that is simple and transparent?
- If as an experienced developer, I am having trouble figuring out a path forward, then 98% of people will have trouble and only a handful of tenacious people be able to permit innovative projects like this.

In closing, I want to convey our appreciation for the work that staff has already been done on this project and look forward to continuing the dialogue to help bring the S2HC project to a successful conclusion.

Paul Niedergang, Art Farm Project Owner
President, Progressive Development Group, Inc.

Potential Amendment Concepts

March 12, 2021

1. **Innovative Housing Demonstration Projects.** To create opportunities for novel innovation housing strategies and typologies, create a pathway to remove barriers that exist to a variety of alternative housing types that provide both environmental innovation and greater affordability. Until permanent ordinances regarding innovative housing projects can be implemented, there is a need to allow and incentivize a limited number of regulated innovative housing projects. A small set of pilot projects would provide a pathway to test innovative housing models, evaluate code issues, and demonstrate viability with low risk. Drawing on policy precedent¹, staff shall create an **Innovative Housing Demonstrations Policy (IHDP)** for Portland to advance further study, remove unnecessary code barriers, and encourage greater innovative housing. This demonstration approach will broaden the array of local examples and strategies for low-impact, climate responsive housing and increase the availability of built examples that model social, financial and environmental innovation in Portland neighborhoods. This program will implement responses to the declared housing and climate emergencies by providing a pathway for regulations to be adjusted or waived, including zoning and building regulations as required to facilitate rapid-deployment of innovative housing solutions.

Innovations examples include: Tiny houses², Tiny Homes on Wheels³, (THOW), zero energy and net positive energy buildings, living buildings, community land trusts, cohousing, and affordable housing paired with Equitable Food Oriented Development⁴ (EFOD).

2. **Setbacks in Outdoor Shelters.** To encourage the feasibility of providing tiny home clusters, setbacks should be reduced from 25 feet to 5 feet for tiny houses and tiny homes on wheels (THOW) projects. The 25' setback significantly reduces the development potential of multifamily sites which otherwise could support greater density in other housing types with a 5' setback required. This would make the project consistent with other housing types and setback requirements. Consistent with the temporary and quick-deploy nature of THOWs, all landscaping and infrastructure requirements for THOW communities may be waived if they cannot be met via temporary installations, such as bamboo in above-ground planter containers.
3. **Water, electrical and Sanitation in Tiny Homes on Wheels:** Create an “all of the above” strategy that allows opportunities for off-grid living: the use of solar panels and batteries for power, rather than a required electrical hook-up; the use of portable water tanks or other containers that are manually refilled, rather than a site water connection, to provide potable water; the use of greywater systems for bar sink and shower drainage, composting toilets (already allowed by Oregon building code), and/or drain to tank and pump approaches to provide for sanitation needs in innovative housing demonstration projects, especially those involving tiny homes on wheels.
4. **Outdoor Shelters - Conditional Use Requirement.** A required Conditional Use permit review process presents a greater degree of uncertainty for small affordable non-encampment projects that may serve to help address our affordable housing emergency. While greater review may be required for houseless camps, this level of review does not make sense for other projects and presents further permit costs, additional time delays, and administration that would not be present in by-right housing typically allowed (e.g. townhouses). This is an unnecessary hurdle for affordable projects. To reduce these undue barriers, direct staff to:
 - a) create a parallel by-right expedited pathway for tiny house and tiny homes on wheels village clusters,
 - b) reduce or waive permit fees, and
 - c) collaborate with community partners to connect applicants in need with free or low-cost technical assistance for applicants that may not have access to architecture, planning and permitting expertise
5. **Clarification of Timeline for Shelters.** Clarify what the 180-day restriction on temporary shelters is, what the permit pathway is for it, and how that differs from the permitting pathway for an Outdoor Shelter that is not subject to the 180-day restriction; this is currently very unclear in the code proposal.

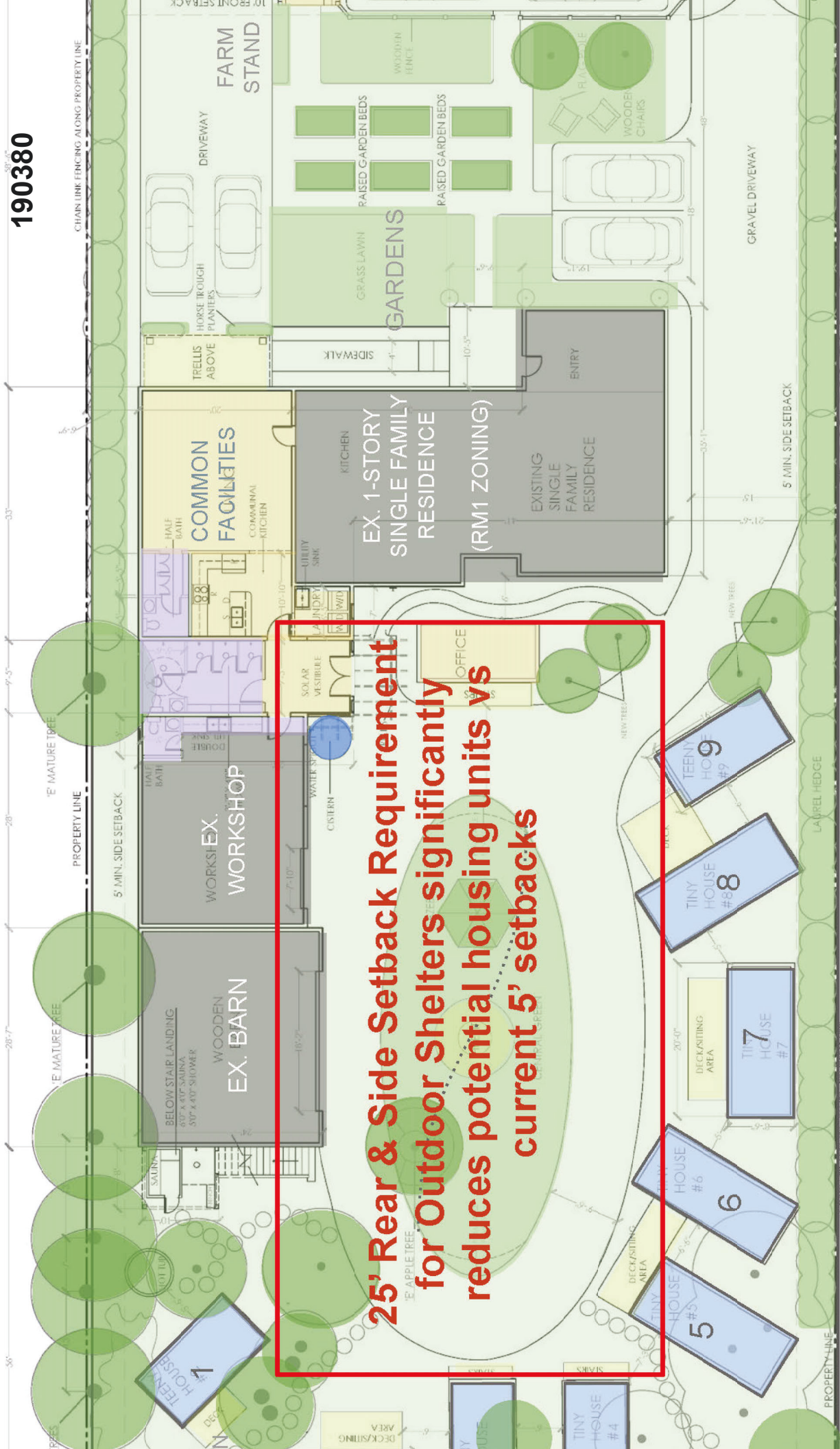
¹Precedent: City of Redmond Innovative Housing Demonstration Policy
<https://www.codepublishing.com/WA/Redmond/CDG/RCDG20C/RCDG20C3062.html>

² Tiny house Veteran's Village Example - <http://ahomeforeveryone.net/stjohnsvillage>

³ Example Tiny House on Wheels (THOW) Village Project - Art Farm Tiny House Artist Ecovillage - www.foragedesign.org/artfarm
 Testimony slides to PSC on Innovative Housing Demonstration Policy <https://foragedesign.files.wordpress.com/2021/01/art-farm-innovative-housing-policy-testimony-slides-on-shelter-to-housing-continuum-12.15.20.pdf>

⁴ <https://archive.curbed.com/2018/5/10/17259776/what-is-food-oriented-development-kresge-foundation>

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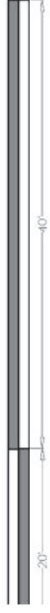


25' Rear & Side Setback Requirement for Outdoor Shelters significantly reduces potential housing units vs current 5' setbacks

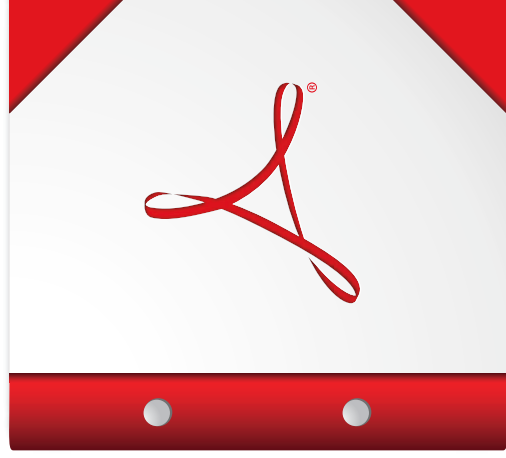
Farm Conceptual Design Plan

PROGRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT GROUP

- TINY HOUSES
- BATHROOMS & SHOWERS
- COMMON SPACES (Office, Kitchen, Living)



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Good afternoon Commissioners,

My name is Anna Kemper. I am a renter in NE Portland in an area that was originally Cowlitz and Multnomah tribal land. Today I'm here on behalf of Sunrise Movement PDX. We're a youth climate justice organization working to stop climate change. I'm also a board member of Portland: Neighbors Welcome.

I'll keep my comments today brief, as you've already heard from many folks with the same position as me. **I fully support the amendment** that allows faith or community-based organizations to host shelters on their property. The second amendment, regarding rules for tiny homes and RVs, should be as unrestrictive as possible and follow the rules already laid out in BDS.

Many folks this afternoon have given thoughtful and humanizing testimony on these amendments with recommendations meant to protect our houseless neighbors. I wanted to offer my perspective as a young person who was born and raised in Portland. **I'm 25 years old, and I've been giving testimony at City Council for two years now. In 2019, we were 11 years away from the climate crisis tipping point, today we have less than 9.**

I'm terrified for my future, for future generations, **and I want to live in a city that is proactive, not reactive on the climate crisis.** We're already seeing the impacts- those two weeks last September with wildfires at our doorstep put the problem at hand into perspective for Portlanders.... **while our houseless neighbors faced the brunt of the difficulties.** Frontline communities around the world are already experiencing the severe and real impacts of the crisis.

As ocean levels rise and as our planet continues to face climate related disasters, we will be seeing an influx of climate refugees into our city.

So- I implore you to give our city the tools it needs to take care of our houseless neighbors with dignity today, ***while preparing for the future.*** Pass shelter to housing, consider the recommendations on the amendments, **and stop sweeping houseless encampments in Portland.** Thank you for your time.

City Council Meeting - Wednesday, March 17, 2021 2:00 p.m.

Agenda No.	First	Last	Zip
165/166- 1	David	Potts	97266
165/166- 2	Autumn	West	97266
165/166- 3	Leon	Porter	97232
165/166- 4	Kol	Peterson	97211
165/166- 5	Trisha	Patterson	97206
165/166- 6	Aaron	Brown	97203
165/166- 7	Tim	McCormick	97219
165/166- 8	Kaia	Sand	97202
165/166- 9	Paxton	Rothwell	97212
165/166- 10	Matt	Kelly	97214
165/166- 11	David	Sweet	97218
165/166- 12	Brandon	Narramore	97205
165/166- 13	Henry	Kraemer	97212
165/166- 14	Stephen	Judkins	97227
165/166- 15	Luke	Norman	97212
165/166- 16	Anna	Kemper	97211
165/166- 17	Doug	Klotz	97214
165/166- 18	Heidi	Hart	97214
165/166- 19	Sean	Green	97209
165/166- 20	Judeelee	C	97209
165/166- 21	Emma	Dixon	97209
165/166- 22	Eric	Lindsay	97202
165/166- 23	Johann	Hannesson	97217
165/166- 24	ann	mcmullen	97216
165/166- 25	jeanne	galick	97219
165/166- 26	Donal	MacUileagoid	97266
165/166- 27	Michelle	Harper	97212
165/166- 28	Mary Anne	Cassin	97219
165/166- 29	Mary	Ruble	97201
165/166- 30	Zari	Santner	97210
165/166- 31	Paul	Agrimis	97212
165/166- 32	Jim	Gardner	97201
165/166- 33	Sean	Sweat	97209
165/166- 34	Linda	Robinson	97230
165/166- 35	Michael	Tillett	97210
165/166- 36	Steve	Bozzone	97212
165/166- 37	David	Binnig	97202
165/166- 38	Danielle	Maillard	97202
165/166- 39	Robert	Schultz	97290
165/166- 40	Peter	Fry	97210
165/166- 41	Jim	Owens	97212
165/166- 42	Tiffany	Johnson	97206
165/166- 43	Heather	Flint Chatto	97214-5626

165/166- 44	Paul	Niedergang	97239
165/166- 45	Ginger	Edwards	97217
165/166- 46	Mac	Cunningham	97214
165/166- 47	Michael	Andersen	97218
165/166- 48	Candace	Avalos	97213-2121
165/166- 49	Donna	Cohen	97203
165/166- 50	Jay	Cacka	97266
165/166- 51	Oak	Alger	97211
165/166- 52	madilyn	hotchkiss	97205
165/166- 53	Sarah	Carolus	97213
165/166- 54	Amanda	Fritz	97219
165/166- 55	James	Sjulin	97214
165/166- 56	GWEN	Luhta	97239
165/166- 57	Joe	Petrina	97232
165/166- 58	Paul	Souders	97202
165/166- 59	Mimi	German	97203
165/166- 60	Fiona	Burgess	97239
165/166- 61	Kayleen	Kusterer	97215
165/166- 62	Benjamin	Donlon	97201
165/166- 63	Catherine	Thompson	97201
165/166- 64	Daniel	Newberry	97236
165/166- 65	Forrest	Perkins	97206
165/166- 66	Barbra	Weber	97209
165/166- 67	Brian	Posewitz	97202
165/166- 68	John	Mayer	97214
165/166- 69	Matthew	Perkins	97209
165/166- 70	IAIN	MACKENZIE	97214
165/166- 71	Tamara	DeRidder	97213
165/166- 72	Dominic	Mara	97214
165/166- 73	Noah	Manger	97203
165/166- 74	Patrick	Maguire	97223
165/166- 75	Athul	Acharya	97232
165/166- 76	Andrew	Olshin	97210
165/166- 77	Tim	Pitts	97212
165/166- 78	Edith	Gillis	97206
165/166- 79	Ben	Goekjian	97230
165/166- 80	Nicole	Johnson	97204
165/166- 81	terry	murphy	97220
165/166- 82	Brent	Bonfiglio	97213
165/166- 83	Kris	Blackmore	97212
165/166- 84	David	Kahl	97230
165/166- 85	Katelynn	Nyssen	97236
165/166- 86	Nancie	Wamser	97219-6320
165/166- 87	Reid	Psaltis	97206
165/166- 88	Cody	McGraw	97209
165/166- 89	Athen	O'Shea	97227
165/166- 90	Mike	Linman	97219

165/166- 91	Walter	Weyler	97205
165/166- 92	Ted	Labbe	97232
165/166- 93	Wes	Shoger	97214
165/166- 94	Taylor	Marrow III	97220
165/166- 95	Simon	Boas	97212

City Council Meeting - Wednesday, April 14, 2021 2:00 p.m.

Agenda No.	First	Last	Zip
250/251- 1	Tim	McCormick	97219
250/251- 2	Heidi	Hart	97214-2600
250/251- 3	Henry	Kraemer	97212
250/251- 4	Trisha	Patterson	97206
250/251- 5	David	Sweet	97218
250/251- 6	Johann	Hannesson	97217
250/251- 7	Simon	Boas	97212
250/251- 8	Mac	Cunningham	97214
250/251- 9	DOUGLAS	KLOTZ	97214
250/251- 10	Sean	Green	97212
250/251- 11	Isha	Leinow	97218
250/251- 12	Aaron	Brown	97203
250/251- 13	Athul	Acharya	97232
250/251- 14	Fiona	Burgess	97239
250/251- 15	Emma	Dixon	97209
250/251- 16	Stephen	Judkins	97227
250/251- 17	Michael	Andersen	97218
250/251- 18	Paul	Souders	97202
250/251- 19	David	Binnig	97202
250/251- 20	Anna	Kemper	97211
250/251- 21	Jake	Antles	97218
250/251- 22	Sarah	Carolus	97213
250/251- 23	Megan	Goss	97206
250/251- 24	Jonathan	Greenwood	97217
250/251- 25	Rae	Richen	97212
250/251- 26	Lynne	Smouse Lopez	97217
250/251- 27	Maria	Abad	97225
250/251- 28	Sean	Sweat	97209
250/251- 29	Nick	Buri	97211
250/251- 30	Michael	Stine	
250/251- 31	Rev. Chris	Dela Cruz	