

# Autumn West

**#256902 | February 22, 2021**

Testimony to **Portland City Council** on the **Shelter to Housing Continuum Project, Recommended Draft**

As written the proposed zoning protects gentrified and wealthy neighborhoods and potentially displaces the homeless in sw, n & downtown by requiring outdoor shelters/camps go through conditional use reviews for 95% of properties in sw portland while making outdoor shelters allowed by right on 90% of properties in east portland. Obviously this will allow , even push a disproportionate number of camps into Lents, Hazelwood & outer SE- historically marginalized & more diverse neighborhoods. The zoning changes NEED to be written with a sense for equity and adhere to the cities own guidelines for environmental justice. To ensure " the equitable treatment and meaningful involvement of all people in public decision making, as it applies to the development, implementation, and enforcement of laws, regulations, and policies that govern the uses of air, water, and land; and therefore the effects of those laws, regulations, and policies on the health and quality of life where people live, work, learn, play, and practice spirituality." I realize the importance of sheltering the homeless but it must to be done with care and thoughtfulness and in an equitable manner which won't place an unfair burden on low income neighborhoods. Homelessness is a city wide issue and requires a city wide solution. All neighborhoods MUST help share the responsibility. Do not rush the zoning changes only to create more problems. Some suggested changes: Prohibiting camps within 500/1000 feet of each other. Remove conditional use requirement on zones west of Willamette River to expand the options city-wide and reduce the cost of a land review in these locations. Allow outdoor camping in parks west of Willamette River. By adding these conditional uses, it provides protection against clustering and opens up more sites in SW and NW Portland - particularly sites campers might want to locate to and not be pushed to the outer-edges of east Portland.

Testimony is presented without formatting.