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

It is a big mistake to spread the Homeless population all over the city. Doing so makes it much more expensive and difficult to provide services to these people. Portland should have no more than three large homeless camps. I know this approach has already been eliminated from consideration and it is an exercise in futility trying to persuade anyone in City Government otherwise. Wouldn't it be nice however if the the citizens of the city had a say in what approach is taken. Wouldn't it be great if there were two approaches approved by the City and the two ideas were were presented on a ballot measure that could be decided by the voters? I feel that this lower cost centralized approach would be the preferred method by the voting population. Crime in Portland is rampant currently and we all know that over 50% of the crime is perpetrated by the homeless. We also know that mental illness and drug addiction are the root causes of homelessness. Provide centralized locations for treatment of these people DO NOT DISPERSE THEM ALL OVER THE CITY.

Testimony is presented without formatting.