

Yvonne Cass

#267102 | March 6, 2021

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

I am a homeowner. I am against the proposal. The filth and destruction the current homeless camps in SE PDX have created is horrible. The theft is ridiculous as it is now. It is my opinion that by loosening the current restrictions and allowing more long temp legal camps here and there will be disproportionately allowed in SE PDX. I am concerned that this will create more trash, larger gatherings, increased crime, etc. I live on a fixed income. I continue to pay out more each year in taxes. My COLA does not even come close to keeping pace. Why continue to place the burden of caring for a disproportionately larger number of homeless on me? Something else needs to happen where I am not being unfairly negatively impacted and the homeless population become more proactive to take care of themselves and shoulder part of the burden. I am concerned that soon my taxes will be so high-in order to support the homeless-that I will be forced to move. My second concern is that by allowing more homeless encampments, my property value will plummet and I will owe more than my home is worth. I have worked hard my whole life and am a veteran. I worked hard for what I have. I don't want to lose it because I am forced-beyond reason-to support a percentage of people who are where they are because of poor choices they have made(not all). Please come up with a better solution that is more positive for those of us who have worked hard all our lives and live in this community. Please don't allow outdoor shelters since the city can't even care for the disgusting camps we currently have.

Testimony is presented without formatting.