

JM Gorman

#267125 | March 8, 2021

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

As a landowner is willing and has been able to host RVs and ADUs on our property, I would like the city council to consider approving with the following amendment to allow a tiny home or RV in addition to the allowed number of ADUs on property. This will allow landowners much more flexibility to quickly and cheaply increase density as well as work to increase density long term in more permanent ways without sacrificing the short term affordable RV/Tiny home units to do so. In addition, I also am very concerned about the use of parks and green spaces for camping. These are jewels of this city and should be available to the entire community, both houseless and housed, as reprieve. Our family treasures and cares for these open spaces the same as we treasure and care for the ability to provide more affordable and denser housing in spaces that are not meant for community recreation and gathering. There are many available spaces more suitable and appropriate for emergency camping that would actually be easier to maintain access to such as open commercial lots and city owned non-park spaces. Using parks as housing also disproportionately affects the lowest income residents and families in our neighborhoods who do not have access to other outdoor activities and spaces as has been a very common issue highlighted and raised during the pandemic. As we aim to increase density we must work harder to protect the designated green spaces that we do have. I hope the city council is able to approve amendments to creatively allow us to increase housing density while also protecting the parks as community resources.

Testimony is presented without formatting.