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

As a lifelong Portlander, the code changes being considered in the S2HCP are extremely alarming. Portland's history of its unique neighborhoods that form our city has always been an asset. Changing codes that were deliberately created to protect the livability of residents will be such a devastating detriment to ones well being, financial investment and sense of safety and community. Allowing homeless camps, tiny homes, rv living and camping in the proposed areas will have permanent and destructive results. There is no amount of reassurance that the county or city would provide proper oversight to manage this type of housing to address homelessness and the problems they bring with them. Our current homeless problem has not been managed at all. Current codes have not been enforced and quite frankly excuses made to dismiss acting on problems that came about from council members suspending enforcement of codes has created the current crisis that is mostly visible in east Portland. With the many buildings that both the city and county own, indoor sheltering should be the only option and distributed equitably in all areas of the city, including the affluent neighborhoods and the west side neighborhoods. Clout and power should not dictate the siting of homeless shelters. The map that was presented with this proposal shows the proposal's intention to locate the majority of these camps and shelters in east Portland and areas where the level of low income residents is higher. This would only further stress an area that is fragile to begin with. Code changes would only serve to "normalize" camping and this isn't a humane way to house people. I can only imagine the burden it will put on neighbors and the contentious situations it will create if a neighbor decides to profit off of housing people and other neighbors have to put up with the fallout of that such as excess noise/ Parking issues/ illegally parked rvs/and the proverbial revolving door. Guaranteed it will happen. Residential neighborhoods , parks , golf courses and open spaces are not suitable for homeless camping and to even suggest these code changes is the most ludicrous proposal I have ever read that you are considering voting through. You will leave permanent scars on our city and ruin the livability permanently. Is that what you want to be remembered by or your legacy to be? Instead of placing homeless in these areas you should be utilizing buildings you already own..city and county.. and use the bybee lakes hope center as a model and work from that. With the countless "non profiteer" groups that have their hand in the homeless issue certainly you've had ample time and brain storming sessions to come up with something more reasonable than changing these codes. The proposal is simply taking the easy route and Portlanders deserve better than that. I recommend tabling this proposal altogether and looking at other solutions that would not have such devastating/ permanent consequences to the residents of

east Portland and their livability, quality of life and financial investment.

Testimony is presented without formatting.