

Meg Cotner

#267205 | March 11, 2021

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

I am a homeowner on the east side of Portland in the Sumner neighborhood. Regarding the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project: 1. Distribute equally the entirety of the proposed shelter locations throughout Portland. All communities - including affluent communities - must share in this effort, and it should not be disproportionately heaped upon the economically diverse communities of East Portland. 2. Extend the emergency rule period so these new projects can be implemented, but DO NOT make any permanent code changes right now. Changes will lock us into some unfortunate and unappealing decisions that we may regret in hindsight. 3. Ensure that an enforcement plan is part of this program. Sure, shelters are one solution to homelessness, but we also need physical enforcement to shut down unsanctioned camps, some of which participate in illegal activity (e.g, bicycle chop shops, neighborhood theft, biohazard pollution) and worse. Otherwise Portland will be a magnet and the system will become overwhelmed, forcing us into a situation we are not prepared to handle.

Testimony is presented without formatting.