

John Lidstrom

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

While I support the intention of this measure I cannot fully support it as it is written. There must be geographical equity here. As a resident and home owner in East Portland it is not fair to shelter the brunt of this on East Portlanders (Residents, Businesses, etc.). The population center is on the west side and thus this should draw out in a way that allows for it based on the population, not just the geography. Imagine our congressional districts or legislative districts being drawn up only based on the geography. The homeless epidemic in Portland is just that a Portland problem that we must find a humane answer to as Portlanders. This is not an East Portland problem nor should it be a West vs East solution. The solution here is for us to come together to make a stronger, healthier Portland. Not push a disenfranchised population around from one side of the city to the other just to keep them away from some residents with higher property values. We we must work together on a solution here. I think this is a good start but it needs more work.

Testimony is presented without formatting.