

James Tunley

#267483 | March 15, 2021

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

I am writing to register my opposition to the S2HC project. While I think well located, well managed sanctioned camps can help to alleviate the homeless situation in Portland the current proposal is extremely lacking; 1) S2HC does not establish any means of enforcement of a "well managed" sanctioned camp. We see across the city the consequences of this, used needles, trash, human feces from unmanaged camps and this proposal does not address this 2) S2HC does not address the underlying issues causing homelessness, nor are any services provided for especially around drug treatment and pathways to economic independence. 3) Public parks must not be used for homeless encampments. Study after study shows the benefits of city parks especially for the elderly, disabled, and low income residents. I attach 3 photographs you will find on any single day from parks around the city that become unusable. Used needles, trash and feces in the park, children's play areas and the surrounding streets. 4) S2HC identified an overwhelming number of available lots in lower income neighborhoods. It is not right to further burden these communities with endless rows of badly or unmanaged camps and camper behavior. 5) There is no "exit strategy". There is lots of focus on how to build a camp, nothing around how it will be removed in the future. Once again, in its current form this proposal will create a disaster for the city of Portland and must not be approved

Testimony is presented without formatting.