

Vanessa McLaughlin

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

I continue to be concerned about the growing burden of homelessness bearing down on the City of Portland. As a citizen of the community and a health care business owner, I ask that you work to resolve the underlying mental health concerns and the access to necessary resources issue for these individuals. Opening additional outdoor sites and simply moving individuals to additional locations is not the answer. Mayor Wheeler and Council members, it's time to stand up and solve this problem vs continuing to sidestep important community concerns. The citizens of the City of Portland are suffering due to your lack of commitment to finding appropriate housing, health care and necessary resources for the homeless among us. I ask you to step up, we need you now more than ever.

Testimony is presented without formatting.