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

Just my two cents in the homeless situation. We have got to find a way to lessen this problem. So often when I'm driving around my east side area, I see people urinating and or/defacating in public. I see piles of trash left from, or next to existing homeless camps. I am a homeowner. This is not what I bought my house to see. My property taxes don't seem to be getting any breaks, but the area around me is going to hell. I have kids. My husband and I are are both working tax payers. I know the east side seems to be viewed as a "low rent" area. But the fact of the matter is, my husband and I don't make a bad living. The cost of living here is going through the roof, and the east side is really the only place we could afford to but a house. I have kids. I worry about them being accosted by vagrants, gangsters, etc. I worry about my car or it's parts being stolen due to the high theft rate in the area. I hear gun shots nearly every night. I want to know why the city would neglect the area! Why they would allow all of the abandoned stolen vehicles to remain, the run down or broken down rv's and cars people are living in, to litter every corner?! And now there's talk about using the east use to develops homeless shelters/camps. They make their own camps. I suggest finding a way to get these people off the streets, So the tax paying citizens in the city can leave their homes with just a little bit of pride in their area. Right now, its a complete dump! Portland is disgusting, especially in the east side!

Testimony is presented without formatting.