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

I was raised in NE Portland off of Alberta street during the '80s and early 90's when gangs, prostitution, and drugs were prevalent. However, I have NEVER seen such filth, disrespect of property, and just plain government mismanagement of resources as I have these past 5 years. Things have gone from bad to worse when it comes to the homeless problem. The idea that what was once a place of outdoor sanctuary, the city parks, will now become the haven for drugs, human waste, and trash is unthinkable, unimaginable, and just plain unintelligent. If you don't like the prostitutes and the drug dealers, why would you bring them right into the areas where family and kids spend the majority of their time outdoors. All of the summer programs for kids will be abandon due to the risk of a child accosted, picking up needles or something containing human waste. This is not well thought out and will cost housing values to plummet and more dissension and frustration among the taxpayers the city relies on. I fear that until the city is hit with a lawsuit from a family that had been tragically impacted by this decision, they will play dumb to the realities that we all know will be the outcome. Portland's light and reputation have dimmed on the National scene, why make things worse, on purpose. There are no winners if this is the game we're going to play.

Testimony is presented without formatting.