

Lawrence Williams

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

We've owned our home here in SE Portland for 44 years. We are now retired and was hoping to be here for a long time. We pay or taxes and expect to be able to live in a clean, safe and up kept environment. We are absolutely against having the homeless be able to camp out wherever they want to. It would cause these areas to become like slums. It would be so unsafe for our children. It will drive our property values down. It is unfair to concentrate these camps in just one section of town!! There has to be a better way to handle the homeless. They should be in shelters and not allowed on the streets. If they don't comply with the rules of a shelter, then they should not be allowed to be on the streets. By making it convenient for them to do this, they will never change or get proper help. Who would be cleaning up after these camps? What about the increased crime which occurs around these camps? Especially since we have already defunded the police. We cannot vote for those who continue to condone this.

Testimony is presented without formatting.