

# Briana B

**#267751 | March 15, 2021**

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

Dear Honorable Portland City Council Members, Studying the S2HC map of proposed shelters reveals the City intends to make East County disproportionately bear the burden of this plan. I am disappointed and disheartened. I live in Madison South, East of 82nd. I moved to this area almost five years ago knowing it was an area facing challenges due to a lack of political representation, poor zoning and planning, and a sense of negligence by the city. But despite being two hardworking, young individuals in the healthcare industry, this was all we could afford. Upon viewing the city's plan to continue the Title 15 and the impact it will have in East County, my perception is confirmed. In my view you are planning to choke off any positive development for the area, reward absentee property owners who have let their properties deteriorate, burn, and in general abandoned. Our neighborhood has been patient and tolerant with homeless encampments, RVs, trash, and abandoned cars for years now. We have provided more support to our houseless neighbors than the city council ever has, particularly in the past year. I am absolutely for finding compassionate and pragmatic solutions for the growing houseless population. However, public policy needs to be equitable. Those of us in east county who are less financially than those in say, The Pearl or East Moreland, or Alphabet District, always suffer from being ignored and uncared for by the council. We become a dumping ground for all that is unwanted. And none of you ever seem to care. I ask : 1. That Title 15 NOT be made permanent. 2. Create a map showing equitable distribution of potential shelter spaces in ALL portland communities. 3. Even if East County has more potential spaces, they should be removed from the map until a balance of ALL communities is shown. The reason East Portland has more potential space is because businesses have had to leave in droves due to crime and poor infrastructure. We should be investing more in East Portland communities, as opposed to adding to our list of problems. 4. Break up the concentration of social service centers in East County and re-distribute social services throughout the City. 5. Let Title 15 expire so that random camping is no longer allowed; extend a new emergency declaration to allow these new codes to be enacted temporarily under the new emergency time frame (no longer than one year). 6. An enforcement plan must be delineated and be expressly coupled to this action so that as new managed shelters are established, random camps are shut down, removed, cleaned up and then monitored so they cannot reestablish. 7. Provide a detailed description of what the management plan is for each site and who specifically, is responsible for its implementation and maintenance. This plan must be published before any vote is taken. Thank you for considering my, and my neighbor's concerns.

Testimony is presented without formatting.

