

Michael Patterson

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

As citizens of Portland, we have tolerated Portland City Council management of homelessness. We have seen our sidewalks closed with tents, belongings, and debris from homeless people. Our living environment has been compromised by all of this. We need no further compromise of our quality of life. Parks need to be safe places to enjoy and restore our mental and physical well being. I have lived in Portland all my life. I grew up with the sense that Portland Parks is a 'crown jewel'. A great number of people live within 10 walking minutes of a park. We need to keep our parks clean and safe. The City Council needs to put greater energy and creativity into addressing homelessness in a manner that moves us forward and improve the quality of life for all. Do not take an easy approach and further compromise our city.

Testimony is presented without formatting.