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

Born and raised Portlander and have lived here in the 80s, 90s...I used to avoid areas in the city back then when I was a teenager and then I lived in NW for almost 20 years, downtown all the time - with my tiny toddler and I felt safe all the time. Today? Not anymore. I'm in inner NE and I get scared walking home at times and for the first time ever, carry mace. My son plays soccer at Delta park and have you seen that place? It's a dump and the park is filled with people buying, selling and using drugs. The past 2 weeks of games, I've seen deals next to my car. People transacting in front of parents watching and kids playing. Zero disregard. And don't get me started on the trash allowed. Sunnyside park, Laurel hurst park... this is what happens when you allow people to camp. The last mayor helped cause this issue and keep voting for taxes that don't do anything. Portland eta have trusted these tax bonds and low income housing Initiatives Portland has proposed and somehow passed for years and years and THIS is how we live? This is what we see? We will loose people and business if this continues. I plan to move along with many other folks who have lived here for generations because of how things have transpired over the last 12 months. Keeping Portland weird isn't cute anymore - it's disgusting and unhealthy. This isn't human what is happening. Allowing people in parks and areas throughout the city isn't human. Services need to be moved OUTSIDE of the city. Stop requiring things in downtown or close in like it has been historically. Old town is a dump - yet million dollar hotels get built? Businesses go out of business down there time and time again. Kids and people need parks. Pets need parks. Houseless people should not be allowed to sleep in sidewalks or in parks like they have been. There's so much empty commercial space and property outside of the city... go use that. Camping should not be allowed next to residential living areas and common use spaces like parks. I've been whole heartedly disappointed in Portland this past year and I'm praying for change.

Testimony is presented without formatting.