

Kate Calvert

#277827 | March 16, 2021

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

To Those With The Task of Making This Decision: I live near Columbia Park which I value so much. I've seen and heard owls and saw an American Eagle along with other birds as I stroll through the Park. Since the city has seen fit to allow the homeless tent cities in many areas in North Portland next to homes and on our streets, the crime rate has gone up significantly. This is not to say all homeless are criminals as we know that's untrue. However, I have seen used needles, human waste and loads of trash in the areas where many tent cities have been established. I don't see these tent cities in Sellwood or Eastmoreland where some of the city leaders reside. I understand this is a complex issue not easily solved to help those who could no longer afford the ridiculously high rents being charged in Portland and other cities in Oregon. Why not rent control? You've already given carte Blanche to developers to fill Portland with huge, often ugly apartment buildings WITH NO PARKING for tenants. Why not mandate more low income housing and give the homeless a proper place to be safe, to have a toilet and shower? Instead, you propose using our lovely precious parks! Would you want your family to be walking among the trash, needles and human waste? And what about the wildlife? I am completely against the use of our parks for homeless cities for all the reasons I mention. Thank you.

Testimony is presented without formatting.