

Glennis Merrifield

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

My concerns on this issue are the following: 1. East County seems to be taking the brunt of the proposed housing projects. All communities should be included in the effort to help those who seem unable to help themselves to stable housing. The temporary camping allowed in the city should under no circumstances be made a permanent solution or extended for term with no limit in sight. Camping is not really the issue. What has happened in allowing this is illegal dumping, higher crimes including theft and assaults and general nuisances in our communities. There seems to be no oversight, no cleanup and little help to control or minimize the size and # of camp "communities". See 122nd avenue at NE Glisan as a classic example of many sites around east county. This makes me feel ashamed of my city and the comments I get from people and relatives who live in other places about this is embarrassing as I have no explanation for why our politicians seem to think this totally acceptable. We have become a laughing stock and the butt of jokes.

Testimony is presented without formatting.