

# Jeff Zambie

**#277902 | March 16, 2021**

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

The entire city deserves firm and concrete parameters around how the PSC and City Council designate Shelter in Open Space Zones. Residents and local business owners have invested a ton of equity in the city of Portland, both in the form of time and money. In many cases, local business owners have put up their entire life savings to start a business because they love Portland, they believe in Portland, they see a brighter future in Portland. Many of these local businesses invested in areas around the city's beautiful and public parks. The moment City Council allows tents in a public park, that park becomes instant blight. This blight spread across Portland will make the strongest residents lose confidence in the future of Portland which was once unstoppable. Portland residents and business owners are so fatigued with day-to-day life here that they're reaching a boiling point. Between COVID, homelessness, senseless property damage after demonstrations that never end, and the increase in violence is undeniable. So please take extra caution and use restrictive language to clearly state that PSC and/or City Council can't designate public parks as Outdoor Shelters in an 'emergency' situation, or any situation. Thank you.

Testimony is presented without formatting.